



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact Name: Alonzo Perez

Phone Number: 956-487-5576, Ext. 4

Email: Alonzo.Perez@tx.usda.gov

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO CELEBRATE HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH

Rio Grande City, Texas, June 17, 2004 – 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 events nationwide to promote homeownership.

USDA Rural Development is marking the occasion locally by highlighting homeowners who have participated in the Self-Help Housing program through Community Action Council of South Texas (CACST). Certificates of Congratulations will be presented by State Director Bryan Daniel, to two homeowners in the Sendero Perdido Subdivision in Rio Grande City, Texas.



USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel (right)
with the Luis Gutierrez Family



CACST Executive Director, Francisco Zarate



USDA Rural Development and CACST staff at EZ Youthbuild Complex



Bryan Daniel (right), David Gonzalez, Efrain Morin and son



USDA Rural Development and CACST Staff with the Luis Gutierrez family at their self-help home

USDA Rural Development's housing programs 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 through the Self-Help housing programs. Grant money is used to pay for technical assistance the families may need in constructing the home with their own resources.

"USDA Rural Development 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 2004, as Homeownership Month," said Daniel.

For more information, please visit our website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.
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.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 and includes Business Programs, Housing Programs, and Utilities Programs. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation's rural residents.

For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.