



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$30,000 IN FUNDS TO THE BETHEL COMMUNITY CENTER

On September 27th, 2006, USDA Rural Development presented the Bethel Community Center with a mock check for \$30,000. The funds include a \$5,000 low interest Community Facilities loan and a \$25,000 Community Facilities grant. The USDA funds will be leveraged with the State of Missouri Community Development Block Grant program and funds from the Bethel Community Center to complete necessary renovations to the community center building.

“The Bethel Community Center is a tremendous resource to people in Bethel and it’s important that it be properly updated,” said Congressman Kenny Hulshof. “This is a great example of what the Federal Government can do to make sure important rural facilities, like this one in Bethel, are readily available, and easily accessible, to everyone who needs it.”

“This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities,” said Greg Branum, State Director for USDA Rural Development. “Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senator “Kit” Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Kenny Hulshof for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project for the Bethel Community Center.”

USDA funds through the Community Facilities loan and grant program will allow the Bethel Community Center to complete the necessary roof replacement, window repairs, and some interior renovation to preserve the building. Additionally, USDA funds will be used to complete necessary accessibility work to include parking, access, and accessible bathrooms.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Steven Gerrish, at the Moberly Rural Development office, 2995 County Road 1325, Moberly, MO 65270 or call the office at 660-263-7400 ext. 4.



(Left to right) State Rep. Kathy Chinn, Board Members Rosa Lee Vanskike, Jerry Miles Jr., Russell Vanskike, Jerry Miles Sr., Mayor Wally Prince, board member Laurel Swisher, Kacki Garner of Senator Talent’s office, board member Virginia Gibson, Steven Gerrish, and Tim Freeman from Congressman Kenny Hulshof’s office.

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**“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”**

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).