



NEWS RELEASE

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Rural Development Funds Village Emergency Warning System

COLUMBUS, OHIO, April 5, 2007 – Randall Hunt, state director for USDA Rural Development announced today approval of a \$2,500 Community Facilities program grant to the Village of Smithville in Wayne, Ohio. The village will use the funding to purchase and install an emergency warning siren.

“Rural Development’s Community Facilities grants provide unique funding opportunities for rural communities to address first responder emergency,” said Hunt. “With investments of more than \$12.8 million last year, our Community Facilities Program provided additional financial resources which helped rural communities strengthen their ability to protect rural citizens.”

The Community Facilities Program uses grants and loans to help communities develop essential facilities for public use. These facilities include schools, libraries, childcare, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings and transportation.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

Further information on rural programs is available by calling 614-255-2400, visiting a local USDA Rural Development office or by viewing USDA's web site at

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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