



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES \$135,068 GRANT FOR BAY CITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BAY CITY, TEXAS, JANUARY 26, 2006-- Texas USDA Rural Development Community Programs Director, Paco Valentin, today presented a ceremonial check to Bay City Community Development Corporation for a \$135,068 Rural Community Development Grant (RCDG). The grant funds will be used to provide financial and technical assistance to the Basic Economic Stabilization Training (BEST) Institute. The BEST Institute will use the funds to develop its capacity and ability to undertake community programs that will promote the community's affordable housing program and community and economic development of the areas.

"The Bay City Community Development Corporation has demonstrated a commitment to serving their community," said Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director. "These grant funds will help ensure that local community leaders have the resources they need to assist their community in creating new economic opportunities and improving their quality of life."

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development has invested of \$50 billion since the beginning of the Bush Administration to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development Programs, contact the Edna Local Office at (361) 782-7151, Extension 4, or visit our website at <http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.



(Left to Right) Dianna Gilbert, Representing congressman Ron Paul
Paco Valentin, Community Programs Director, USDA Rural Development
D.C. Dunham, Executive Director, Bay City CDC
Carol Smylie, Executive Director, Basic Economic Stabilization Training Institute
Mayor John Connor, Palacios
(Back Row) Kelly Ross, Bay City Council
Mayor Richard Knapik, Bay City
Joseph D. Enoch, Bay City Council
Judge Greg Westmoreland, Matagorda County

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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