



NEWS RELEASE

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTS WEST HOLT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL WITH HEALTH CARE EXPENSES

Atkinson, Neb., June 2, 2008— West Holt Memorial Hospital of Atkinson received a \$47,500 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. Funds will assist in the purchase of medical equipment and training.

“USDA Rural Development has been a tremendous help to our continued success at West Holt Memorial Hospital. Most rural hospitals need the type of assistance USDA Rural Development provides to remain viable in today’s rapidly changing market,” stated Chief Financial Officer Karen Nollette, West Holt Memorial Hospital.

“Rural Development dollars will buy a Spirometer, NU Step Recumbent Stepper and a sterilizer. Training to staff on a new financial management system and applicable software will also be covered by the funds,” stated Rural Development Specialist Mary Gambill, USDA Rural Development. “USDA Rural Development dollars will help to bring a greater quality of health care to rural Atkinson and surrounding areas.”

In August of 2007, Rural Development awarded \$20,000 to the hospital that, leveraged with \$47,300 from the hospital, acquired medical lab equipment, an EKG and cauterization machine, ultrasonic cleaner, range hood fire suppression and emergency entrance signage that serves more than 1,200 rural residents.

USDA Rural Development funding provided through the Community Facility Grant program. For additional information contact Mary Gambill in the Ainsworth Rural Development office at (402) 387-2242, Extension 4, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); or at 731 E. 4th Ainsworth, Nebraska. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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