



NEWS RELEASE

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LAURA NIELSEN NAMED 2003 SITE MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Ogallala, Neb., July 22, 2004 – Laura Nielsen was selected as the 2003 Site Manager of the Year for family housing by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. Nielsen, manager of Ogallala Housing Authority Apartments in Ogallala for 11 years, received the award for her excellence in management, commitment to service, and her diligence in building caring relationships with her tenants.

State Director Jim Barr for USDA Rural Development in Nebraska stated, “The recognition of Site Manager of the Year is to reward managers who show dedication and commitment to the management of the complexes but more importantly to the tenants who occupy them.” Barr added, “Managers, such as Laura, help to accomplish our mission to provide safe and affordable housing to rural Nebraskans.”

Nielsen is committed to the residents not only by providing affordable and quality housing but by making the apartments their home. In her role as site manager, Nielsen goes above and beyond the call of duty, providing exceptional service in assisting her tenants with their day-to-day needs. Inside and out, the facility is well cared for, bringing pride and a sense of home to the residents. Monthly newsletters, scheduling of social activities and maintenance of a calendar outlining events happening such as anniversaries and birthdays, plus many other services are provided. Each Friday morning tenants look forward to their weekly treat of rolls and coffee and each month a carry-in dinner.

USDA Rural Development accepted nominations nationally from its field staff for managers of USDA Rural Development rural rental housing complexes. Nominations were based on tenant satisfaction, property curbside appeal, accurate and complete record keeping and consistent performance of actions above and beyond the call of duty. 2003 Site Manager of the Year awards are presented annually in each state for both family and elderly complexes.

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