

Communities of Faith and Opportunity – Next Steps

Thank you for your interest in becoming a designated *Community of Faith and Opportunity*. Participating communities will receive tailored technical assistance and capacity building support from regional *USDA Centers of Community Prosperity* and from the *OneUSDA* team. These resources will help foster hope and opportunity, wealth creation, and asset building.

To participate, please take the next steps and complete the form at this [link](#):

- 1) **Convene your community's *Local Prosperity Council***: identify and invite local partners and collaborators to participate and designate a community quarterback.
- 2) **Determine 3-5 local challenges or projects you would like to see addressed**: list and describe these with appropriate detail. These should be concrete, practical opportunities for partnership or projects that your *Local Prosperity Council* is interested in moving forward. (***no more than 250 words***)
- 3) **Describe local assets**: identify and describe local assets and community resources that are being leveraged by the *Local Prosperity Council* to accomplish its goals. (***no more than 250 words***)
- 4) **Identify key collaborators and partners**: list engaged community partners and contact information for those that have committed to participate in the *Local Prosperity Council*.
- 5) **Describe ongoing implementation efforts in the community**: please provide additional information in narrative form regarding activities that stakeholders in the community have taken to address the challenges independently. (***no more than 250 words***)

Thank you for your interest in the *Centers of Community Prosperity* initiative; submitting this information does not guarantee that you will receive a designation. OPPE Staff and USDA Subject Matter Experts will determine the selection of communities. By submitting the requested information, you and your *Local Prosperity Council* will work with the local USDA liaison to:

- Conduct outreach to community stakeholders about USDA programs during council development and project plan implementation
- Collaborate with USDA technical assistance team to support council meetings, site visits, and data collection efforts
- Develop a strategic or project plan for the community and local prosperity council to implement
- Agree to apply to or engage with 3 USDA grant/loan programs or farm services

Letters of support from participating partners and institutions are optional and can be submitted at the bottom of this form. Your information will be reviewed, and a follow up call scheduled to confirm submission.