



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USDA Rural Development Participates in Grand Opening of Eldora Children's Center

ELDORA – Nov. 18, 2006 – Mark Reisinger, USDA Rural Development State Director, today participated in the grand opening of a new childcare center in Eldora. Eldora received \$350,000 in loans and a \$50,000 grant to support construction of the facility. Tours of the center were available following the opening ceremony.

“Rural Development is excited to partner with Eldora on this childcare facility and we hope it is just the beginning of a partnership that helps improve the quality of life for area residents,” Reisinger said. “Whether it is assistance for new businesses, help for other community infrastructure like health care and public safety facilities, or housing, Rural Development has programs that can make a real difference in rural communities.”

USDA Rural Development provided Eldora with \$350,000 in loans and a \$50,000 grant to build the new facility. The early education center is adjacent to the existing elementary school and has the capacity to serve 68 children age six weeks to five years. The center will also provide preschool for three- and four-year olds, and house a Head Start program.

USDA Rural Development supported community facility projects in 97 communities across the state in 2006, including collaborating with 34 communities to purchase fire, rescue and public safety equipment and buildings. In total, USDA Rural Development made more than \$13 million in direct and guaranteed loans to support community facilities all around Iowa during the last fiscal year.

Contact USDA Rural Development

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 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.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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