



United States Department of Agriculture

Rural Development

Office of the Under
Secretary for Rural
Development

1400 Jefferson Ave SW
Washington, DC 20250
Voice 202.720.4581

October 7, 2019

TO: Ms. Charlotte Davis
Chair, Partners for Rural America
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

FROM: D.J. LaVoy
Deputy Under Secretary, Rural Development

SUBJECT: Recognition to Partners for Rural America

Dear Ms. Davis:

On December 20, 2018, President Trump signed into the law the 2018 Farm Bill, which includes continued authorization for State Rural Development Councils (SRDCs). The United States Department of Agriculture is pleased to recognize Partners for Rural America (PRA) under the National Rural Development Partnership in the 2018 Farm Bill and its support of the SRDCs. Through this letter I recognize the following SRDCs that have submitted SRDC Standards for Independence reauthorizations:

- Arizona
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Iowa
- Maine
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Missouri
- Pennsylvania
- Vermont
- Wisconsin

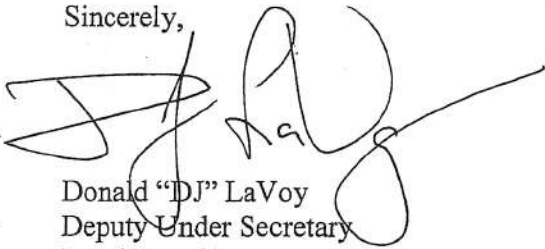
SRDCs are uniquely positioned to expand community and economic development opportunities for America's rural communities and their residents. SRDCs, across the country, work in their states to conduct research, work with state and federal government officials, partner with other community and economic development organizations, and serve as leaders representing the perspective and needs of rural communities.

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Reauthorization of SRDCs by PRA will ensure that councils will be able to continue their important work of strengthening rural communities across the country. Rural Development is pleased to continue to support and partner with the SRDCs and PRA to further our mission to create prosperity throughout rural America.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DJ LaVoy', written over a circular stamp or seal.

Donald "DJ" LaVoy
Deputy Under Secretary
Rural Development