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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$57,500 TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN COMMUNITY CENTER IN PARIS

On July 3, 2007, USDA Rural Development presented the Senior Citizen Community Center in Paris a mock check for \$57,500 to benefit the Paris Nutrition Center. This represents a \$50,000 low interest loan and a \$7,500 grant. The funds will finance a new addition and renovation to the existing facility.

U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill stated, "These government funds will help enhance the quality of the Paris Nutrition Center for every senior citizen to enjoy. I am confident that the new additions will benefit all visitors; and I am also particularly pleased that this money will help make the community center handicap accessible."

"The improvements being made at the Paris Nutrition Center are an excellent illustration of the role federal Rural Development funds can play in helping to enhance the quality of services offered to those needing it the most," Congressman Kenny Hulshof said. "I am pleased that the Department of Agriculture has recognized the importance of this worthy project."

"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. "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."

The USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Loan/Grant program funds will allow the Paris Nutrition Center to better serve the citizens in the City of Paris and Monroe County. The other key partner in the financing of this project is the State of Missouri through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.



Pictured left to right: Steven Gerrish, Rural Development Manager, board member, board member, board member, State Senator Wes Shoemyer (yellow shirt), board member, board member, State Representative Paul Quinn (green shirt), board member, Nutrition Center administrator Roseann Sims (black dress), Monroe County Presiding Commissioner Donald Simpson (back row next to gentelman in cap), board member, board member, Shirley McGee (holding check), Congressman Kenny Hulshof, Pam Windtberg, Area Agency on Aging, Missouri State Director Greg Branum, and Llona Weiss of Senator Claire McCaskill's office.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Steven Gerrish, at the Moberly Rural Development office, 2995 County Road 1325, Moberly, MO 65270 or call the office at 660-263-7400 ext. 4.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

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