



USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD PRESENTED--Northeast South Dakota Community Action Program (NESDCAP) was recently awarded \$300,000 in grant funds from USDA Rural Development. Participating in the check presentations were (left to right) Judy Vrchota, Senator Thune's staff; Sharon Stroschein, Senator Johnson's staff; Maeva King, Representative Herseth's staff; Acting State Director Tim B. Potts; Sandy Leiseth, NESDCAP Housing Manager; Jody Zueger, Board Member; and Jack Swanson, Board Member.. ~ Courtesy Photo

USDA Rural Development awards \$300,000

Grant funds awarded to NESDCAP

Acting State Director Tim B. Potts today presented a ceremonial check to Northeast South Dakota Community Action Program (NESDCAP) representing rural community development initiative (RCDI) grant funds in the amount of \$300,000 to support rural economic development efforts in South Dakota.

"These funds will allow the grantee to provide technical assistance to recipients, which will allow these recipients to provide new functions to their beneficiaries in the form of homeownership education and allow them to expand their capacity in their housing community and economic development programs," Potts said.

USDA Rural Development's rural community development initiative assists nonprofit community based development organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes and low-income communities to improve their ability to promote economic growth. Recipients are

required to obtain matching funds, doubling the value of the grants. The grants are awarded to an intermediary organization, which can be public or private (including tribal). The funds are then provided to recipients, which must be located in eligible rural areas.

"This is just one more example of the excellence USDA Rural Development provides to our state. We are looking forward to this partnership with Rural Development and four recipient groups in our service area. This new funding opportunity will serve as an outreach tool in our state to further promote economic development and homeownership. With prime entities like USDA Rural Development, our area will continue to improve and activities such as this will raise the quality of life. I would like to thank Rural Development for providing us this opportunity," said Marcia Erickson, Executive Director of NESDCAP.

USDA Rural Development Area Director Bruce Jones and Manager Janell Telin also attended the event. USDA Rural Development has ten offices in the state that assist rural communities. Office locations include the state office in Huron, along with area offices in Aberdeen, Huron, Mitchell, Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Sturgis, Watertown, and Yankton.

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 rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www/rurdev.usda.gov>.