



MEDIA RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development
111 E. Third St., Suite 2C, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Contact: **Patrice Varela-Daylo, 360-452-8994, Ext. 4, patrice.vareladaylo@wa.usda.gov**

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HOME REPAIR FUNDS OFFERED BY USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Port Angeles---USDA Rural Development has loan funds available for home repairs for very low-income rural homeowners. Senior citizens age 62 or older may be eligible for grant funds of up to \$7,500 to remove health or safety hazards, if they do not show ability to repay a loan. The local office in Port Angeles serves the rural residents of Clallam, Jefferson and Kitsap counties.

Funds may be used for home repairs in rural areas for eligible homeowners with incomes under 50 percent of the median family income for the county in which they reside. Eligible rural areas are defined as having a population under 10,000 or up to 20,000 in non-metropolitan areas. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents legally admitted to the U.S. The funds may be used for owner occupied homes that are modest in value for the area.

The maximum loan amount is \$20,000 with a fixed interest rate of one percent (1%), with up to 20 years to repay. Qualifying households may be eligible for loan/grant combinations.

INCOME LIMITS BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE

| COUNTY | --1-- | --2-- | --3-- | --4-- |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Clallam | \$17,700 | \$20,200 | \$22,750 | \$25,250 |
| Jefferson | \$18,250 | \$20,900 | \$23,500 | \$26,100 |
| Kitsap | \$21,650 | \$24,700 | \$27,800 | \$30,900 |

The 504 Housing Repair Program is designed to assist those in greatest need. In Port Angeles, a 92-year old woman will be warmer this winter after having the roof of her home replaced. In Port Townsend, a loan/grant combination enabled a 75-year old woman to replace her roof, insulate her home and replace old windows with new double pane windows. A couple in Quilcene received a loan to install a well and septic system on their property in a partnered effort with the local Community Action agency. In Poulsbo, a couple received a grant to construct a diversion drain around their home to keep runoff water from flooding their basement.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on USDA Rural Development's 504 Housing Repair Program can be obtained by contacting the Port Angeles Local Office at (360) 452-8994, Ext. 4, or by visiting the Washington State Rural Development web site at

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wa>. ###