

NEWS RELEASE



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Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines Invests \$1 Million in Programs to Strengthen Local Communities

(Des Moines, Iowa) - Low-income individuals and families in rural areas will benefit from grant monies in the amount of \$1.0 million to be distributed by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (FHLB Des Moines). The grants, awarded to 42 member financial institutions, are part of FHLB Des Moines Rural Homeownership Fund (RHF) which supports efforts to focus more resources on providing permanent housing to under-served populations.

FHLB Des Moines established the Rural Homeownership Fund in 1996. FHLB Des Moines bank members are eligible to receive up to \$25,000 in RHF grants to provide housing assistance in communities throughout the Bank's five-state district, including Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota and South Dakota. Since the program's inception more than 1,050 grants totaling \$19.6 million dollars have been awarded to support a wide range of housing activities. The grants can be used to provide down payment, closing cost, counseling, or rehabilitation assistance to households purchasing owner-occupied units in rural locations. Eligible households are at or below 80 percent of the area median income in rural communities.

"These grants reflect an emphasized focus on working with member banks to change the futures of individuals and families in their community," said Gary Dodge, Community Investment Director at FHLB Des Moines. "The \$1.0 million funded this year helps support FHLB Des Moines' mission of promoting community and economic development by increasing access to affordable housing and homeownership."

Summary of 2008 Rural Homeownership Funds by state:

State	Number of Applications Submitted	Number of Applications Funded	Dollar Amount of Applications Submitted	Dollar Amount of the Funded Subsidy for the State	% of Funded Subsidy
Iowa	42	12	\$1,015,000	\$285,000	29.0%
Minnesota	47	17	\$1,105,000	\$400,000	40.5%
Missouri	26	5	\$630,000	\$115,000	11.5%
North Dakota	4	4	\$100,000	\$100,000	9.5%
South Dakota	6	4	\$150,000	\$100,000	9.5%

Totals	125	42	\$3,000,000	\$1,000,000	100%

For more information about the RHF, please visit the Bank's website at www.fhlbdm.com.

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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.