



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Agriculture Secretary Vilsack Announces Funding To Improve Rural Housing**

*Recipients Include Public Agencies, Private Non-profit Organizations, Federally Recognized Indian Tribes, and Owners of Rental and Cooperative Housing*

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, 2010 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today selected 163 recipients in 50 states and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico for grants to repair and improve housing for low- and very-low-income rural residents. USDA's Rural Housing Administrator Tammye Treviño announced the grant recipients on behalf of Secretary Vilsack during a speech in Boston today to the National Council of State Housing Agencies.

"The Obama Administration is working to ensure that rural homeowners have safe, sanitary, energy-efficient places to live, and USDA is working with community organizations and non-profit groups to help people make needed repairs," Vilsack said.

Housing Preservation Grants are provided to intermediaries such as town or county governments, public agencies, federally recognized Indian Tribes, and non-profit and faith-based organizations. The grants are then distributed from intermediaries to homeowners or owners of multi-family rental properties or cooperative dwellings who rent to low- and very-low-income residents. The grants may be used to make general repairs such as installing or improving plumbing or providing or enhancing access to people with disabilities. Funds can also be used to weatherize and make homes more energy-efficient.

For example, **West Virginia will receive awards for three projects**. Southern Appalachian Labor School (SALS) of Fayette County is being selected for a \$72,000 grant to rehabilitate housing owned and occupied by low- and very low-income rural persons in coal camps located in southern West Virginia. Randolph County Affordable Housing and Development Corp. of Randolph County is being selected for an \$88,000 grant to perform housing rehabilitation in Barbour and Randolph Counties of WV to low- and very low-income homeowners. SAFE Housing & Economic Development, Inc., of McDowell County, is being selected for a \$66,889.43 grant to perform housing rehabilitation in McDowell and Wyoming Counties of WV to low- and very

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low-income homeowners.

In Massachusetts, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is being selected for a \$36,000 grant to help rural residents near the greater Springfield area in Western Massachusetts make health, safety and other repairs to their homes. Greater Greenville Housing & Revitalization Association, Inc., in Greenville, Miss., is being selected to receive a \$125,000 grant to repair 16 single-family homes in Washington County. Cherokee Nation in Tahlequah, Okla., is selected to receive a \$43,765 grant to provide rehabilitation assistance to homeowners.

USDA Rural Development's Housing Preservation Grants are often combined with state and local funds. In 2009, the city of Fayette, Miss., in Jefferson County, received a \$75,643 grant to repair and rehabilitate several homes, including that of Willie Henry Reed. Mr. Reed has been confined to a wheelchair since 1982 and lacked access to certain rooms in his home. His home also had a leaking roof due to storm damage. Thanks to the USDA grant and \$87,000 provided by the Mississippi Development Authority, Reed's home was remodeled with two additional bathrooms and bedrooms. One of the new bathrooms is in Reed's bedroom and is fully handicapped accessible. The kitchen was also retrofitted to allow Reed access. Three more homes are being repaired with the remaining funds.

The following is a complete list of organizations that have been selected to receive funding under USDA Rural Development's Housing Preservation Grants Program. Funding is contingent upon the recipient meeting the terms of the grant agreement.

### **Alabama**

- \* Community Action Partnership of North Alabama - \$100,000
- \* Community Action Agency of Baldwin, Escambia, Clarke, Monroe and Conecuh Counties - \$66,000
- \* Community Service Programs of West Alabama - \$85,000
- \* Organized Community Action Program, Inc. - \$82,000

### **Alaska**

- \* Metlakatla Indian Corporation Housing Authority - \$53,605

### **Arizona**

- \* City of Casa Grande - \$62,256
- \* Campesinos Sin Fronteras - \$60,429
- \* Cocopah Indian Housing & Development- \$39,866

**Arkansas**

- \* Mississippi County Arkansas Economic Opportunity Commission - \$52,738
- \* Crawford Sabastian Community Development - \$52,738
- \* Universal Housing Development Corp. - \$52,738
- \* Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corp. - \$52,738

**California**

- \* Desert Alliance for Community of Empowerment - \$112,000
- \* Redwood Community Action Agency, Inc. - \$70,000
- \* Desert Alliance for Community of Empowerment - \$36,168
- \* Self-Help Enterprises - \$77,000
- \* Yurok Indian Housing Authority - \$56,000
- \* Nevada County - \$70,000
- \* Round Valley Indian Housing Authority - \$84,000
- \* Habitat for Humanity Lake County, CA, Inc. - \$70,000
- \* Mercy Housing CA - \$70,000
- \* County of Fresno - \$70,000

**Colorado**

- \* Huerfano/Las Animas Area Council of Governments - \$38,709
- \* Carbondale Senior Housing Corporation- \$38,000

**Connecticut**

- \* Rebuilding Together of Litchfield County- \$25,000
- \* The Access Agency - \$25,000

**Delaware**

\* Kent County Levy Court - \$50,000

## **Florida**

\* Leon County - \$100,000

## **Georgia**

\* Southwest Georgia Community Action Council, Inc. - \$176,569

\* Middle Georgia Community Action Agency, Inc. - \$176,569

## **Hawaii**

\* Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council - \$72,144

## **Idaho**

\* Community Action Partnership - \$67,851

## **Illinois**

\* Western IL Regional Council - \$75,000

\* Two Rivers Regional Council - \$51,000

\* Wabash Area Development, Inc. - \$73,800

\* Shawnee Development Council, Inc. - \$55,673

## **Indiana**

\* Community Action of E. Central Indiana-Wayne County - \$23,000

\* Community Action of E. Central Indiana-Fayette/Union - \$23,000

\* Hoosier Uplands Economic Development Corp./Orange County - \$22,000

\* Hoosier Uplands Economic Development Corp./Town of Milltown - \$22,000

\* Hoosier Uplands Economic Development Corp./Washington County - \$22,000

\* Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission - \$21,745

- \* Northeast Indiana Housing Partnership-Several Counties - \$21,745
- \* Southern Indiana Development Commission/City of Bicknell - \$20,745
- \* Southern Indiana Development Commission/Town of Sanborn - \$20,745

### **Iowa**

- \* Region XII Council of Governments - \$61,185
- \* South Central Iowa CAP, Inc. - \$61,185
- \* Southwest Iowa Housing Trust Fund - \$61,185

### **Kansas**

- \* Coffey County Housing Authority - \$51,500
- \* South Central Kansas Economic Development District - \$50,000
- \* Homestead Affordable Housing, Inc. - \$50,000

### **Kentucky**

- \* Purchase Area Housing Corp. - \$159,000
- \* LKLP Community Action Council - \$60,000
- \* City of Cadiz - \$77,000
- \* Kentucky Mountain Housing Development Corp. - \$91,518

### **Louisiana**

- \* St. Landry Parish CAA- \$144,744
- \* Volunteers of America of Greater New Orleans - \$144,744

### **Maine**

- \* Washington-Hancock CAP-\$30,000
- \* Community Concepts, Inc. - \$30,000
- \* Western Maine Community Action - \$23,400

## **Maryland**

- \* Shore Up! Inc. - \$40,181
- \* Garrett County Community Action Committee, Inc. - \$40,181

## **Massachusetts**

- \* Pioneer Valley Planning Commission - \$36,402
- \* Plymouth Redevelopment Authority - \$18,208
- \* Hilltown Community Development Corp. - \$18,208

## **Michigan**

- \* Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency/Alpena - \$25,207
- \* Crawford County Home Improvement Program - \$25,207
- \* Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency/Iosco - \$25,414
- \* Oscoda County Housing Commission - \$25,207
- \* Arenac County Housing Commission - \$25,207
- \* Ogemaw County Board of Commissioners - \$35,207
- \* Cheboygan County - \$50,000
- \* Presque Isle County - \$35,207
- \* Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency - \$25,207

## **Minnesota**

- \* Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency - \$76,390
- \* Douglas County HRA - \$76,390

## **Mississippi**

- \* Greater Greenville Housing & Revitalization Association - \$125,000
- \* The FI & ED Association, Inc. - \$99,750

\* Quitman County Development Organization - \$100,000

### **Missouri**

\* East Missouri Action Agency, Inc. - \$112,325

\* North East Community Action Corporation - \$50,000

\* West Central Missouri Community Action Agency, Inc. - \$100,000

### **Montana**

\* City of Baker - \$28,309

\* Whitefish Housing Authority - \$28,309

\* Northern Rocky Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Area Inc. - \$25,000

\* Community Action Partnership of Northwest Montana - \$25,000

### **Nebraska**

\* Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska - \$32,556

\* Goldenrod Hills Community Action, Inc. - \$32,556

### **Nevada**

\* Yerington Paiute Tribal Housing Authority - \$50,000

\* Moapa Indian Housing Authority - \$50,000

### **New Hampshire**

\* Southwestern Community Services - \$50,000

\* Tri-County Community Action Program - \$50,000

### **New Jersey**

\* County of Gloucester - \$55,000

\* County of Hunterdon - \$55,000

**New Mexico**

- \* Habitat for Humanity of Taos, Inc. - \$65,614
- \* Tierra Del Sol Housing Corporation - \$65,614

**New York**

- \* Bishop Sheen - \$90,000
- \* Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. - \$85,000
- \* City of Norwich - \$80,000

**North Carolina**

- \* Richmond County - \$90,000
- \* Mountain Projects Inc. - \$90,000
- \* Martin Community Action, Inc. - \$90,000
- \* Town of Selma- \$90,000
- \* County of Brunswick - \$90,000

**North Dakota**

- \* Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians - \$50,000
- \* Red River Regional Council - \$50,000

**Ohio**

- \* Vinton County Commissioners - \$104,000
- \* CAP Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency - \$65,000
- \* CAP Washington-Morgan Counties - \$100,000
- \* Jackson-Vinton Community Action - \$46,058

**Oklahoma**

- \* Cherokee Nation - \$43,765

- \* Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma - \$43,000
- \* Northeast Oklahoma Community Action Agency/Kansas, Okla. - \$43,765
- \* Northeast Oklahoma Community Action Agency/Jay, Okla. - \$43,765
- \* Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma - \$43,765
- \* Little Dixie Community Action Agency - \$43,765

### **Oregon**

- \* Community Action Team Services Consortium - \$64,975
- \* Umpqua Community Development Corporation - \$64,975

### **Pennsylvania**

- \* Housing Authority of the County of Butler - \$100,000
- \* Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette - \$150,000
- \* County of Greene - \$86,701

### **Puerto Rico**

- \* Municipality of San German - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Rio Grande - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Humacao - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Moca - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Coamo - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Caguas - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Villalba - \$44,957
- \* Ceiba Housing - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Ceiba - \$44,957
- \* Municipality of Yauco - \$44,957

**Rhode Island**

\* State of Rhode Island - \$50,000

**South Carolina**

\* United Methodist Relief Center - \$94,654

\* Beaufort Jasper Economic Opportunity Commission - \$41,000

\* Town of Cheraw - \$40,000

\* SC Uplift Community Outreach - \$35,000

\* His Hands of Horry County - \$35,000

**South Dakota**

\* Neighborhood Housing Service of the Black Hills - \$54,518

**Tennessee**

\* Pickett County - \$80,000

\* City of Coalmont - \$50,000

\* Southwest Tennessee Development District - \$100,000

\* Mountain TOP - \$80,000

\* Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity - \$69,446

**Texas**

\* Community Services, Inc. (Henderson, Kaufman Smith, Van Zandt) - \$90,000

\* Community Services, Inc. (Collin, Denton, Hunt, Rockwall) - \$54,000

\* Community Council of Southwest Texas - \$276,000

\* County of Webb - \$100,000

\* Refugio County- \$100,000

\* The Village of Vinton - \$78,151

**Utah**

\* Unitah Basin Association of Governments -\$50,000

**Vermont**

\* Vermont Center for Independent Living - \$50,000

\* Southeastern Vermont Community Action - \$50,000

**Virginia**

\* Piedmont Housing Alliance - \$82,914

\* Cumberland Plateau Regional Housing Authority - \$80,000

\* Help with Housing, Inc. - \$80,000

**Washington**

\* The Opportunity Council - \$99,606

\* Community Action Center Inc. - \$59,567

**West Virginia**

\* Southern Appalachian Labor School - \$72,000

\* Randolph County Affordable Housing & Development Corp. - \$88,000

\* SAFE Housing & Economic Development, Inc. - \$66,889

**Wisconsin**

\* Couleecap, Inc. - \$85,522

\* Neighborhood Housing Services of Richland County - \$85,522

**Wyoming**

\* Northwest Community Action Programs of Wyoming - \$50,000

Through its Rural Development mission area, USDA administers and manages more than 40 housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a network of 6,100 employees located in the nation's capital and 500 state and local offices. 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 \$142 billion in loans and loan guarantees.

Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through its housing, business, community and infrastructure programs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Further information on USDA Rural Development may be obtained by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>. In West Virginia, call 1-800-295-8228 to be put in touch with the appropriate personnel serving your county. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

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