



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kevin P. Hinkebein

(573) 756-6413 Ext. 4

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT \$100,000 MOCK CHECK TO EAST MISSOURI ACTION AGENCY FOR HOUSING PRESERVATION

Terry A. Luetkemeyer, Area Director USDA Rural Development Farmington MO., presented Executive Director Bill Bunch with a \$100,000 Mock Check on Tuesday, December 5, 2007. Housing Preservation Grant funds are administered by EMAA to provide funding to eligible very low and low income homeowners for necessary repairs to make their homes decent, safe and sanitary.

U.S. Senator Clair McCaskill said, "I'm pleased to see federal funds coming back to Missouri. These funds will give the East Missouri Action Agency resources to help low-income homeowners in the area."



Pictured left to right: Terry Luetkemeyer, Area Director, Rural Development; Rick Hull, Section 8 Program Manager, EMAA; Kevin Hinkebein, Rural Development Manager; Ben Dyer, Senator Claire McCaskill's Office; Brenda Edgar, Area Specialist, Rural Development; Heather Garner, Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson's Office; Bill Tucker, Housing Director, EMAA

Bill Bunch said, "East Missouri Action Agency was one of the first Community Action Agencies in Missouri to apply for and receive funding through USDA Rural Development's Housing Preservation Grant program. EMAA couples this funding with DNR Weatherization and other home repair funding to rehabilitate more dwellings and accomplish more work on individual homes in our service area. EMAA targets owner occupied homes with HPG funding and is able to provide services that often are not fundable through other sources."

Anita J. Dunning, Acting State Director for USDA Rural Development, said "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 also 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 Missourians."

Anyone interested in obtaining information regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Kevin P. Hinkebein, Rural Development Manager, at the Farmington Local

Office of USDA Rural Development at , 812 Progress Drive, Farmington, MO 63640 or by calling (573) 756-6413, extension 4.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“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).