

Creative Solutions to Providing Housing for Rural Residency Program



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Background

- Growth in rural residencies critical for training rural workforce
- Less rural housing stock, and rural housing us 81% owned versus urban 60%.
- Variety of program models and housing needs
 - 3 years rural
 - 1+2 programs (urban R1 and rural R1 clinic)
 - Rural rotations to meet educational needs

Methods

- Evaluation of HRSA funded Rural Residency Planning and Development grants
- Interviews conducted with 25 grantees focusing on meeting residents housing and travel needs
- Thematic content analysis

Results

- Housing and travel stipends
- Rehab housing units
- New construction
- Connection with real estate agents
- Stipends to live in city limits
- Partner with local foundation on home purchase
- Build row of new townhomes near hospital
- May be more convenient to live between two major clinical sites.

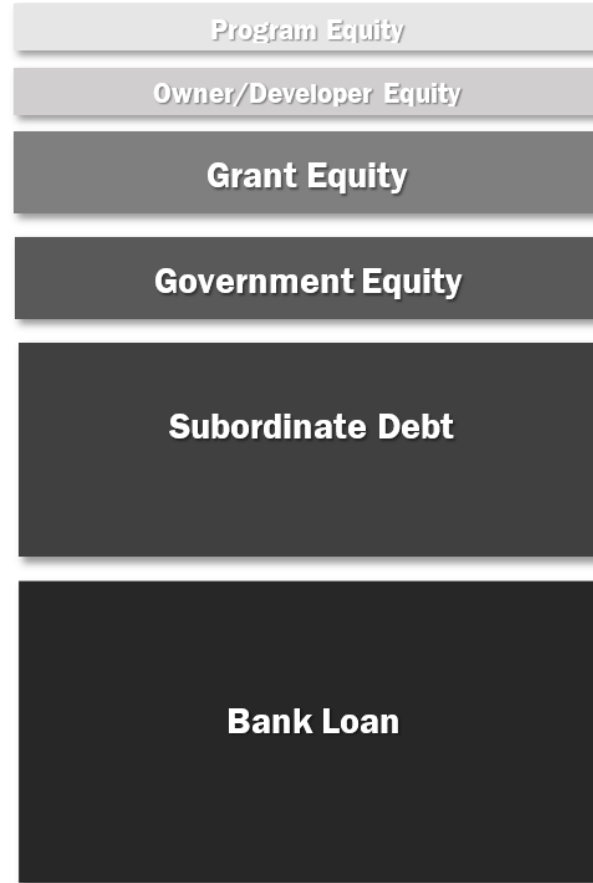
Results

- Short term or temporary housing (air bnb, short stay hotels)
- Aggregate housing needs for traveling physicians, nurses, students, and residents
- Residents may need one night of housing night before or after clinic in a 1 plus 2 program.

Resources

- USDA-provide grants and loans for rural infrastructure, including housing. Locate your state office: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/leadership/state-directors>
- CDFI-950 in US-lenders, intermediaries, can help raise capital, substantial market experience. CDFI locator: <https://www.ofn.org/cdfi-locator/>
- SBA-microloans and connections to lenders and investors. See for lender match: <https://www.SBA.gov/lendermatch>
- RHI Hub-Guide on Capital Funding for Rural Healthcare available at <https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/capital-funding>

Capital stack



Discussion

- Common themes in the way programs addressed short and long-term housing needs
- Lessons may apply to THC residency programs, other GME programs, and UME.
- Housing opportunities may influence applicant choices
- General approaches to raising capital similar, specifics will vary
- Need for local leadership to identify local needs and opportunities
- Consider working early with state USDA office, department of commerce, and CDFI
- Will likely need some local investment and a combination of other resources (grants and loans)



QUESTIONS



For additional information about the RRPD and/or THCPD Program

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