

The Rural Community Development (RCD) Program

Helping Missouri's rural and tribal communities build and maintain safe water and wastewater systems



Missouri State Facts



1,434 community water systems

1,227 water systems serve communities with fewer than 3,300 people

\$3.17 billion estimated water infrastructure need for small systems

30.5% of the population lives in a rural area

Sources: EPA, Census

About the RCD Program

The [Rural Community Development \(RCD\)](#) grant program builds capacity to create, expand, and maintain safe, affordable water and wastewater systems in rural areas. RCD serves very small communities in sparsely populated areas made up predominately of residents with low income who lack safe water and wastewater treatment services and sometimes even indoor plumbing. RCD tailors its support based on community need. It helps communities assess water and wastewater infrastructure and accessibility needs, helps identify and secure funding for water facility upgrades, builds capacity through local experts to establish and maintain water facilities, and trains water operators to ensure water systems are functional and compliant. There are currently [eight RCD grant recipients](#) — six regional organizations and two organizations that support tribal communities. RCD grant recipients [Midwest Assistance Program, Inc. \(MAP\)](#) and [Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. \(ITCA\)](#) serve communities in the state of Missouri.

Example of RCD's Support in Missouri

Pierce City, Missouri

Pierce City, Missouri experienced a devastating EF3 tornado that destroyed the town's water tower and well. After the disaster, as the town began to repair the damage, they ran out of funding to finish the necessary repairs. With RCD funding, MAP helped the town plan for the additional repairs by creating materials for public outreach, contracting engineering services, and securing funding. With funding for the project secured and engineers in place, MAP provided ongoing monitoring and community outreach as the water system was repaired. Now, the water system is being rebuilt even better than it was before the tornado, ensuring that residents have access to clean drinking water and a functioning wastewater system.

National Outcomes*

With the help of RCD:



\$742 million
in additional funding
secured for communities



83,000 residents
have gained access to
safe drinking water



49,000 residents
have gained access to
sanitary sewer systems



2,100 communities
served by RCD projects

*Outcomes for RCD grant recipients' work across the country since FY21



For more information about the Rural Community Development (RCD) Program, [visit the RCD website](#) and the [RCD Information and Data Dashboard](#).

For more information about OCS's other anti-poverty programs, [visit the OCS website](#).