

**SUBMITTED BY:** Daritza Villalobos, Grants Coordinator

**MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW:** Ana Urquijo, City Manager

**FOCUS AREA:** Other / NA

**ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS:**

**SUBJECT:** **RESOLUTION NO. 25-1669**, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **APPROVING** the **ACCEPTANCE** of a grant agreement with **RURAL COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE CORPORATION (RCAC)** as a subgrantee of the USDA Rural Community Development initiative (RCDI) grant; **AUTHORIZING** the city to **PARTICIPATE** in the **RCDI PARTNERSHIP** to **DESIGNATE** a **COMMUNITY COORDINATOR**.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This item is to inform Mayor and Council of an opportunity for the City of Douglas to participate as a subgrantee under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) grant, administered by the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC). Through this partnership, the city will work with RCAC over a three-year period to build internal capacity in economic development and entrepreneurship support. As part of the agreement, the city will receive \$45,000 over three years to support the work of a designated Community Coordinator (CC) who will serve as the point of contact and lead the implementation of the program locally.

**BACKGROUND:**

RCAC has been awarded funding from USDA through the Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) to support communities in building local capacity around economic development and small business support. The City of Douglas has been selected as a subgrantee and local partner in this initiative.

The RCDI program, delivered in partnership with RCAC, includes the following focus areas:

- Training and supporting local entrepreneurs through the Start, Grow, Revive (SGR) Your Business curriculum
- Assisting small businesses and community members in accessing capital for business growth or new ventures
- Building the city's internal capacity to continue delivering the SGR program and related economic development programming beyond the grant period.

As part of this initiative, the City of Douglas will:

- Designate or hire a Community Coordinator (CC) to serve as the main liaison with RCAC and to implement program activities locally
- Receive \$45,000 in grant support over the three-year period to assist with costs associated with the CC position.

This initiative aligns with the city's broader economic development goals and complements ongoing efforts to support small businesses, increase entrepreneurship, and create local job opportunities. Participation in this grant-funded partnership will allow the city to build long-term capacity for program delivery while expanding opportunities for local entrepreneurs.

**DISCUSSION:**

Staff recommends approval.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** N/A

**Fiscal Year:** 2024/2025

**Amount  
Requested:**

**Budgeted:** Y / N

**Account (s):**

“...I MOVE THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 25-1669.”