



NEWS RELEASE

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City of Cherryvale Selected For American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds

USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program Utilized

Topeka – USDA Rural Development Acting State Director Darla Buckman congratulated the City of Cherryvale as being one of 145 recipients announced today by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack for more than \$15.3 million in grants to start or expand businesses in rural communities. Through Recovery Act funding, businesses will be able to access critical capital that will help with start-up and working capital loans, building and plant renovations, transportation improvements, project planning and other business needs.

“These Recovery Act grants represent the Obama administration’s ongoing efforts to ensure strategic investments and increase economic opportunities in rural America,” said Vilsack. “Small businesses play an important role in building strong communities while providing vital products and services to local residents. This funding will help spur important economic development and strengthen communities in dozens of states around the country.”

The City of Cherryvale will receive a \$95,000 grant to establish a Revolving Loan Fund to help start-up businesses and provide financial assistance to emerging small businesses within the city of Cherryvale. As Cherryvale has experienced a declining population and an unemployment rate above that of the state average, the Revolving Loan Fund would provide a means and opportunity in helping local businesses to make improvements and create jobs in the community.

In addition to the \$15.3 million that USDA Rural Development is providing for the 145 projects announced today, recipients have raised \$16 million from other sources.

The funding announced today is being provided through [USDA Rural Development’s Rural Business Enterprise Program \(RBEG\)](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/rbeg.htm), which helps finance new and existing businesses as well as employment-related adult education programs. RBEG funds can be used for start-up and working capital loans, building and plant renovations, transportation improvements, project planning and other business needs. Additional information on the RBEG program may be found at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/rbeg.htm>

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development fosters growth in homeownership, finances business development and supports the creation of critical community and technology infrastructure. For additional information regarding USDA Rural Development and its programs, log onto the Agency’s website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks or call the Agency’s state office at 785-271-2700.

USDA Rural Development – Committed to the Future of Rural Communities.

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