

USDA



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Rural Development

NEWS RELEASE

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT REVITALIZES CASSVILLE SENIOR CITIZEN'S RENTAL HOUSING CORPORATION

Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented a mock check in the amount of \$90,747 to Landon Fletcher, President of the not-for-profit Board of Directors for Cassville Senior Citizen's Rental Housing Corporation apartment complex on April 7, 2008.

The special event marked the completion of two of the 40 units being rehabbed at the senior citizen complex as part of the Multi-Family Preservation and Revitalization Restructuring and Demonstration (MPR) program with USDA Rural Development. These two units are the first to be completed with major renovations to all the units planned over the next five years. Renovations include items such as, carpet, vinyl, roll-in showers, windows, and cabinets. MPR allows for the restructuring of selected existing rural rental housing loans; therefore, continuing to allow facilities to remain available and affordable to eligible residents for the next 20 years. This program will allow existing owners of Section 515 rural rental housing complexes sufficient resources to preserve their complexes.

Landon Fletcher, President of the Board of Directors said, "Without the help of USDA Rural Development and dedicated local board members, the renovations to this senior citizen apartment complex would not have been possible. The complex is a definite asset to our rural community and it's extremely important that we continue to improve and update the rental units for the benefit of the current residents."

"Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Claire McCaskill plus U.S. Representative Roy Blunt for making available federal monies for funding affordable housing and other services for rural Missouri," Westfall added. "This kind of



Pictured Left to Right: Tim Rickabaugh, Rural Development Area Director; Morris Westfall, Missouri State Director; David Rauch, District Director for U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill; Steve Cheatum, Rural Development Area Specialist; Steve McIntosh, Field Representative for U.S. Representative Roy Blunt; Bob Mitchell, Board Member; Landon Fletcher, President of the Board of Directors; Shirley Keen-Hutchison, Site Manager & Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Directors; Sue Stiles, Board Member; Donna Hayes, Board Member; Ruby Reece, Board Member; Phyllis Baker, Board Member; Darrell Ledenham, Board Member.

assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission and President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities."

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