



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Editor's note:** The below news release, which contains detailed information about projects in Iowa, is a follow up to a release distributed earlier today by the USDA. The original August 10 news release can be found at [www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/\\_s.7\\_0\\_A/7\\_0\\_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/09/0431.xml](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/_s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=2009/09/0431.xml)

## **Four Projects in Iowa Included in Agriculture Secretary Vilsack's Announcement of \$17.5 Million in Recovery Act Funds**

*Funds Will Be Used for Community Facilities Projects in Rural Areas*

WASHINGTON, Sept., 10, 2009 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced the selection of \$17.5 million in community facilities projects that are being funded immediately with federal funds provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that President Obama signed into law in February. Altogether, USDA has announced nearly \$252.5 million in Recovery Act funding for community facility projects to date.

Four of the projects in today's announcement are located in Iowa.

"Facilities such as libraries, public buildings and community centers bring vitality to small towns and cities and these Recovery Act investments will benefit people throughout the country," Vilsack said. "The Obama Administration is committed to strengthening communities in rural areas and these investments will help further that goal."

In Pocahontas, Iowa, for example, the Pocahontas Community Hospital will receive a \$75,900 grant to purchase a digital mammography machine and additional equipment. The current analog mammography machine produces films which must be hand delivered to a hospital 50 miles away and read by a licensed radiologist. The purchase of the new machine will allow for images to be sent to a licensed radiologist within seconds. The patients will receive the results faster and it will eliminate the need to travel to other facilities to obtain the digital mammogram and potentially save lives.

In addition to the \$17.5 million that USDA Rural Development is providing to fund the 27 projects announced today, recipients will invest \$8.2 million from other sources.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

"USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender."  
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Funding of each loan and grant recipient is contingent upon meeting the conditions of the agreement. Below is a complete list of Iowa recipients:

Project	Grant Amount	Project Description
Decatur County Hospital	\$89,870	Assist hospital with the purchase of a mammography machine
Decatur County	\$95,000	Assist with the installation of energy-efficient windows at courthouse in Leon
City of Edgewood	\$100,000	Assist with the construction of a fire station/emergency services building
Pocahontas Community Hospital	\$75,900	Assist hospital with the purchase of a mammography machine and additional equipment

**Contact USDA Rural Development**

Further information about USDA Rural Development programs is available by calling (515) 284-4663, at a local USDA Rural Development office, or at [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia).

More information about USDA’s Recovery Act efforts is available at [www.usda.gov/recovery](http://www.usda.gov/recovery). More information about the Federal government’s efforts on the Recovery Act is available at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov).

Eleven USDA Rural Development offices in Iowa serve the 1.9 million Iowans living in rural communities and 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 quality programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents.

USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity lender with a variety of grant and direct and guaranteed loan programs involving single and multi-family housing, community facilities, water and sewer development and business and cooperative programs.