



## **February Grant Newsletter**

February 17, 2015

Dear Hoosier,

As Indiana's senator, it is important to me that every Hoosier community has the resources it needs to prepare for the unexpected. Although accidents, fires and weather events can disrupt our lives without warning, it is important to minimize the impact of these incidents through careful planning, preparation and training. Each year, the federal government provides funding to the State and to individual communities, to update, modernize and expand their emergency response services.

Federal grant opportunities are available to fire and EMS agencies, and may be helpful in securing the equipment and personnel they need. Below is a summary of grant opportunities and resources available. If you have any questions about the information provided, please contact Marianne Black in my office at [Marianne\\_Black@donnelly.senate.gov](mailto:Marianne_Black@donnelly.senate.gov). To request a letter of support from me for your grant application, please visit [www.donnelly.senate.gov/help/grants](http://www.donnelly.senate.gov/help/grants).

Sincerely,

Senator Joe Donnelly



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### **Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants**

The goal of SAFER grants is to help fire departments increase or maintain their staff of trained frontline firefighters. The program is separated into two categories: Category 1 supports the hiring of firefighters including rehiring, retention, attrition and new hires; Category 2 supports recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters.

The SAFER application period is currently open, and applications will be accepted through **March 6, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. EST**. To review the program description, download the application or access supplemental information, go [here](#).

### **Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grants**

Fire Prevention and Safety grants are a component of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program. FP&S grants support activities that increase the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. For detailed information on categories eligible for funding as well as grant priorities and success stories, access the FEMA website [here](#).

FEMA anticipates opening the application period on **March 16, 2015**.

### **U.S. Fire Administration (USFA)**

The U.S. Fire Administration is the lead federal agency for public fire education, research, and data collection. It maintains a library of useful training, public education, and operations materials that can be used to develop community outreach efforts, provide supporting documentation for reports, or research grant opportunities.

Due to local budget pressures, fire and EMS departments in the United States are using not only federal grants, but non-traditional funding streams.

To identify the various types of funding sources available to fire and EMS agencies throughout the nation, USFA has developed the manual, ***Funding Alternatives for Emergency Medical and Fire Services***. The manual includes financing alternatives for all types of fire and EMS departments: rural and urban, volunteer and career, agencies providing multiple services, and those providing only fire protection or only emergency medical service. Examples are given of departments using the various methodologies. The manual includes funding of local services by local government, state government, federal government, and the private sector. Also included are grant-writing tips.

You can find the entire document [here](#).

### **Community Facilities Loan & Grant Programs**

For rural communities, USDA's Rural Development program offers Community Facility Programs to develop essential community facilities. These programs offer loans, grants, and loan guarantees for critical community needs including equipment and buildings for fire and EMS departments. For information on the programs offered through USDA, review the [Program & Services](#) listing on their website.

The best way to determine if you have a project that might qualify for a USDA RD program is by contacting staff at your [regional Rural Development office](#).

I hope you find this information useful. If you have questions, please feel free to

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[contact my office.](#)

All of Senator Donnelly's previous grant newsletters can be found at <http://www.donnelly.senate.gov/help/grants>.

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