

Success Stories: "Hometown Library" Receives New Set of Wheels With USDA Assistance

Outline of Need:

The Rock County Public Library's 1973 bookmobile with over 96,000 miles beneath its wheels, deemed unreliable due to its constant need for mechanical attention, was in vital need of replacement. The undependable nature of the bookmobile was limiting the library's ability to provide the services needed by its rural residents, schools and communities.

How Rural Development Helped:

Thanks to a \$18,800 USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant along with \$19,676 in contributions from the Rock County Public Library and local donations of \$2,000, the library was able to purchase a new bookmobile.

The Results:



The Rock County Public Library in Bassett, Nebraska is the only library in the county. This makes the bookmobile essential to rural children and adults located, in some instances, up to 50 miles from Bassett. Via the bookmobile, these children and adults have access to materials and services, which meet their educational, personal and professional informational needs. Additionally, five rural Rock County schools/communities are able to retain their accreditation by the State of Nebraska due to the library services provided through the bookmobile.

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