

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

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Contact:

Angie Richards

515.281.1014

arichards@fhlbdm.com

## **Minnesota Communities Receive Rural Housing Grants**

(Des Moines, Iowa) – Eleven Minnesota communities recently received \$245,000 in grants to provide rural homebuyers with down payment, closing cost, counseling or rehabilitation assistance. The funds were awarded by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (FHLB Des Moines) through its Rural Homeownership Fund (RHF) program. This year alone, FHLB Des Moines granted a total of \$1 million through its RHF to 44 communities in Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota and South Dakota.

“The Rural Homeownership Fund is another resource our member banks have to support housing initiatives in their communities,” said Gary Dodge, director, Affordable Housing Programs, FHLB Des Moines. “Over \$4 million has been funded or committed to help more than 1,000 rural Minnesota families since the program began in 1996.”

Eligible homebuyers at or below 80 percent of the area median income in rural communities can qualify for funding. Homebuyers are eligible for up to \$5,000 in assistance. The funds do not have to be repaid if the recipient occupies the home for five years.

For more information about the RHF, please visit the Bank’s website at [www.fhlbdm.com](http://www.fhlbdm.com).

A summary of the 2007 Rural Homeownership Fund grants and a list of Minnesota recipients are attached.

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*The Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines is a wholesale cooperative bank that provides low-cost short and long-term funding and community lending to more than 1,200 members, including commercial banks, saving institutions, credit unions and insurance companies. The Bank is wholly owned by its members and receives no taxpayer funding. The Des Moines Bank serves Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota and South Dakota and is one of twelve regional Banks that make up the Federal Home Loan Bank System.*

**Summary of 2007 FHLB Des Moines Rural Homeownership Funds by State**

<b>State</b>	<b>Number of Applications Submitted</b>	<b>Number of Applications Funded</b>	<b>Dollar Amount of Applications Submitted</b>	<b>Dollar Amount of the Funded Subsidy for the State</b>	<b>% of Funded Subsidy</b>
Iowa	22	13	\$495,000.00	\$ 280,000	28%
Minnesota	26	11	\$640,000.00	\$ 245,000	24.5%
Missouri	27	13	\$675,000.00	\$325,000	32.5%
North Dakota	3	3	\$50,000.00	\$50,000	5%
South Dakota	4	4	\$100,000.00	\$100,000	10%
Totals	82	44	\$1,960,000.00	\$1,000,000	100%

**2007 Minnesota Rural Homeownership Fund Recipients**

<b>Member Institution</b>	<b>Amount of Subsidy</b>
Farmers State Bank of Adams, Adams	\$25,000
Merchants Bank, National Association, Caledonia	\$25,000
Viking Savings Association, F.A., Alexandria	\$25,000
First National Bank of Cold Spring (The), Cold Spring	\$25,000
Lake Bank (The), Two Harbors	\$25,000
First National Bank of Waseca, Waseca	\$25,000
SouthPoint Federal Credit Union, Sleepy Eye	\$25,000
State Bank of Cokato, Cokato	\$25,000
Merchants Bank, National Association, Hastings	\$5,000
BANKWEST, Rockford	\$15,000
Merchants Bank, National Association, La Crescent	\$25,000