

# FY15 Promise Zone Benefits from Partnering Agencies

**Agency:** United States  
Department of Agriculture

**Programs with PZ Benefits**  
Housing Preservation Grants

## Housing Preservation Grants (HPG)

**Website:** <http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/housing-preservation-grants>

**Benefit Type:** Grants

**Eligible Communities:** Rural, Tribal

**Benefits to Promise Zone:** HPG serves only very low- and low-income areas. Through this existing priority, HPG can provide grantees and grant applicants contributing to Promise Zone strategies with program benefits.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible sponsors include state agencies, units of local government, Native American tribes, and nonprofit organizations. Those assisted by HPG funding must own very low- or low-income housing, either as homeowners, landlords, or members of a cooperative. Very low income is defined as below 50 percent of the area median income (AMI); low income is between 50 and 80 percent of AMI. HPG funds received by the sponsors are combined with other programs or funds and used as loans, grants, or subsidies for recipient households based on a plan contained in the sponsor's application. The population limit of towns served is 20,000.

**Funding Amount:** Average grants are between \$25,000 and \$50,000, and efforts are made to award at least one grantee in each state.

**Application:** HPG requests are approved by the [Rural Development State Director](#).

**Program Description:** The objective of the HPG program is to repair or rehabilitate individual housing, rental properties, or co-ops owned and/or occupied by very low- and low-income rural persons. Housing Preservation Grant assistance is available from grantees to assist very-low and low-income homeowners to repair and rehabilitate their homes. Assistance is also available to rental property owners to repair and rehabilitate their units providing they agree to make such units available to very-low and low-income families. Financial assistance provided by the grantee may be in the form of a grant, loan, interest reduction on commercial loans, or other comparable assistance.