

USDA



Rural Development

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NEWS RELEASE

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS WORLD CHANGERS REPAIRS FOR RESIDENTS OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Neal Miller, USDA Rural Development Area Manager, St. Joseph, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Green Hills Community Action Agency for participation in the Housing Preservation Grant Program. The Certificate recognized Green Hills for \$25,000 in repairs that the housing agency completed on seven homes in Livingston County during 2008/2009. The Certificates were presented June 24th at the Community Action Agency office in Trenton.



Rural Development's HPG or Housing Preservation Grant program provides grant funds to repair homes owned by very-low and low income homeowners and renters. The grant funds are provided by Rural Development to organizations such as the Green Hills Community Action Agency who in turn use the grant funding to do the repair work.

(from left to right): Neal Miller, Rural Development St. Joseph Area Manager; Terri Henderson, Energy Director, Green Hills Community Action Agency; Dave Clarkson, Area Specialist, Chillicothe Rural Development; Deanna Smith, Resource and Development Director, and Marvin Meeker, Weatherization/Rehab Director, Green Hills; Brook Balentine, Field Representative for Senator Claire McCaskill, Chad Higden, Field Representative for Congressman Sam Graves; Beth Sanson, Area Technician, Chillicothe Rural Development

Green Hills has been a prolific user of the HPG program over the years. Green Hills has received some \$473,018 in HPG funding from Rural Development dating back to 1994 and repaired approximately 100 homes in the north-central Missouri area.

Miller said "I am very pleased with Green Hills participation in the HPG program and am proud of the number of homes repaired over the years." Miller continued, "Marvin Meeker, Director of the Weatherization/Rehab for Green Hills, has done an excellent job of getting homes repaired under this program since its inception in 1994."

"Missouri communities benefit when local organizations partner with the USDA and it's great to see federal grant dollars going to places that need it. Rehabilitating, repairing and weatherizing homes, especially for elderly Missourians, is important to maintaining strong communities," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said.

Anyone seeking more information about the HPG program, other repair loans and grants or other USDA Rural Development programs may visit Rural Development's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo>, or by contacting the Rural Development Sub Area Office in Chillicothe at 1100 Morton Parkway, Chillicothe, Mo. 64601 or by calling 660-646-6222 ext. 4.

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