



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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SELF-HELP HOUSING MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

Lincoln, Neb., June 23, 2003 – Little Dixie Community Action Agency, Inc. and USDA Rural Development will hold a Self-Help Housing Meeting in Columbus, Neb. on Tuesday, July 1, 2003 at the New World Inn & Conference Center located at 265 33rd Avenue from 10 a.m. until noon. The public is invited to attend.

Little Dixie and USDA Rural Development will present the basic principles of the USDA Rural Development Self-Help Housing program. Topics of discussion: What Is Self-Help Housing?; Who Can Receive Technical Assistance?; Funding Availability For Technical Assistance.; How May Funds Be Used To Carry Out A Self-Help Housing Program?; and more.

The primary goal of the Self-Help Housing program is to develop opportunities for eligible families to build their own home through the self-help method, creating equity by the labor contributed. The Bush Administration supports the developing of the Self-Help Housing program to increase homeownership opportunities in rural America. Funding for this program has increased significantly over the last few years. For the current fiscal year, there is over \$50 million available for nonprofits to develop Self-Help Housing programs.

Plan to attend the July 1 meeting. Contact the USDA Rural Development State Office at 402-437-5551 for further information.

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