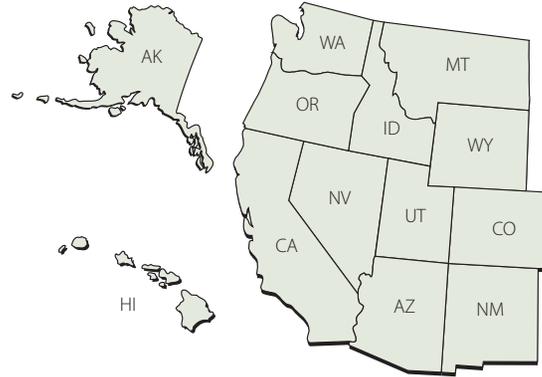


Creating vibrant, healthy and enduring rural communities



About RCAC

RCAC serves rural communities in the western
United States and other Pacific Islands



**For more information on RCAC's Building
Rural Economies Program, contact:**

Pamela Higgins
Rural Planning & Capacity Building Manager
(406) 996-1075 • phiggins@rcac.org

Michael Utter
Rural Development Specialist II
(406) 451-5665 • mutter@rcac.org

Corporate Office

3120 Freeboard Drive, Suite 201
West Sacramento, CA 95691
Phone (916) 447-2854 • Fax (916) 447-2878



Building Rural Economies



Building Rural Economies

RCAC's Building Rural Economies (BRE) initiative provides training in comprehensive community economic development to support and develop local assets and talents. We build the capacity for local sponsoring organizations to network, plan and implement economic development initiatives in rural communities. BRE:

- Increases local entrepreneurship and jobs
- Develops catalytic projects that seed additional investments
- Develops a supportive, entrepreneurial environment for economic development to thrive



Process

The work occurs for a minimum of three years, in three phases:

Phase one

RCAC works with a local sponsoring organization to identify economic opportunities in the community and the leaders/entrepreneurs with the passion to take advantage of those opportunities. RCAC helps this local team analyze current economic conditions that need improving and prioritize action on the most realistic opportunities.

Phase two

RCAC has developed an innovative curriculum—Start, Grow, Revive Your Business. The curriculum emphasizes skills necessary to launch or expand local businesses and focuses on sustainable business principles and regional networking.

Phase three

After completion of the curriculum, entrepreneurs have developed the skills necessary to understand making their businesses sustainable. Regional networking links are critical avenues to be nurtured. RCAC provides ongoing coaching and support. We work with both the sponsoring team and individual entrepreneurs to provide the appropriate technical, managerial, and financial assistance necessary to launch and expand local businesses.

RCAC will work with the sponsoring organization, and in some cases directly with entrepreneurs, to provide the appropriate technical, managerial and financial assistance necessary to launch a new business.

Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) provides training, technical and financial resources and advocacy so rural communities can achieve their goals and visions.

Founded more than 35 years ago, RCAC provides a wide range of community development services for rural and Native American communities, and community-based organizations in 13 western states and other Pacific islands. RCAC was certified as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) in 1996 and finances affordable housing, community facilities, utility infrastructure and small businesses in rural communities. As a certified CDFI, RCAC fills financing gaps and serves those traditionally neglected by conventional markets.