

USDA/RuralDevelopment

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News Release

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR HACIENDA SANTA BARBARA, L.P.

Socorro, Texas, September 30, 2003--Bryan Daniel, Texas State Director, USDA Rural Development today announced that Hacienda Santa Barbara, L.P. was awarded a \$2,320,000 loan thru the Rural Housing Service Farm Labor Housing Loan program. The Rural Housing Service, an agency that falls under the USDA Rural Development mission area, administers programs designed to strengthen the economy and infrastructure of rural areas. Through its support of the sustainable development of communities, USDA Rural Development works to improve the quality of life in rural America.

“USDA Rural Development is very pleased to be able to provide farm labor housing funding for rural Texans,” said Daniel. “It is our goal to ensure rural residents are afforded an opportunity to live in decent housing that meets basic health and safety standards and provides the benefits of energy efficient features.”

USDA funds will be used to construct a 40-unit Farm Labor Housing complex in Socorro, El Paso County, Texas. The complex will consist of 20 2-bedroom units and 20 3-bedroom units. The Texas A&M Colonias Program will offer outreach and coordination of various services that will be provided on-site, i.e. health screenings, Que Sabrosa Vida classes, coordinate GED preparation (reading, writing, and arithmetic) in either English or Spanish, as well as one-on-one tutoring and basic computer skills. The loan received by Hacienda Santa Barbara, L.P., will benefit the interests of the tenants, government, and community at large by providing affordable, safe and decent living for the Farm Labor Housing migrate workers and their families.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the USDA Local Service Center in El Paso at: 915-855-1229, ext. 4.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

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The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's 53 million rural people.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at

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

