



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT HELPS RECORD NUMBER OF COMMUNITIES WITH COMMUNITY FACILITY FINANCING

Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, announces that 117 projects were financed in Missouri during Fiscal Year 2007 for essential community facilities. The number was a record year for Missouri and the largest number in the nation. The neighboring states averaged assisting thirty-two communities.



“This is a wonderful program that demonstrates how the U.S. government, through USDA Rural Development,

can partner with local communities and other lenders to do what the local communities deem as important and vital to their businesses and rural residents,” said Branum. “During this past year in Missouri, the Community Facilities program provided over \$11,207,800 in funds to over 100 communities for projects including 6 fire and rescue projects, 91 first responders and early warning systems, 4 daycare centers, 3 health care facilities, a museum, a library and a food pantry.” For a complete listing of all the recipients you can visit the Missouri website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/CFACCOMPLISHMENTS.pdf>.

There are a variety of eligible loan purposes including: to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities such as health care (clinics, ambulatory care centers, hospitals, rehabilitation centers and nursing homes); public safety (communication centers, police and fire stations, fire trucks, rescue vehicles, fire and rescue equipment and jails); public services (schools, child care centers, assisted living projects, nutrition centers, sheltered workshops, community centers and buildings, industrial park sites, airports, and libraries) and some infrastructure including transportation facilities such as streets, roads, and bridges. Other purposes can include costs to acquire land for a facility, pay professional fees, or purchase operating equipment.

Community Facilities assistance can be by direct loans, grants, or guaranteed loans through a conventional lender to improve community facilities providing essential services in rural areas and towns with a population of 20,000 or less. The funds are available to public entities such as

municipalities, counties, special purpose districts, and non-profit corporations which meet specific criteria.

For specific areas of interest concerning eligibility criteria; requirements for grants, loans or guarantees; and terms of the financing; interested parties are encouraged to visit with a USDA Rural Development representative.

“The Community Facilities programs provide financing for essential projects to the quality of life in any rural community,” Branum added. “This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities. Appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missouri.”

Anyone seeking more information about community facilities financing or any other USDA Rural Development program may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting [any Rural Development Office](#).

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“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).