



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS VISIT DEXTER APARTMENT II COMPLEX

Gregory C. Branum, Missouri USDA Rural Development State Director, included a visit to the Dexter Apartments II as part of a tour for USDA Rural Development management officials in southeast Missouri. The visit highlighted the recent improvements made to the 28 unit rental housing complex.

“USDA Rural Development is pleased to partner with the State of Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC) to provide the necessary funding to finance the improvements,” said Branum. “Providing affordable rental housing in rural areas is an excellent example of USDA Rural Development programs assisting rural residents. They mirror President Bush’s initiatives and exemplify the Rural Development mission - committed to the future of rural communities.”

The Dexter Apartments II is located in the north part of Dexter at 9A Apple Court Street. The 28 apartments were constructed twenty-five years ago with a loan closing on July 13, 1979 with financing by Farmers Home Administration which later changed its name to USDA Rural Development. Through a cooperative effort, MHDC and Rural Development assisted Delta Area Economic Opportunity Corporation (DAEOC) & MACO Management Inc., the owners of the apartment complex, with the renovation funds. Improvements included new vinyl siding, new asphalt shingle roofs, new parking, new sidewalks, interior painting, energy efficient doors and windows, mini-blinds, plus new heating and central air units. Three of the units were made handicap accessible. All these improvements were completed in July 2004.

“I want to commend the owners of the property and the contractors for a successful renovation project,” said Janie Dunning, Director of Multi-Family Housing for USDA Rural Development. “The apartments should provide eligible residents a desirable and affordable place to live for a long time.”

“The rental apartments provide a nice place to live for our residents,” said Joe Weber, Dexter Mayor. “I would like to thank MHDC and USDA Rural Development for providing their assistance to make available affordable housing for our residents and for helping our community!”



Carolyn Henson, Site Manager of the Apartments, said, “We are very appreciative of the financial and technical assistance from Rural Development. Without MHDC and Rural Development’s help, the improvements would not have been feasible. The new look on the inside and outside makes the apartments very efficient and comfortable for the residents.” Charlotte Dawson is the Property Manager for the Dexter II Apartments.

The picture of the home of LeAnn Pflasterer provides an example of the recent improvements. Anyone interested in living at the Dexter II Apartments can contact Ms. Henson at 624-7451 or stop by the office Monday-Thursday from 10:00 to 4:00.

Branum, added that special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators “Kit” Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for making available housing programs to benefit rural residents and complexes like the Dexter II Apartments.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo> or by contacting Kathy Cagle, Community Development Manager, at the Dexter Local Office of USDA Rural Development at 18450 Ridgeview Lane, Dexter, MO 63841 or by calling 573-624-6964.

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