



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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**NEW MEDICAL TRAINING EQUIPMENT HEADED
FOR BROWN COUNTY AMBULANCE**

Ainsworth, Neb., May 22, 2003--The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development awarded this month, \$1,650 in grant funds to Brown County Ambulance. These monies leveraged with \$568 from the Brown County Ambulance Association will purchase new manikins and training supplies to be housed in Ainsworth.

The manikins will be used by Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) to conduct training in a seven county area of the North Central Region of the state. Counties include Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Cherry, Holt, Sheridan and Blaine. CPR classes in area schools and hospitals along with training for new EMTs and First Responders will also benefit from the manikins.

"It was imperative that Brown County Ambulance purchase the new manikins," stated Todd Thornton, certified training officer for Brown County Ambulance Association. "Currently Brown County Ambulance has two adult and one pediatric 20 year old training manikins that no longer work properly, making it difficult to provide the regular training needed. Additionally, the State Department of Health and Human Services' new curriculum, anticipated to begin this Spring, will require the use of an Airway manikin and IV manikin with the closest such manikins being approximately 150 miles away from Ainsworth."

"Quality emergency medical training and equipment in rural Nebraska is essential as many rural areas do not have medical practitioners or facilities close by," stated Mary Gambill, community outreach specialist for Nebraska USDA Rural Development. "Proper training could make the difference of life or death in an emergency situation."

USDA grant funds were provided through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant program. For additional information contact Mary Gambill at 731 E. 4th Ainsworth, Neb. 69210 or phone (402) 387-2242, (402) 437-5093 (TDY).

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