



NEWS RELEASE

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Housing Fairs To Be Held To Assist Flood Impacted Kansans Home Building, Energy Efficiency, and Credit Counseling To Be Covered

Topeka, KS – USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks announced today that the Agency, along with Kansas Housing Resource Corporation (KHRC), EPA, and AIA – Kansas will be presenting informational housing fairs to be held in Coffeyville, Erie, Independence, Iola and Osawatomie. The purpose of the fairs will be to cover important housing recovery and financing information for those impacted by the mid-2007 floods, along with others interested in securing homeownership.

“USDA Rural Development is committed to helping Kansas residents who were impacted by the storms which struck the State in late June and early July. The Agency has excellent grant and low interest loan programs to help individuals and families finance rebuilding or repairs of homes. USDA has been a long-time leader in supporting affordable homeownership for Kansans across the rural areas of the State” remarked State Director Banks.

USDA Rural Development housing loans may be used in conjunction with KHRC programs. This important partnership helps leverage the Agency’s program funding further to improve the quality of life, affordable housing, and economic development and business opportunities for rural Kansans. Energy Efficiency with return on investment, Credit Counseling, Homebuyer Education, and Financial Resources will also be covered during the Housing Fairs.

The upcoming housing fairs will be held:

February 12, 2008 / Erie: 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., PBL Center, 403 South Main, Erie.

February 13, 2008 / Iola: 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Allen County Community College, Lecture Hall, Administration Building, 1801 North Cottonwood, Iola.

February 21, 2008 / Independence: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Memorial Hall, 410 North Penn, Independence.

February 23, 2008 / Coffeyville: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Coffeyville Community College Practice Gym – Main Campus, 400 West 11th, Coffeyville.

March 4, 2008 / Osawatomie: 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Osawatomie High School Gymnasium, 1200 Trojan Drive, Osawatomie.

Individuals interested in additional information regarding the Housing Fairs may contact USDA Rural Development’s Iola office at 620-365-2901 (extension #4). Individuals may also call the Agency’s state headquarters at 785-271-2700.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs that support increasing economic opportunities and enhancing the quality of life for rural Americans. As a venture capital entity, USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure in rural America. Since 2001, USDA Rural Development has delivered over \$1 billion for Kansas covering all Agency programs, supporting well over \$5 billion in future economic development for the Sunflower State.

Information regarding USDA Rural Development's programs can be obtained by calling the Agency's Kansas headquarters at 785-271-2700 or logging onto the USDA Rural Development website at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks .

USDA Rural Development – *Committed to the future of rural communities*

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