Some Examples from Around the States – based on some work associated with a project paid for by Spring Point Partners
Oklahoma

Hired a full-time outreach employee

Develops promotional items, presents at and attends conferences and other gatherings across the state, talks with state and federal legislators and lobbyists about OK's SRF needs.
California

Hires consultants to assist very small systems through the SRF application process

Has mandatory and voluntary consolidation and partnering to assist smaller systems with compliance (SAFER program)
Oregon

To reduce barriers for small and very small systems, OR does not rate the projects, but rather has a basic list of requirements. If requirements can be met, they can be funded.

Systems are assigned to work with a particular project officer to ensure they have support throughout the process.
Massachusetts

Easily found and navigable website
Florida

Easily to find contact information

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

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Clean Water State Revolving Fund

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Michigan

Interactive map of projects
Consider expanding the eligibilities

SRF does not fund O&M

But

If systems don’t do O&M, assets fail sooner & SRF may pay for early replacement
Projects are often thought of Capital or O&M

Think about projects as more along a continuum
Think about interventional O&M

Examples:

Valve exercising and only replace valves that are broken

Water pipe condition assessment to only replace the pipe that needs replaced

Leak detection with payment of pipe replacement and repair
Potential Project

Small system in Vermont wants to replace a few miles of pipe but is struggling to afford it

Has not done any condition assessment of the pipe to determine if it really needs to be completely replaced

Could SRF pay for condition assessment and then only replace the portion that actually needs it
How might TA partner with SRFs?
Explaining the Importance of O&M: Making sure the projects will be taken care of after funding
Helping ensure operators understand how the process is supposed to work
Talking to communities about projects in a different way

Might be technically feasible

BUT

Might not be best for the community
Example #1

Potential Example #2
Helping to implementing Asset Management
Helping to ensure the technologies match the community needs
Ex 1: Technology too complicated for small community (initial cost might be lower but is it long-term best solution?)

Ex 2: SCADA Installed in a small community where it probably didn’t make sense
Promoting more collaborative relationships with engineers to include more focus on O&M and long-term costs
Some resources
Tackle the Technical, Managerial, and Financial Challenges of Your Water or Wastewater System Head-on: Services from the EFCN

We offer free services to water and wastewater systems, local governments, and others who seek technical, managerial, and financial solutions to environmental infrastructure challenges. By meeting communities where they are, our team of experts work hand-in-hand with operators, elected officials, utility directors, and other water system staff to identify barriers and take on technical, managerial, and financial challenges.
SRF InfoHub

https://swefcswrfswitchboard.unm.edu/srf/