



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA Rural Development Speaks at U.S. Chamber of Commerce Conference

Greensburg Recovery Plan Outlined

Topeka- USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks spoke this week to the US Chamber of Commerce's 'Business Civic Leadership Conference' in Anaheim, CA outlining the overall Greensburg recovery efforts and associated funding needs. Greensburg Mayor John Janssen and representatives of the Discovery Channel joined State Director Banks during the conference's closing session presentation.

"I am very impressed with the progress of Greensburg and Kiowa County's recovery efforts. Given what has been accomplished over the past one year, I have much optimism for the region's recovery efforts. Yet, much work is required to coordinate the financing of the various City and County projects. We look forward to working with various private sector partners, along with the non-profit and faith communities, to create successful recovery results. We welcome new partners to join us in this great opportunity to help make Greensburg and the region a model rural community," Director Banks commented to the Conference attendees.

USDA Rural Development, in partnership with a wide range of federal and state agencies, along with the cooperation from other non-profit and faith-based organizations, are working together to assist Greensburg and Kiowa County to recover for the May 4, 2007 tornado that struck the region, USDA Rural Development has also offered assistance to the other 23 Kansas counties that were designated a 'disaster areas' associated with the early May storms that struck the State.

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 \$1.2 billion for Kansas covering all Agency programs, supporting well over \$6 billion in future economic development for the Sunflower State.

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

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