



NEWS RELEASE

PRESENTATION TO COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES, INC.

At a recognition ceremony on November 18, 2010, Cheryl R. Elliott, Area Specialist, USDA Rural Development, presented Community Opportunities, Inc., with a certificate in honor of their Receipt of an \$11,000 grant funded through the USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program.

The USDA Rural Development provided \$11,000 in grant funds and Community Opportunities contributed \$472 to purchase 2 enclosed trailers. These trailers will increase the efficiency and safety of the services the workshop provides.



Front row: Katy DiSinger representative of Sen. Claire McCaskill; Cheryl Elliot Rural Development Area Specialist; workshop co-manager Dennis Dew and Representative Rebecca McClanahan

Second row: Larry Whitney; LouAnn Rongey, Rural Development Area Specialist; Glenn Neuweg; Thom Bahr; Tom Duncan; Harvey Young and John Moffitt

Community Opportunities was organized in 1969 and has continued to provide services to benefit the Kirksville area. There are approximately seventy-one employees that rely on the workshop for employment. The workshop is fortunate to have a dedicated Board of Directors, Managers, Staff and employees.

“On behalf of Community Opportunities, Inc., Sheltered Workshop, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the USDA Rural Development, for the grant that enabled the purchase of two 24-foot enclosed trailers. These trailers will permit the safe transport of equipment and material for lawn mowing, recycling, and other services. It is through support such as yours that we are able to provide meaningful employment for persons with developmental disabilities. Your support has a significant impact on improving their quality of life and benefits the community in general by providing needed services,” said Rusty Wilson, president of the Board of Directors, Community Opportunities, Inc.

“It is great when federal and local agencies can recognize a need and work together for a solution that is for the good of the people,” said Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, State Director, USDA Rural Development.

“Appreciation is also extended to our federal elected officials for supporting the USDA Rural Development programs and providing funding for this deserving project,” Dunning added.

Anyone seeking more information about the Rural Business Enterprise Grant program or any other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.gov/mo> or by contacting the Kirksville Area office at (660) 665-3274, ext. 4.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“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).