



NEWS RELEASE

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NORTHWEST MISSOURI ENTERPRISE FACILITATION AWARDED GRANT FUNDING THROUGH USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Janie Dunning, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented \$20,000 to Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation in a Mock Check Ceremony on October 5, 2010.

The \$20,000 grant will provide funds necessary to assist Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation in providing existing and potential entrepreneurs with valuable insight, knowledge, and solutions in starting, expanding, and developing small and emerging businesses.

Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation, a not-for-profit corporation, was formed in 2004 with a goal of assisting the development of new and existing businesses in the six county areas of Andrew, Atchison, Gentry, Holt, Nodaway, and Worth counties. Since their inception, Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation has had a successful history of providing business assistance and helping create jobs in their designated service area.

:With the help of competitive funds from the USDA, the Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation will be able to provide budding entrepreneurs with problem-solving skills necessary to develop small business ventures," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said. "In this economic climate, it's crucial that we continue to help support new businesses that will help sustain and strengthen our rural communities."

The \$20,000 grant was made through USDA Rural Development's Rural Business Enterprise Grant program. This program is available to finance and help foster development of business enterprises in rural areas.



Pictured left to right: Jim Jacoby, NWMEF Chairman, Jeremy Brady, Rural Development Area Specialist, Janie Dunning, Rural Development State Director, Brook Balentine, Field Representative for Senator Claire McCaskill, Shawna Searcy, Field Representative for Congressman Sam Graves, and Annette Weeks, NWMEF Facilitator

“This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Obama’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities,” said Dunning. “Our appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

Anyone interested in obtaining information regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or contact Jeremy Brady at the Maryville office of USDA Rural Development at 502 W. South Hills Drive, Suite 103, Maryville, Missouri 64468 or by calling 660-582-7421 (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).