



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-0700
Phone: (202) 690-0498 • Fax: (202) 720-0483 TDD: (202) 720-6382 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>

Contact:
Jay Fletcher (202) 690-0498

DORR ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF JAFAR KARIM AS STATE DIRECTOR FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

WASHINGTON, June 11, 2008 – Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development Thomas C. Dorr today announced the appointment of Jafar Karim as the South Dakota State Director for USDA Rural Development.

“Jafar Karim brings significant experience working to address the needs of South Dakota residents,” Dorr said. “I am confident that the state’s rural communities will be well-served by his leadership.”

A resident of Sioux Falls, S.D., Karim received his Bachelor of Liberal Studies from the University of South Dakota. He has spent a decade working in both the legislative and executive branches of the federal government, as well as in the South Dakota state government. Karim most recently served as the Public Affairs Manager for a company in Sioux Falls that manages and operates a railroad shipping line.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development has invested more than \$90 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. More than 1.7 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

#

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).