

Community Development Block Grant Scattered Site Housing

North Carolina Department of Commerce's Division of Community Assistance (DCA) manages block grant awards funded by the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development. Counties receive funding on a three-year cycle to repair or replace individual, owner-occupied low-income housing (Scattered Site Housing Program).

The High Country Council of Governments coordinated the administration of five scattered site programs in 2005-06:

- **Alleghany Scattered Site Housing Program**– Continued administration of the County's 2005 program with repair/replacement of three homes
- **Ashe Scattered Site Housing Program**– The application for the 2005 funding cycle was submitted, and three homes were completed
- **Avery Scattered Site Housing Program**– Continued administration on the County's 2003 program with two homes completed
- **Watauga Scattered Site Housing Program**– Continued administration on the County's 2003 program with two homes completed
- **Yancey Scattered Site Housing Program**– Continued the County's 2005 program with two homes completed
- **The High Country COG's Community Development Planning staff** developed applications for funding through the NC Division of Community Assistance's CDBG Scattered Site Housing Rehabilitation Program for Avery and Watauga Counties. These successful grant applications led to awards of \$400,000 for each County.
- **Jefferson Low-Income Housing Development**– The High Country COG continue to provide project oversight and coordination for this development, which will lead to the creation of affordable housing options for the region.

Infrastructure Development

The Planning Department provides grant writing assistance for several state & federal economic development programs, including Community Development Block Grant-Economic Development category (CDBG-ED), Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), U.S. Dept. of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA), and the North Carolina Rural Center. In FY 2005-06, Planning Staff:

- Compiled a \$500,000 Rural Center application for the Town of Sparta to fund water and sewer extensions to serve an expansion of Tru-Line Truss.
- Developed grant applications for the Town of Burnsville and Yancey County to fund water and sewer infrastructure to serve Altec, Inc. The Town received a total of \$1.9 million from CDBG, ARC, the Rural Center, and GoldenLeaf. Altec will be creating 300 new jobs.
- Submitted a successful \$200,000 application for the Town of Wilkesboro to the Appalachian Regional Commission for water system improvements in the Beacon Ridge section of town.
- Secured funding totaling \$1.03 million and administered grants from the NC Department of Commerce, and the Rural Center to provide infrastructure development for a new Lowe's Home Improvement Warehouse in the Town of Banner Elk, resulting in the creation of 100 new jobs.