



RMC
Rural Maryland Council

Governor's Grants Conference November 13, 2017

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rural.maryland.gov

Who we are

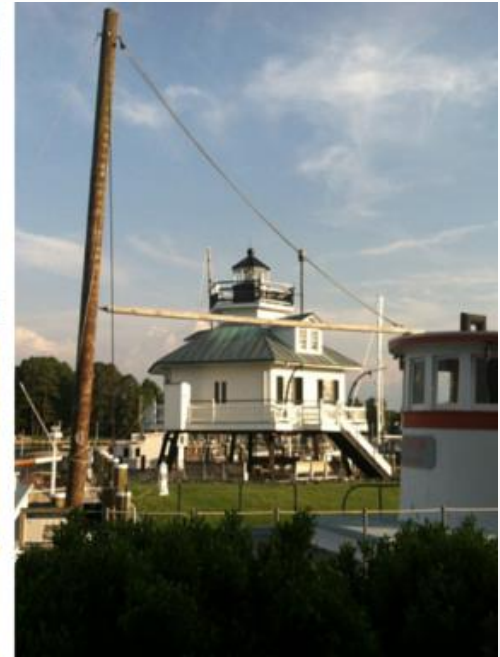
- An independent state agency housed under the Maryland Department of Agriculture
- First established in 1993 by Governor's Executive Order. Formally established in Maryland Statute in 1995 (Economic Development Article, Sec. 13-401)
- Funded under the State's Operating Budget
- For Fiscal Year 2018:
 - Council (Operating) funded at \$513,917
 - MAERDAF funded at \$680,917
 - RMPIF components funded at \$ 1.58 million

Maryland Agricultural Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF)

- Created in 2000 to provide financial assistance to rural-serving nonprofit organizations that promote statewide and regional planning, economic and community development and agricultural and forestry education efforts. Intent is to build capacity.
- Between FY 2001 and FY 2017, MAERDAF awarded over \$3.8 million in grants to rural organizations leveraging this funding into a total of \$11 million. (1:4 ratio)
- For Fiscal Year 2018, the RMC received 119 applications requesting approximately \$1,642,296 in funding and dispersed a total of \$680,515 to 34 organizations.

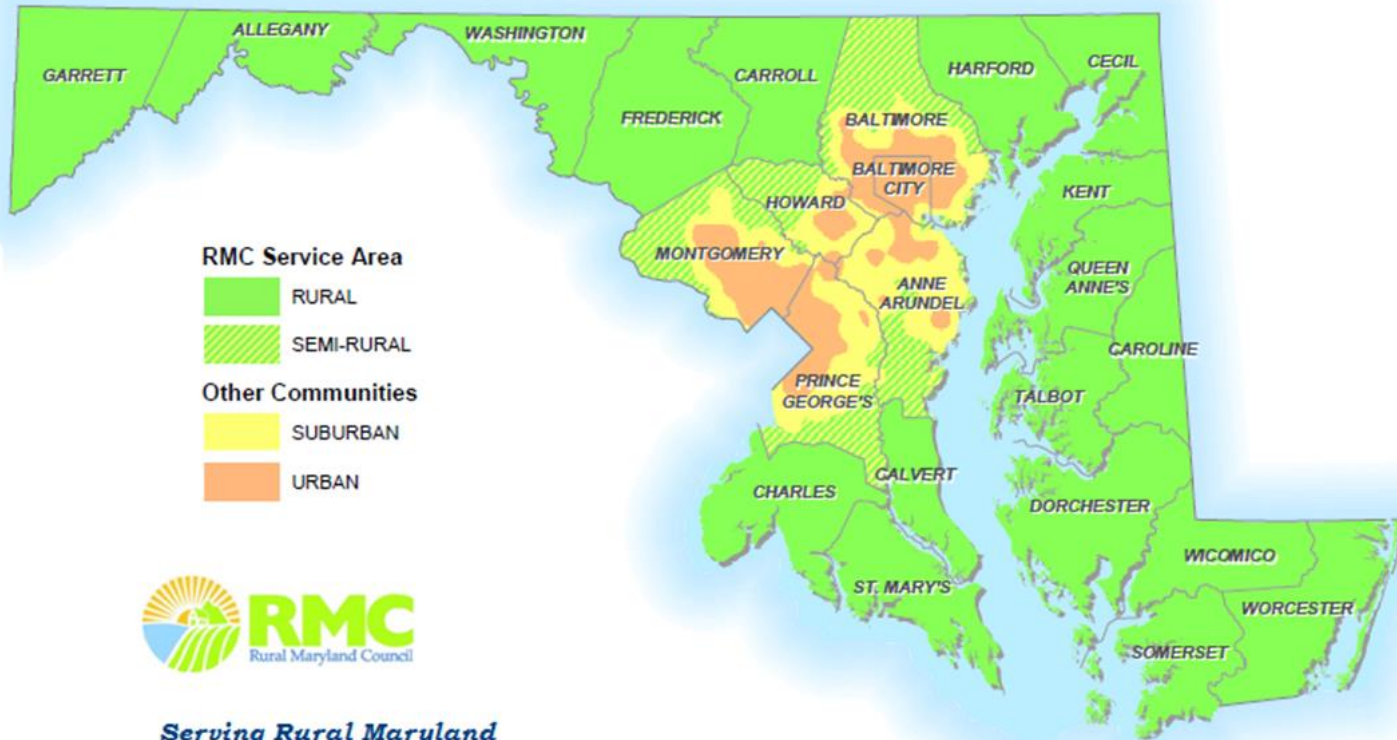
Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMPIF)

- Authorized by the Maryland General Assembly in 2006.
- **Stronger rural communities**
=
A stronger Maryland
- Primary goal of RMPIF is to provide targeted investments to various regional, nonprofit and educational entities to bring Rural Maryland's standards of living up to statewide averages.



RMPIF First Funded in FY 2017

- Thanks to Governor Hogan, RMC received approximately \$2 million in FY 2017 for the first time for RMPIF
- RMC received approximately \$4 million in FY 2018 which covers both the MAERDAF and RMPIF programs.
- In FY 2018, we received 53 applications requesting \$4,152,568 in support. We awarded 27 grants totaling approximately \$1,572,000.



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KENT

HOWARD

MONTGOMERY

ANNE ARUNDEL

QUEEN ANNE'S

PRINCE GEORGE'S

CAROLINE

TALBOT

DORCHESTER

CHARLES

CALVERT

WICOMICO

ST. MARY'S

WORCESTER

SOMERSET

Challenges in Rural Maryland

- Highest unemployment rates in the State
- Highest rates of poverty in the State
- Lack of access to transportation
- Lack of access to health care
- Pressure on the agriculture economy
- Lack of internet and broadband service

The Council looks for applications in:

- Agriculture education
- Youth engagement
- Broadband
- Renewable energy
- Economic development
- Community development

MAERDAF Guidelines

- **Eligible Applicants:** 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organizations, Regional Councils and Community Colleges
- **Purpose:** to increase the overall capacity of rural-serving nonprofit organizations and community colleges to meet a multitude of rural development challenges and to help them establish new public/private partnerships for leveraging non-state sources of funding
- **Must serve 2 or more rural counties or statewide**
- **When:** Projects must be completed between August 1st– June 30th
- **Preference:** Projects that have an equal or greater match
- **Grant Amounts:** The maximum grant amount is \$30,000. Average award is around \$17,000

Grant Decisions

- Grant award determinations for both programs are made by the independent MAERDAF Grant Review Board set by law and consisting of the Secretaries (or their designee) of:
 - Department of Agriculture
 - Department of Business and Economic Development (now Commerce)
 - Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
 - Department of Housing and Community Development
 - Department of Natural Resources
 - as well as the Chair (or the designee) of the Rural Maryland Council.
- Decisions by the MAERDAF Grant Review Board are final and binding
- Criteria and rankings are available on the RMC website

Deadlines for FY 2018

- **Deadline for pre-proposals: June 9, 2017**
- Notification: Applicants will be notified on June 20, 2017
- Monday, July 17, 2017 - Full application due to RMC by 11:59pm.
- Monday August 7, 2017 – MAERDAF and RMPIF Grant Recipients announced



Photos courtesy of LEAD Maryland, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, MAC, Inc., Asian American Center of Frederick, and Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center

MAERDAF FY 2018

- Allegany Health Right, Inc., \$19,900.00
- Arundel Lodge, Inc., \$29,951.00
- Atlantic General Hospital Corporation, \$26,590.50
- Bay Area for Independent Living, \$20,000.00
- Bay Community Support Services, Inc., \$13,000.00
- Caroline County Council for the Arts, \$13,000.00
- Chesapeake College Foundation, \$9,469.00

Requirements

- Projects must be regional (more than one county)
- Priority is given to projects with matching funds
- Letters of support are recommended
- Pre-proposals are **due June 9, 2017**
- Projects must be completed within one year

RMPIF Guidelines – Rural Regional Planning & Development Councils

- **Eligible Applicants:** Tri-County Council of Western Maryland, Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland, Upper Shore Regional Council, Mid-Shore Regional Council, Tri-County Council of the Lower Eastern Shore, and multicounty efforts serving rural communities in areas not served by the regional councils.
- **Purpose:** to provide grants specifically for projects and activities of the five regional planning and development councils and for other multi-county rural improvement efforts.
- **When:** Projects must be completed between August 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018
- **Grant Amounts:** Each regional council is eligible to receive up to \$211,133 in FY2018 for rural regional planning and development assistance, as well as applications received from a multi-county effort (Frederick, Carroll, Harford) in areas not served by an existing regional council.

RMPIF Guidelines – Entrepreneurship Development



- **Eligible Applicants:** Applicants must be local government, institute of higher education, regional council, 501(c)(3) IRS tax designation or similar and serve a regional or statewide rural constituency. Community Colleges, Career Technology Centers, Regional Councils and Libraries are eligible applicants.
- **Purpose:** to promote entrepreneurship and assist efforts that provide training and technical assistance to the entrepreneurs who can help build prosperous and sustainable rural communities by creating jobs, raising incomes, creating wealth and improving quality of life.
- **When:** Projects must be completed between August 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018
- **Grant Amounts:** No maximum grant amount; \$527,833 allotted funds, Grant Review Board will optimally fund 6 entrepreneurial projects.

RMPIF Guidelines – Infrastructure



- **Eligible Applicants:** Applicants must be local government, institute of higher education, regional council, 501(c)(3) IRS tax designation or similar and serve a regional or statewide rural constituency. Community Colleges, Career Technology Centers, Regional Councils and Libraries are eligible applicants.
- **Purpose:** to support projects that involve two or more units of government and are related to broadband, water, wastewater, transportation, workforce housing, and commercial/industrial facilities up to 25% of the total project costs. Workforce housing is defined as housing targeted to 80 to 120% of median income of the community in which employees work.
- **When:** Projects must be completed between August 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018
- **Grant Amounts:** No maximum grant amount; \$527,833 allotted funds, Grant Review Board will optimally fund 4 infrastructure projects.

RMPIF Guidelines – Health Care



- **Eligible Applicants:** Applicants must be local government, institute of higher education, regional council, 501(c)(3) IRS tax designation or similar and serve a regional or statewide rural constituency. Eligible applicants include federally qualified health centers, area health education centers, local health clinics and other rural-serving health organizations.
- **When:** Projects must be completed between August 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018
- **Grant Amounts:** No maximum grant amount; \$527,833 allotted funds, Grant Review Board will optimally fund up to 6 health care projects.
- **Eligible Projects:**
 - **Recruitment and retention of health care providers;**
 - **Improving access to health and medical/dental care;**
 - **Behavioral and mental health;**
 - **Chronic disease prevention and management;**
 - **Oral and dental health.**

RMPIF FY 2018 Projects

Entrepreneurship

- College of Southern Maryland Foundation/SBDC, \$20,000.00
- Eastern Shore Entrepreneurship Center, \$119,420.00
- Energetics Technology Center, Inc., \$115,945.00

Infrastructure

- City of Crisfield, \$125,000.00
- Town of Ridgely, \$16,250.00
- Garrett County Community Action Committee, \$90,000.00
- Kent County Economic Development, \$200,000.00

Additional Outreach and Technical Assistance

- RMC hosts in-person outreach sessions approximately an hour long. Last year we held two:
 - May 9, 2017 in Western Maryland
 - May 12, 2017 in Southern Maryland
- Also host webinar to be held in May 2018
- Office is available to help with technical assistance



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