



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development  
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## USDA OFFICIALS MAKE STOP AT WASHBURN

*McLean Electric Cooperative receives USDA funds.*

**Washburn, September 20, 2004.** . . . Shane Goettle, chief of staff for the Office of the Under Secretary for USDA Rural Development, today joined USDA Rural Development State Director, for North Dakota, Clare Carlson in a check presentation to McLean Electric Cooperative, located in Garrison, North Dakota.

The check for \$200,000 represents a Rural Economic Development Grant (REDG) administered through USDA Rural Development's Business and Cooperative Programs. The funds will be used by McLean Electric Cooperative to establish a revolving loan fund program, with McLean Family Medical Center of Washburn, its first recipient.

"USDA Rural Development is proud to be here today to make this check presentation to McLean Electric Cooperative and acknowledge the McLean Family Medical Center of Washburn," Goettle said. "This is another example of the commitment that President George Bush and the Bush Administration have to the future of rural America."

The center will use the funds to renovate the existing facility and add additional exam rooms, as well as acquire an electronic medical records system.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural economic and community development needs. Its mission is to deliver programs that will support increased economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. It administers financial and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development and critical community and technology infrastructure.

In Fiscal Year 2003, USDA Rural Development provided over \$73.5 million dollars in loan and grant financing to North Dakota citizens. For more information, please visit our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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