

# UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA



## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate publication for dancer awareness

## Special Benefits for USDA Affiliates and Associate Members: 501(c)(3) Group Exemption Program

The United Square Dancers of America has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Group Exemption Administrator. This entitles Affiliates of USDA to be granted 501(c)(3) Non-Profit status by submitting their application to USDA rather than to the IRS, thereby saving time and money. USDA Affiliates who choose to apply for 501(c)(3) Non-Profit status through USDA will be afforded all the benefits of the IRS designation including exemption from federal income tax, eligibility to receive private foundation grants, opportunity to offer individual and corporate donors a tax deduction for their charitable donations, potential to receive discounted rates on facility rentals or other services, ability for officers to deduct out-of-pocket expenses when serving the non-profit entity, and more.

In addition, local associations or clubs that are members of a USDA Affiliate organization may apply for USDA Associate Member status. Once accepted for Associate Membership, these groups are also eligible to participate in all USDA programs and activities including the option to apply for 501(c)(3) non-profit status under the new USDA group exemption program.

Currently, five USDA Affiliate Organizations and eight USDA Associate Members are participating in the 501(c)(3) Group Exemption Program, with more interest being expressed each month!

Further information is available on our website at [www.usda.org/USDA501c3Program.php](http://www.usda.org/USDA501c3Program.php). Questions may be directed to Jim Maczko, Co-Administrator - 501(c)(3) Group Exemption Program, at [501c3apply@usda.org](mailto:501c3apply@usda.org).