

Building a Fire Station for the Community

Outline of Need: The Village of Santee’s fire station was 38 years old, had limited space for the firefighters and equipment and was difficult to heat. Safety of the Village residents was also a concern.

How Rural Development Helped: A Rural Development Community Facility Economic Impact Initiative Grant of \$95,000; a Community Development Block Grant of \$200,700 from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development; Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community funds of \$80,400 and a Santee Sioux Nations contribution of \$18,900 constructed a wood framed fire station.

The Results: The Village of Santee’s new fire station consists of approximately 3,400 square feet on the ground level that houses enough room for equipment storage, a radio space, training room, office, small kitchen, two restrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a clean room with shower and two bays for a grass rig and tanker. There is approximately 700 square feet of loft space for additional storage.

Mayor, Donald LaPointe, Sr. expressed his gratitude to USDA Rural Development and all the funding agencies, “With their assistance, the fire station became a reality. Fire safety is no longer a concern for the Village of Santee and its residents.”

