



# NEWS RELEASE

Contact

Mark Simmons

660-584-8732 Ext 4

## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$28,300 TO LAFAYETTE COUNTY INDUSTRIES, INC.

Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director for USDA, Rural Development, presented a mock check to the Lafayette County Industries, Inc. sheltered workshop on July 21, 2008.

Lafayette County Enterprises, Inc. received a Rural Business Enterprise Grant for \$28,300 in a ceremony held at the sheltered workshop in Higginsville, Missouri. Funds were distributed for the purchase of a forklift, a heat shrink tunnel and an L-bar sealer for the workshop.



“Today’s announcement highlights the local leadership and the commitment of the USDA Rural Development staff. They are to be commended for their dedication and hard work. The entire community will benefit from these efforts,” said Senator Kit Bond.

“The sheltered workshop is a wonderful organization that gives many Missourians the opportunity to work, McCaskill said. “I am pleased that Lafayette County will receive the equipment necessary to help so many people with disabilities lead successful lives.”

“Lafayette County Enterprises, Inc. provides a valuable service to the community. The funding from the USDA, Rural Development grant and loan program will allow Lafayette County Enterprises, Inc. to improve their operations through the purchase of equipment. I wish to extend my congratulations to this well deserving organization,” Skelton said.

“Sheltered workshops of the kind found in Lafayette County provide an essential service to their communities,” said Westfall. These projects mirror USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative 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 funding these projects.

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 Higginsville Sub Area Office at 20 W. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 102, Higginsville, MO 64037 or by calling (660) 584-8732 extension 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).