



NEWS RELEASE

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES HARRY S TRUMAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION \$18,000 ECONOMIC IMPACT INITIATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE GRANT

Harry S Truman Community Development Corporation received \$18,000 in a Mock Check ceremony June 27, 2007 at the Webb City Mining Days Building. The USDA Rural Development Economic Impact Initiative Administrative (EIIA) Grant will provide funds for architectural and engineering fees for the corporation's new office and meeting facility serving 4 counties in southwest Missouri - Barton, McDonald, Newton, and Jasper counties.

"Too often, when it comes to securing grants and administering those funds, our rural communities are left behind," said U.S. Senator "Kit" Bond. "Rural development funding, like the money being announced today, will help ensure that the Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council (HSTCC) can continue to assist area communities with competitive grants and administrative expertise. I look forward to a continuing partnership with HSTCC and the community leaders as we revitalize rural America one community at a time."

Executive Director Harry Rogers expressed his appreciation, "The grant funds will aid our organization moving to a bigger facility so we may continue to expand our programming to foster and promote education, employment training, and business growth for many communities. The services we provide help community groups including faith based organizations, local housing projects, neighborhood development, and disaster relief services provided for by fire and rescue groups."

"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, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development. Branum added, "Appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for services for rural Missourians."



Pictures: Left to Right: Greg Branum, Rural Development MO State Director; Tom Short, Chairman of Harry S. Truman Coordinating Council; Stacy Burks, District Office Director for Senator Kit Bond; Steve McIntosh, Field Representative for Congressman Roy Blunt; David Rauch, District Director for Senator Clair McCaskill; Harry Rogers, Executive Director of Harry S. Truman Community Development Cooperation; and Jim Hembree, Rural Development Manager (Carthage Local Office)

Anyone seeking more information about this or any other USDA Rural Development program may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Jim Hembree, Rural Development Manager, at 416 E. Airport Drive, Carthage, MO, 64836, or by calling (417) 358-8198 extension 4 or by email to jim.hembree@mo.usda.gov

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

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