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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO CELEBRATE HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

San Benito, Texas June 2, 2003 – Bryan Daniel, State Director for Texas USDA Rural Development announces the celebration of Homeownership Month in June throughout rural Texas. USDA Rural Development joins federal, state, and local housing officials in hosting more than 1,000 events nationwide to promote homeownership.

USDA Rural Development is marking the occasion locally by announcing the funding of a grant to the Community Development Corporation (CDC) of Brownsville. The grant is made through the Single Family Housing, Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance program, a program that falls under the USDA Rural Development mission area. Homeownership certificates will also be presented to families constructing their homes through the Self-Help Housing program with CDC of Brownsville.

The effort is part of USDA's national program to help rural areas build and enhance essential housing. USDA Rural Development makes grants to eligible nonprofit or public organizations to assist low income families who wish to work together to build their own homes. Grant money is used to pay for technical assistance the families may need in constructing the home with their own resources.

"USDA has a long history of assisting rural citizens to achieve and maintain the dream of homeownership. Over the past 10 years, USDA Rural Development has assisted more than 15,000 households in purchasing a home in Texas. It is with great pride that we join President George W. Bush in celebrating June 2003, as Homeownership Month," said Daniel.

For more information, please visit our website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/sfh.htm.
To find a local office that serves your county, please visit our website at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/officeinfo.htm or check in your local telephone directory under United States Government, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development.

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