

# Puerto Rico

## Recovery Opportunities

Community Planning &  
Capacity Building



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### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

**DEADLINE:** Jan. 23

[Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship Grants Program](#)

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture within the Department of Agriculture is offering an estimated \$3.1 million to support trainee programs that engage outstanding master’s and doctoral degree students to pursue and complete their degree in USDA mission areas. There are also grants available for Special International Study or Thesis/Dissertation Research Travel Allowances. Applications are being solicited from institutions that offer a graduate degree in at least one of the following: Targeted Expertise Shortage Areas including animal and plant production, forest resources, agricultural educators and communicators, agricultural management and economics, food science and human nutrition, sciences for agricultural biosecurity and training in integrative biosciences for sustainable food and agricultural systems.

**DEADLINE:** Jan. 28

[School Nutrition Training Grant for Allied Professional Organizations](#)

The Food and Nutrition Service within the U.S Department of Agriculture is awarding a one-time grant of up to \$2 million to encourage allied professional associations to develop a training program for school nutrition personnel that focuses on meal preparation and workforce development. The eight identified functional areas that applicants may select from when developing and delivering the training program are: meal preparation and service; nutrition and meal management; marketing, communication and customer service; procurement and inventory management; financial management and accountability; personnel management; sanitation, safety and security; facility and property management.

**DEADLINE:** Jan. 29

[Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Evaluation Innovation Fund—Democratizing Learning and Evaluation: Supporting Evaluation Ecosystems and Opportunities for Contextualized Approaches](#)

The Office of Acquisitions Management is offering up to \$600,000 through the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor for an open competition for organizations interested in submitting applications for projects that focus on supporting the field of professional evaluations and those creating opportunities for locally-driven forms of evaluation in the field of democracy and human rights.

**DEADLINE:** Jan. 29

[2019 Coral Reef Conservation Program, Domestic Coral Reef Conservation Grants](#)

The Department of Commerce is funding up to \$1 million through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coral Reef Conservation Program, Domestic Coral Reef Conservation Grants. These awards are intended to support coral reef conservation projects in shallow water coral reef ecosystems. Proposals submitted to this competition must address at least one of the following five categories: improve fishery sustainability; reduce land-based sources of pollution; increase resilience to climate change; restore viable coral populations; and local and emerging management issues.

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**DEADLINE:** Jan. 29

[2019 Empowering Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities through Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs Financed by the Prevention and Public Health Fund](#)

The Administration on Aging within the Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services forecasts the possible availability of roughly \$6.4 million in funds to make three-year grants to approximately 10 entities to develop programs that empower older adults and adults with disabilities to better manage their chronic conditions. Disbursement of grants include the following options:

- Sustainable Systems Grants: about six grants between \$500,000 to \$900,000 for developing integrated, sustainable systems for delivering evidence-based chronic disease self-management education and self-management support programs.
  - Capacity-Building Grants: about four grants between \$50,000 to \$150,000 to build capacity to introduce and deliver evidence-based chronic disease self-management education and self-management support programs within underserved areas and populations.
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**DEADLINE:** Jan. 29

[National Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation](#)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Center for Mental Health Services is funding up to \$1 million to advance the implementation of high quality infant and early childhood mental health consultation across the nation. The primary goal is to promote the healthy social and emotional development of infants and young children to help prevent the onset of serious emotional issues. The program has been and will continue to be instrumental in supporting early childhood providers to achieve their goals of healthy children and families, school readiness and success in school and beyond.

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**DEADLINE:** Jan. 31

[2018 Flood Mitigation Assistance](#)

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program offered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency is offering up to \$160 million to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program. The program will prioritize proposals that address community flood risk by setting aside \$70 million for this purpose. FEMA will seek to fund advance assistance for flood mitigation design and development of community flood mitigation projects that address community flood risk for reducing NFIP flood claim payments. The remaining funding will be used for FMA technical assistance, mitigation planning and mitigation projects reducing risk to

repetitive loss. Applicants must submit applications via the Mitigation eGrants system on the FEMA Grants Portal: <https://portal.fema.gov>. Applicants may submit a maximum of one advanced assistance and one community mitigation project sub-application.

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**DEADLINE:** Jan. 31

[Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities is offering up to \$350,000 through its Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections program. This program helps cultural institutions meet the challenge of preserving large and diverse collections while supporting sustainable conservation measures that mitigate deterioration, prolong lifespan and support institutional resilience. Cultural institutions must implement measures that slow deterioration and prevent catastrophic loss. These measures can include: managing relative humidity, temperature, light and pollutants in collection spaces; providing protective storage enclosures and systems for collections; and safeguarding collections from theft, fire, floods and other disasters. They may also aim to prepare and protect collections from of emergencies related to natural or human activity.

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**DEADLINE:** Jan. 31

[Request for Proposals - Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program](#)

The Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations. This program aims to provide modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds and the species and habitats they support. Potential projects include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship.

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**DEADLINE:** Jan. 31

[Partners for Places: Grant Matching Program](#)

Partners for Places is a program managed by the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network. The platform creates opportunities to improve communities by building partnerships between local governments and nonprofits. National funders invest in local projects to promote a healthy environment, a strong economy and the well-being of all residents. Through these projects, the program fosters long-term relationships that make our urban areas more prosperous, livable and vibrant. The grant program will provide partnership investments between \$25,000 and \$75,000 for one-year projects or \$50,000 and \$150,000 for two-year projects. To date, Partners for Places has awarded nearly \$6 million across North America in this successful matching grant program, leading to nearly \$12 million in philanthropic investments.

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**DEADLINE:** Feb. 1

[Clif Bar Family Foundation Small Grants](#)

The Clif Bar Family Foundation is accepting applications for its small grants program. Through the program, general support grants of up to \$7,000 as well as funding for specific projects will be awarded to nonprofits working in one or more of the foundation's five focus areas: promoting Earth's beauty bounty; creating a robust and healthy food system;

increasing opportunities for outdoor activity; reducing environmental health hazards; and building stronger communities. Priority will be given to organizations that can demonstrate a clearly defined objective and a viable plan to achieve it, who operate at the community level and have strong community ties. To be eligible, applicants must be considered tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and support at least one of the foundation's five focus areas.

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**DEADLINE:** March 1

### **The Graduate School of Planning Master's Program**

The Graduate School of Planning has opened the application process for admission to pursue a master's degree in planning at the University of Puerto Rico's Graduate School of Planning in Río Piedras. The new curriculum begins August 2019 and includes three concentrations: urban and regional planning, economic and community development, society and environment. For more information about the application process, call 787-764-0000 ext. 85117 or email [egp.rrp@upr.edu](mailto:egp.rrp@upr.edu).

## TRAINING

**DATE/TIME:** Jan. 17, 2 p.m.- 3 p.m.

### [WEBINAR: How to Manage Grants](#)

Smart Management for Small Water Systems is a webinar funded by the Environmental Protection Agency that caters to those who have received grant funding or a loan needed for managing a small water utility or water project. In this webinar you will learn how project components determine the operations and maintenance activities for the next 20 to 50 years. There will also be a discussion on how to track project activities, set and measure project milestones and interpret outputs and outcomes so that your system can demonstrate progress to the funding agency. Even if you have not received a grant yet, these activities can ensure that you are spending money in the best way possible for your water system and your community.

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**DATE:** Jan. 26

### [Adult Literacy Program](#)

Project ENLACE of Caño Martín Peña is inviting volunteers to assist with their literacy program. Volunteers must have reading and writing experience. An obligatory workshop will be held on Jan. 26 for volunteers. Classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. from January to May. For more information or to register call, Imirse Orrusti: 787-729-1594 or email: [alfabetizacionadultoscmp@gmail.com](mailto:alfabetizacionadultoscmp@gmail.com)

**TIME:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Tuesdays: Buena Vista Santurce, Centro De Usos Múltiples De Buena Vista, Calle 4, esquina Calle B, San Juan, PR.

Thursdays: Buena Vista Hato Rey, Calle C 123, San Juan, PR.

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**DATE/TIME:** Jan. 24, 3 p.m.- 4p.m.

### [Webinar: Communicate and Connect with Major Donors: How to Unlock More Gifts](#)

During this webinar, the speakers will offer tips and tactics relating to communicating and connecting with donors to gain more gifts and opportunities.



Four behavioral profiles will be identified to explain how to determine your own profile as well as that of a donor, so that your odds of getting more opportunities increases. Before the webinar, a worksheet will be filled out to identify important and challenging relationships you have with donors or colleagues. During the session you'll learn how to identify the donor's social style and get tips for adapting your approach so you can strengthen ties with these key individuals and secure more gifts.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**DATE:** Jan. 15

### [The Importance of Trees: The Forests of Puerto Rico](#)

Join a conservation talk led by a forest ranger to discuss the importance of trees and learn about how they contribute to life in Puerto Rico.

**TIME:** 10 a.m.-11 a.m. will be in English, 1 p.m.- 2p.m. will be in Spanish, 3 p.m.- 4p.m. will be bilingual

**LOCATION:** Portalito HUB: Palmer, Calle Principal, Rio Grande, PR

**DATE:** Jan. 27

### [Women's Health Conference 2019](#)

Women's Health Society is inviting all primary care physicians and allied fields working in women's health care to this event. The conference is based on "Preventive Care Update" and aims to discuss the latest developments, innovations and challenges of women's health ranging from reproductive medicine, gynecologic oncology, maternity and fetal health, immunization, mental health, etc.

**TIME:** 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Puerto Rico Convention Center, 100 Boulevard Saint John, Salon 202, San Juan, PR

## HIGHLIGHTS

### [Highlight: Textile Recycling in Puerto Rico](#)

Puerto Rico Textile Recycling and Para la Naturaleza have created an alliance to promote citizen participation in recycling and reusing clothing, shoes and other textile materials. The aim of both organizations is to promote environment and planet preservation. During the first stage of the agreement, 50 textile bins with PLN's logo will be installed in different areas of the metropolitan area, so that individuals can deposit their textile materials, to be reutilized. The second stage of the agreement involves citizen participation and outreach initiatives that inform the public how they can reduce textile waste and reuse materials. The exact location of the bins is available by clicking here: <http://prttextilerecycling.com/localidades.html>

### [Highlight: Punta Borinquen Selected as 11th World Surfing Reserve](#)

The coast from Crash Boat beach to Surfers beach of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico has been selected as the 11th World Surfing Reserve by Save the Waves Coalition. Olita, a Puerto Rican brand that works to deviate families from the poverty cycle, recruited and organized a team of experts in the fields of each selection criterion. This interdisciplinary team formed as the Local Stewardship Council and consists of professors, students, local entities, nonprofits and local veterans of the surf and outdoor industries. The LSC's job was to create the most complete and profound application for the WSR, which they submitted Sept. 30, 2018.

By mid-November the team was notified that it was selected as the 2019 World Surfing Reserve.

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[Highlight: Vivienda Announces New Projects for Housing Reconstruction](#)

The Department of Housing secretary announced the first agreements on community development funds. The agreements will give way to nine projects carried out to address disasters. Through the agreements, along with the Housing Finance Authority, the agency commits to provide part of the funding for these projects, which will lead to the development of 1,550 housing units.

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[Highlight: Nutritional Assistance Program Funds](#)

The additional \$1.2 billion allocated to the Nutritional Assistance Program in the aftermath of hurricanes Irma and Maria ends next March. This led the Coalition on Food Security for Puerto Rico to create a media campaign in Washington, D.C., in favor of extending the funds for an additional year. "American citizens in Puerto Rico need our help. Puerto Rico is beginning to recover from hurricanes Irma and Maria, but recovery is slow and painful. Temporary nutritional support for mothers and children is critical to recovery," said the advertisement that went full-page in The New York Times and continues this week on national media and social networks.

## CONTACTS

The Community Planning and Capacity Building group brings together resources from federal agencies and planning organizations to help communities and local governments define their long term recovery needs and develop strategies and projects to meet those needs. Additional information about rebuilding communities after a disaster can be found in the [Community Recovery Management Toolkit](#).



Questions?

For general Community Planning and Capacity Building questions,  
contact Cecelia Nyman: [cecelia.nyman@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:cecelia.nyman@fema.dhs.gov)

**INNOVATIVE PRACTICES****Collaborative Efforts Between a Municipality and its Residents**

By Nancy M. Piñero Vega

During disaster recovery, it is crucial to empower communities and residents. The Community Planning Capacity Building Recovery Sector of FEMA is a critical liaison between communities and municipalities in raising awareness about collaborative recovery efforts that improve neighborhoods.

Carmen E. Muñoz, Director of Caguas Department of Community Self-Management, offered a workshop in November 2018 at the FEMA Branch III facility in Caguas about Gobernanza Democrática, or Democratic Governance Model, to CPCB personnel.

Democratic Governance was created by former Caguas mayor, William Miranda Marín. The program encourages community associations to form and recommend changes to improve their neighborhoods. According to Muñoz, the Democratic Governance model promotes self-management within the municipality by allowing the community associations to become part of the recovery process. Any recovery initiative by the municipality is typically discussed with the community to make sure they agree.

A municipality's involvement in a project happens after an association presents a plan that requires outside resources. The model not only guarantees community participation, but emphasizes its role in recovery, resiliency and mitigation.

For example, the Borinquen Pradera community experienced a lack of potable water access in homes. The community association there developed a proposal to construct an aqueduct so potable water could reach areas that had no access.

The project in the Borinquen Pradera community serves as a model for other Hurricane María recovery solutions. According to Muñoz, FEMA's CPCB can act as a liaison between municipalities, the private sector and nonprofit organizations for future projects like the aqueduct.