

NESDCAP & NESDEC serve as "pioneers" in South Dakota

The Northeast South Dakota Community Action Program (NESDCAP) has served as a pioneer throughout South Dakota in many programs it has developed and administered. The following is a listing of some of firsts that NESDCAP has achieved in its 40-year history:

--First and only SD agency to receive funding through One Economy to administer a computer program and develop a multi-lingual website www.beehivenesd.org.

--First and only SD agency to administer a Digital Connector curriculum for youth.

--Only SD Community Action Program to be a certified Home-ownership Education Resource Organization (HERO).

--First and only SD agency to be a partner with Rural Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) to build housing and economic development Community Action Program.

--Only Community Action Program in SD to host a Small Business Development Center.

--First and only SD agency to implement a Ways-to-Work nationally recognized loan program financed through the Alliance for Children and Families.

--First agency in SD and currently the only SD Community Action Program to administer the nationally recognized Individual Development Account (IDA) -- matched savings accounts

--Only Community Action

Program in SD to administer subsidized USDA Rural Development apartments.

--First Community Action Program in SD to receive Federal Home Loan Bank assistance for housing rehabilitation.

--First and only Community Action Agency in SD currently receiving Rural Development Housing Preservation Grant funding for housing rehabilitation.

--First SD Community Action Agency to administer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA).

--First agency in SD and only Community Action to partner with Rural Development on the Housing Loan Partnership Program.

--Planned, applied, received and implemented one of 33 nationally funded USDA Enterprise Community grants of \$2.95 million dollars.

--Only SD Community Action Program to administer a down payment/closing cost program.

--First agency in SD to implement a loan program for community development corporations to develop affordable housing.

--Only SD Community Action Program to be a certified HUD Housing Counseling Entity.

--First Community Action Program in SD to market the Governor's House.

--First Community Action Program in SD to receive designation as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) which resulted in the HOME housing rehab funding program.

NESDCAP's sister corporation, the Northeast South Dakota Economic Corporation (NESDEC) has been a pioneer in the field of

economic development through the following programs:

--First Small Business Administration (SBA) Micro-loan borrower in South Dakota.

--First agency in the United States to borrow from Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Fund for re-lending purposes.

--First and only South Dakota agency to receive business loan funds through the Rural Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).

--First South Dakota agency to borrow \$2 million from the USDA Rural Development Intermediary Re-lending Program in one transaction.

--Only SD agency to apply and be approved for significant amounts of Office of Community Services, Economic Development Discretionary grants for business development purposes.

--First South Dakota agency to get a significant economic development grant from the Northwest Area Foundation.

--Helped form Dakota America's LLC to secure \$50 million in New Markets Tax Credits for South Dakota and North Dakota.

--First agency in South Dakota to become a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) (1996) and receive funding from the CDFI Fund Core Component.

NESDCAP and NESDEC are Equal Opportunity Organizations. For more information on either agency please call (605) 698-7654 or toll free at 1-888-202-4855.

THE SISSETON COURIER

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