



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Missouri—Rural Business & Cooperative Service

Community Building

USDA Helps Fund New NCMC Campus Facility

Outline of Need:

The education of future rural generations is vital if a community wants to continue to support itself and offer increased economic value to a nation. Smaller universities offer higher education for rural youth, yet they may not always have the capacity to accommodate the increasing number of students. Rural communities must be able to offer unique educational experiences to sustain populations and to educate the masses.

How Rural Development Helped:

North Central Missouri College (NCMC) is a public community college located in Trenton Missouri. Through a Rural Economic Development loan, USDA Rural Development provided an interest free loan to Grundy Electric Cooperative to support the community college.

The Results:

Janie Dunning, Missouri State Director, visited the college campus on August 26, 2011 to celebrate the grand opening of the Elizabeth and Arthur Barton Farm Campus. Grundy Electric Cooperative received



The new Elizabeth and Arthur Barton Farm facility in Trenton, Missouri.

a \$740,000 zero-interest loan from USDA Rural Development. The funds were used to provide financing to NCMC for the new campus facility.

The additional campus will include several different buildings with their own respective purposes, each educating the community and students. Barton Farm Campus of NCMC will include new laboratories, a mechanical research center, greenhouse, classrooms, and stalls for livestock.

The newer facilities allow the college to accommodate up to 200 students. Not only does it help with recruiting more students, but it also gives the college the ability to develop newer programs, expand laboratory demonstrations, and offer students the unique opportunity to experience hands-on learning in natural resources and agricultural programs.

One new program that was developed due to the new facility is the Wind Energy Technician program. Established in 2009, it enables students to learn the practices of green technology within the agricultural sector. Sustainable agriculture demonstrations will be readily available to students, as well as the general public.

Fast Facts

Program: Rural Economic Development Loan

Investment: \$740,000

Partners: Grundy Electric Cooperative
North Central Missouri College

Congressional District: MO-06

Impact:

- Educate rural Missouri's youth on sustainable agricultural practices
- Upgraded educational facilities
- Retaining rural populations by offering more opportunities

October 2011