



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

Contact

Jane Edwards

660-885-5567 Ext. #4

## **SHELTERED WORKSHOP RECEIVES \$22,000 USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

In a certificate presentation on November 17, 2010, Anita J. (Janie) Dunning, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, announced funding for the purchase of a cardboard baler and related equipment to recycle cardboard at Gateway Industries of Eldon. The assistance consisted of a Rural Business Enterprise Grant for \$22,000 to the sheltered workshop which employs approximately 45 disabled people.

“I’m pleased to hear that with the help of USDA competitive grant funds, the employees at the Eldon City Sheltered Workshop will have the necessary equipment to continue to safely and efficiently operate the community recycling program,” U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. “Ensuring that Miller County continues to administer this program is vital to the community and to the opportunity for employment for many of the area’s special needs people.”

“Gateway Industries of Eldon is very appreciative of the USDA Rural Development and their representative, Mike Fitzgerald, for all the help in acquiring this grant,” said David Souders, manager. “We have been recycling paper fiber in Eldon for over 2 years, and by acquiring the baler and shredder we have been able to turn this process into a more productive situation. By shredding and baling our commodity it is more desirable to the material recovery centers to purchase. Gateway Industries values the support from the USDA and the Eldon community.”

“Sheltered workshops of the kind found in Eldon provide an essential service to their communities,” said Dunning. “This project mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission of being committed to the future of rural communities. I want to personally thank everyone that has worked together to make this project a reality. I am pleased that the community will benefit from the services of the sheltered workshop. Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials for making available the federal funds for these projects.”

Anyone seeking more information about the Community Facility Program or any other USDA Rural Development programs may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.gov/mo> or by contacting the Clinton Area Office at 1306 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Clinton, MO 64735 or by calling (660) 885-5567- ext 5.

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