



## **Grant E-Newsletter**

June 4, 2013

Welcome to my first Grants E-Newsletter. Local governments for Indiana communities, whether large or small, have a common goal: to provide services to their citizens in a cost-effective way. As Senator from Indiana, I share the goal of efficient government. It's what taxpayers want and what elected officials want. But when budgets are squeezed and the belt-tightening begins, services are often cut. So, how does a local government continue to serve its citizens, keep them safe, collect the garbage, light the streets and repair the roads? I hope you find this newsletter a helpful tool.

### **General Grant Information for Local Governments**

*Any questions about the information provided here?*

*Contact Joe's office at [beth\\_barrett@donnelly.senate.gov](mailto:beth_barrett@donnelly.senate.gov). If you are interested in obtaining a support letter from Senator Donnelly for your grant application, you will find a support letter request form on [Joe's website](#).*

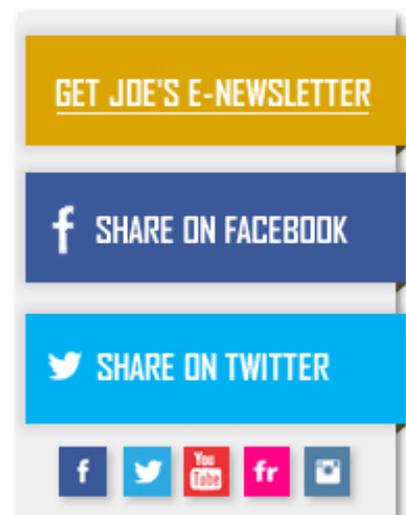
For various community improvement services and grants, visit the [Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs \(OCRA\)](#) which is funded with HUD Community Block Grants.

[USDA Rural Development](#) has programs for utilities, small businesses and communities as well as agricultural projects. Contact your regional Rural Development representative and start a dialogue about the needs of your community. Information can be found [here](#).

Do you need to spruce up your town and make it a more appealing place to visit? Find information on the National Endowment for the Arts "Our Town" grant [here](#).

Transportation improvements to your community could be funded through the Department of Transportations' Transportation Alternatives Program (formerly Transportation Enhancement), which is administered by INDOT. Find information [here](#).

To help communities prepare for natural disasters, FEMA has mitigation ideas to reduce risk from drought, earthquake, erosion, flood, hail, lightning, severe wind, severe winter weather, and tornadoes. Three new informational publications are available online:



comrades. Three new informational publications are available online:

- [Local Mitigation Planning Handbook](#)
- [Mitigation Ideas](#)
- [Integrating Hazard Mitigation Into Local Planning](#)

Finally, there is a website that might have some answers for you. [EfficientGov](#), self-described as "the leader in providing actionable information for cities and towns to help lower the cost of government," can be found at <http://efficientgov.com>. While this is not an endorsement of the website's products or subscription services, the site also contains enough free information to make it worth a visit. On the website, you can also subscribe to a free weekly emailed newsletter.

## **Current Grant Announcements of Interest to Local Governments**

*Note: If you are not prepared to apply for funding at this time, many of these grants are offered annually, so you can plan ahead for 2014.*

### ***Economic Development Administration***

#### **EDA Economic Development Assistance Programs**

[www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=208353](http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=208353)

EDA will make construction, non-construction, and revolving loan fund investments under the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs. Grants made under these programs will leverage regional assets to support the implementation of regional economic development strategies designed to create jobs, leverage private capital, encourage economic development, and strengthen America's ability to compete in the global marketplace.

Funding is released in several cycles. There are still 2 deadlines coming this year - June 13, 2013 for funding cycle 4 of FY 2013; and September 13, 2013 for funding cycle 1 of FY 2014.

### ***Environmental Protection Agency***

**The State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Programs** (funded by EPA through the Indiana Finance Authority)

<http://www.in.gov/ifa/srf>

SRF provides low-interest loans to Indiana communities for projects that improve wastewater and drinking water infrastructure. The Program's mission is to provide eligible entities with the lowest interest rates possible on the financing of such projects while protecting public health and the environment.

### **Indiana's Wastewater State Revolving Fund (WWSRF) Loan Program**

<http://www.in.gov/ifa/srf/2386.htm>

Also funded by the EPA, this program provides low-interest-rate financing to construct water quality protection projects. As loans are repaid, money is available to be used again for new financings, thus making the program a "revolving fund."

### **National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program (DERA)**

<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/diesel/prgnational.htm>

This program funds new projects to reduce emissions from the nation's existing fleet of diesel engines.

**USDA Rural Development** (eligibility based on size of population)

**Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)**

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppId=229733>

REAP provides grants to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to conduct feasibility studies for a renewable energy system as well as to purchase and install renewable energy systems or make energy efficiency improvements.

**Department of Housing and Urban Development**

**Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant Program**

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppId=235684>

Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants support the implementation of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans that are expected to achieve the following three core goals:

1. Housing: Replace distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing that is well-managed and responsive to the needs of the surrounding neighborhood;
2. People: Improve educational outcomes and intergenerational mobility for youth with services and supports delivered directly to youth and their families; and
3. Neighborhood: Create the conditions necessary for public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods to offer the kinds of amenities and assets, including safety, good schools, and commercial activity, that are important to families' choices about their community.

**Department of Justice**

**Community Policing Development (COPS)**

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/default.asp?Item=2367>

2013 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) is for the hiring and rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers in an effort to create and preserve jobs and increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. Includes School Resource Officers.

**Department of Homeland Security**

**Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)**

<http://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>

The FY 2013 Funding Opportunity Announcement is currently under development. Expect to see the announcements for the SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants) and AFG Application period openings in June.

Any questions can be directed to [beth\\_barrett@donnelly.senate.gov](mailto:beth_barrett@donnelly.senate.gov). If you are interested in obtaining a support letter from Senator Donnelly for your grant application, you will find a support letter request form on [Joe's website](#) under Grants.

Sincerely,





Senator Joe Donnelly

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