USDA/Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES A GRANT FOR RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO THE GUILLETTE FOUNDATION

Austin, Texas, January 14, 2004 – USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel announced today the awarding of a grant for an economic development project in Texas, as part of the Bush Administration's ongoing commitment to invest and bolster programs for rural America. The Guillette Foundation received a $50,000 grant through the Rural Business-Cooperative Service Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program.

The purpose of the RBOG program is to promote sustainable economic development in rural communities by making grants to pay the cost of providing economic planning for rural communities, technical assistance for rural businesses, or training for rural entrepreneurs or economic development officials.

The Rural Business-Cooperative 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.

To be eligible for a RBOG, applicants must be a public body, nonprofit corporation, Indian tribe, or cooperative with members that are primarily rural residents (any area in Texas that is not within the boundaries of a city with a population in excess of 10,000 inhabitants). The size of grants approved is limited by the amount of program funds available but are generally $50,000 or less.

For more information regarding the RBOG program, please call Mr. J. Pat Liles, Director, Rural Business-Cooperative Service at (254) 742-9780. The regulation for this program is available at: http://rdinit.usda.gov/regs/regs_toc.html (click on Part 4284 – Grants, click on 4284-G).

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