



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
210 Walnut • Room 873 • Des Moines, IA 50309
Phone: (515) 284-4663 • Fax: (515) 284-4110 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia>

Contact: Darin Leach, Public Information Coordinator
Phone: (515) 284-4747 (office); (515) 669-5691 (cell)
E-mail: Darin.Leach@ia.usda.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USDA Rural Development Presents \$900,000 in Loans to Grundy County REC

REC Used Funds to Support Hospital, Welcome Center and Industrial Park in Grundy County

GRUNDY CENTER – June 16, 2006 – Mark Reisinger, USDA Rural Development State Director in Iowa, today recognized Grundy County REC for loans they received totaling \$900,000 that were used to support three projects in Grundy County. Grundy County REC used the funds to support expansion of the Grundy County Memorial Hospital, construction of an industrial park and finance a Welcome Center.

“Grundy County REC has been a great partner with USDA Rural Development and it is exciting to see these projects and what they mean to the community,” Reisinger said. “These projects will help improve the quality of life in the Grundy Center community and help create new jobs.”

Grundy County REC received the first loan from Rural Development in June of 2003. The REC used the \$450,000 loan to provide Grundy Center Development Corporation with a \$160,000 zero-interest loan to help build a new industrial park and Grundy County Memorial Hospital with a \$290,000 zero-interest loan to support their renovation and expansion project. Grundy County REC used a second \$450,000 loan to assist the Grundy County Heritage Center in financing a Welcome Center with a restaurant and convenience store.

The funds awarded to Grundy Center REC are through the Rural Economic Development Loan program, which provides loans to electric and telephone utilities to finance economic development and job creation in rural areas. So far this year, Rural Development has awarded a total of \$4.9 million to 12 organizations in Iowa through this program to support the development of small, emerging private business enterprises.

“Rural Development has a wide variety of grants, loans and guaranteed loans to help communities bring in new businesses or build housing and community facilities,” Reisinger said. “We look forward to continuing to partner with Grundy Center to make sure it is able to continue to grow and thrive.”

USDA Rural Development has 11 offices in Iowa serving 1.9 million Iowans living in rural areas. Office locations include a State Office in Des Moines, along with Area Offices in Albia, Atlantic, Humboldt, Indianola, Iowa Falls, Le Mars, Mount Pleasant, Storm Lake, Tipton and Waverly.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD).

provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

Further information on rural programs is available at the local USDA Rural Development office in Iowa Falls, which can be reached at (641) 648-5181, or by visiting USDA's web site at www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia.

– ### –