





Mark Your Calendars

Developing a National Strategy to Address Rural Child Poverty White House and Philanthropy Strategy Meeting Memphis, TN – May 19, 2015

Dear Colleague: You are cordially invited to participate in a funders meeting to help the White House develop a strategy for its emerging efforts to address rural childhood poverty.

Today, 1 in 4 rural kids live in poverty, and 1 in 8 live in deep poverty. The White House Rural Council, chaired by Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and constituting the entire domestic Cabinet, has identified rural child poverty as its primary area of focus for the final two years of the Administration. For the past months, the Administration has been exploring ways that current federal programs can make a greater impact and how to institutionalize promising practices.

This small group meeting will be held in Memphis in conjunction with an international conference cohosted by USDA, the White House Rural Council, and the Organization for Economic and Community Development (OECD). While the larger conference will focus on rural competitiveness, prosperity and include leaders from across the globe, the funders meeting is intended to be a small, strategy and actionbased session. The 2.5-hour agenda will focus on preliminary steps for the White House Rural Council's engagement, as well as opportunities for collaboration and resource alignment.

In the evening, participants will be invited to a reception at the National Civil Rights Museum where Secretary Vilsack will deliver a keynote address focusing on rural childhood poverty.

Please consider attending or sending a representative from your organization. RSVP and registration information are below.

Event details and Registration, click <u>here</u> **Hosts:** The White House Rural Council, Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation **Location:** Memphis, Tennessee, Sheraton Downtown **Date:** Tuesday, May 19, 2015 **Time:** 9:30-12:00 (Funders Strategy Meeting), 5:30-8:00 Conference Reception with Secretary Vilsack

RSVP: Please let us know you will attend by contacting: ruralaffairs@who.eop.gov And for more information, contact Chad Maisel (<u>chad p maisel@omb.gov</u>) or Chris Beck (<u>chris.beck@osec.usda.gov</u>).