

BRINGING FACILITIES TO THE ELDERLY

Outline Of Need: Pender lacked an assisted living facility. It was a longtime vision of the hospital board and the Pender community to add an assisted living facility to their continuum of care. The facility would prevent people, who were looking for this type of care, from moving away to other places, as had happened in the past.

How Rural Development Helped: USDA Rural Development provided direct loan funding of \$1,208,100 and a USDA Rural Development guaranteed loan from Pender State Bank of \$1,275,000. Community donations of \$270,000 completed the funding needed to construct the new assisted living complex.

The Results: An assisted living facility, Prairie Breeze offering 12,590 square feet was constructed. It features 16 residential units and common areas containing a living area, kitchen area with a commercial kitchen where food is prepared on site, dining room, reading areas with computer access, family visitation, tub room, laundry facilities, and housekeeping. The individual living units contain one bedroom, separate living area, bathroom and a small kitchenette.

The Prairie Breeze assisted living complex provides the citizens of the Pender Community Hospital District and the surrounding communities the opportunity to remain in an independent setting. Residents may also benefit from the provision of services for personal care, homemaking, and other activities.

This new facility brings essential, enhanced health care to the vicinity. Elderly residents will be able to remain in their homeland area as their level of care changes. Prairie Breeze provides a wide range of housing and health care options which are extremely critical to the viability of a community and area.



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