



United States Department of Agriculture  
Rural Development  
Puerto Rico State Office

May 4, 2009

## SUCCESS STORY

### 2009 Seminar on Disaster Relief

On April 29, 2009, Pedro Gómez, Rural Development Acting State Director and Arlene Zambrana, Rural Housing Director talked about the Agency's Program to three-hundred representatives of the Federal, State & Municipal Government, Faith-Based and Non-Profit Organizations.

This Seminar was a joint effort of USDA Rural Development and HUD. Also we had the collaboration of FEMA, SBA, National Weather Service, USDA Farm Service, the municipality of Bayamón, and the Puerto Rico Seismic Network of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus.

We prepared a summary on programs and initiatives that will assist the personnel in charge in devising specific actions and strategies in the event of a disaster in their communities. This will help these organizations to be prepared before and after a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

This work shows President Obama's Administration is committed to support disaster victims. We also included a part named "Lessons Learned" that shows our forte and debilities. This experience will help us to deliver a better service in a future occasion. In USDA Rural Development we are committed to the future of rural communities.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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