

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING OF NEW CARE CENTER

ROLETTE, March 12, 2010 – USDA Rural Development State Director Jasper Schneider today announces the Rural Development funding for the Rolette Community Care Center during its grand opening.

“USDA Rural Development is very pleased to have assisted in the construction of this new care



Jasper Schneider, Rural Development State Director (center) presents a symbolic check to Rolette Care Center Board Members (l-r) Harlow Hageness; Mark Myhre, Secretary; Luther Stave, Administrator; Andy Gilje, President; Robert Eckerdt, Vice President; and Merle Boucher during grand opening ceremonies.

facility,” Rural Development State Director Jasper Schneider says. “This facility will ensure the quality care of life for long term or rehabilitative care residents for another generation.”

The existing facility, an obsolete converted hospital, proved to be cost prohibitive to maintain. Needing repairs, unable to meet the government standards and losing residents, the Board felt that to remain competitive with surrounding nursing homes, a new facility was needed. In August of 2008, a groundbreaking took

place followed by construction of a new 31,365 square-foot care facility.

USDA Rural Development provided a \$6,351,610 guaranteed loan to Rolette State Bank of Rolette for a 46 bed assisted living care facility. The facility provides for 26 skilled care private rooms and an Alzheimer’s unit with 20 semi private rooms. Facilities such as this not only play an important role in improving the quality of life for rural residents, but also provide employment and economic opportunities in the community.





“With our population growing older and living longer, access to quality assisted living care and other health care is vitally important to serve the physically and mentally active individuals in our rural communities,” Rural Development State Director Jasper Schneider continues. “This project we celebrate today further demonstrates the Obama Administration's goals and efforts to rebuild and revitalize the nation's rural communities.”

This not-for-profit skilled nursing facility went from losing residents to a waiting list. Projections indicate the new facility will cash flow, service debt, and fund depreciation at 42 residents, which is approximately 90 percent occupancy.

In Fiscal Year 2009, USDA Rural Development provided \$56.4 million in housing programs, \$79.7 million in business and community programs, and \$647.1 million in electric programs to North Dakota citizens.

Contact USDA Rural Development

USDA Rural Development has seven offices in North Dakota serving 641,000 North Dakotans. Office locations include a State Office in Bismarck, along with area offices in Dickinson, Minot, Valley City, and Devils Lake, and two satellite offices in Bismarck and Williston.

Further information on rural programs is available at any local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA Rural Development's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

USDA Rural Development administers and manages more than 40 housing, business, and community infrastructure and facilities programs. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America. Rural Development has an existing portfolio of more than \$130 billion in loans and loan guarantees.

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