



NEWS RELEASE

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Chapman To Be Served By USDA Rural Development ***Agency Staff Will Assist Homebuyers & Businesses***

Topeka, KS – USDA Rural Development has moved its Chapman disaster recovery programming services to the American Legion Building located at 222 ½ Marshall in Chapman. USDA Rural Development will be available to assist individuals and businesses, along with the public sector, to support the community's and surrounding region's recovery efforts following the June 11th tornado.

“With USDA Rural Development staff present in Chapman, the Agency to provide important long-term recovery assistance to help previous and future homeowners, public government and service officials, along with the business community in the Chapman area. The Agency's low-interest loan programs for housing, along with business and community development funding, will assist many residents in the region. USDA Rural Development is committed to supporting the significant community and economic development needs for this part of rural Kansas,” commented State Director Banks.

Since June 12th, USDA Rural Development has been working with local and regional relief officials to help place displaced Chapman residents in temporary lodging utilizing USDA-financed apartment units in the area. Individuals who still might need better temporary lodging are encouraged to contact USDA Rural Development.

To assist with long-term housing needs, USDA Rural Development's low-interest homeownership loan and home repair grant/loan programs can provide area individuals/families additional assistance options for their home financing or home repair decisions. Agency staff will also provide a review of financing options for those desiring to finance a new or existing home, or explain home repair options for their present residence. USDA's housing programs can also support the development of affordable rental housing facilities.

USDA Rural Development is currently working with Chapman and Dickinson County officials to assist the region in replacing previous public facilities and related community needs or expanding new services. The Agency's community facility programs supports establishing essential public facilities and services such as storm sirens, emergency service facilities, fire and law enforcement structures and services, health care facilities, business development, cultural and educational facilities, and water/sewer/utility infrastructure.

USDA Rural Development also offers programs to support business financing and advancing development opportunities for existing and new businesses. The Agency's business programs even include financial support for new renewable energy and energy efficiency systems.

Additional information regarding USDA Rural Development's programs can be obtained by contacting the Agency's Manhattan office at 785-776-7582 (extension #4). Individuals may also call the Agency's state headquarters at 785-271-2700 or log onto the state's USDA Rural Development website at: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks .

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs that support increasing economic opportunities and enhancing the quality of life for rural Americans. 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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