

# USDA



## Rural Development

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# NEWS RELEASE

## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$375,017 TO REVITALIZE GREENFIELD RETIREMENT HOME, INC.

Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented a mock check in the amount of \$375,017 to Don Gillen, President of the not-for-profit Board of Directors for Greenfield Retirement Home apartment complex on May 30, 2008. The Multi-Family Preservation and Revitalization Restructuring and Demonstration (MPR) program provided loan funds in the amount of \$313,017 and grant funds in the amount of \$62,017 for planned renovations over the next five years.

“Affordable rental housing is critical to maintaining a good local economy and quality of life for citizens,” said U.S. Senator Kit Bond. “We commend the Greenfield leadership and express our appreciation to the USDA Rural Development staff for their dedication and hard work making this project a reality. The entire community will benefit from these efforts.”

“I am pleased that Greenfield Retirement Home, Inc. will receive funds that will make an investment in rural Missouri,” said U.S. Representative Ike Skelton. “Greenfield Retirement Home provides a valuable service to the community and this money will ensure that they will have the resources to continue to offer safe and accessible housing for senior citizens.”

The special event celebrates repairs and renovations of the properties at 210 Garrett and 408 Garrett Street, comprising 48 one-bedroom and 4 two-bedroom apartments. Renovations include carpet, vinyl flooring, kitchen cabinets, showers with grab bars, new vanities, windows, and storm doors; the community rooms have new carpet and air conditioners, and parking lot improvements. MPR allows for restructuring of selected existing rural rental housing loans; therefore, continuing to allow facilities to remain available and affordable to eligible residents for the next 20 years. This program will allow existing owners of Section 515 rural rental housing complexes sufficient resources to preserve their complexes.



Event was attended by the following: Tim Rickabaugh, Area Director; Janie Dunning, Multi-Family Housing Program Director; Mike Landers, Bell Management; Colleen James, Multi-Family Housing Specialist; David Rauch, District Director for U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill; Steve Cheatum, Area Specialist; Ken Mullen, contractor; Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director; Don Gillian, President of the Board of Directors; Gail Purves, contractor; Leatta Workman, Construction Coordinator; and some residents.

Don Gillen, President of the Board of Directors said, “Without the help of USDA Rural Development and dedicated local board members who volunteer their time, the renovations to this senior citizen apartment complex would not have been possible. The complexes are an asset to our rural community and it’s extremely important that we continue to improve and update the rental units for the benefit of the current residents now and in the future.”

“Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Claire McCaskill plus U.S. Representative Ike Skelton for making available federal monies for funding affordable housing and other services for rural Missouri,” Westfall added. “This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities.”

**Committed to the future of rural communities**

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