INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION APPROVES HELPING HAND GRANTS

BISMARCK – The Industrial Commission of North Dakota approved the distribution of $250,000 in grant funds through the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency’s (NDHFA) Helping Housing Across North Dakota (Helping HAND) Program today.

“Helping HAND dollars are used to address the housing needs of individuals with lower-incomes,” said Gov. John Hoeven. “Used in conjunction with local housing program dollars, the funds boost a community's ability to meet critical housing needs.”

“The program enables groups like Christmas in April to provide home repair services to the elderly,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. “The most popular use for the program dollars is rehabilitation of existing housing.”

“Since the Helping HAND program began in 1993, the NDHFA has awarded more than $2.2 million in grants,” said Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson.

Distribution of the $250,000 was approved as follows:

Christmas in April, Bismarck/Mandan ................................................................. $2,500
Christmas in April, Fargo/Moorhead ................................................................. $2,500
Community Action & Development Program, Inc., Williston ......................... $8,867
Community Action & Development Program, Inc., Dickinson ....................... $11,682
Community Action Opportunities, Inc., Minot .............................................. $25,205
Community Action Program Region 7, Bismarck ........................................... $33,661
Community Action Region IV, Jamestown ..................................................... $17,080
Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency, Devils Lake ................................. $21,428
Red River Valley Community Action Agency, Grand Forks ......................... $24,840
Southeast ND Community Action Agency, Fargo ......................................... $37,238
Missouri Valley Habitat for Humanity, Bismarck ......................................... $8,333
Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity, Fargo ................................................... $8,333
Northern Lights Habitat for Humanity, Minot ............................................. $8,333
Standing Rock/Sitting Bull College/HIP Program, Fort Yates ...................... $10,000
Three Affiliated Tribes, New Town ................................................................. $10,000
Trenton Indian Service Area, Trenton ............................................................. $10,000
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, Belcourt ............................................... $10,000

Helping HAND grant dollars can be used to support single- or multi-family housing projects. A nominal local match of 25 percent is required to access the grant dollars. The money cannot be used for an organization’s general operating expenses, and it must be utilized within 12 months of grant notification. The funds distributed to North Dakota Community Action Agencies are based proportionately on regional population below poverty level.

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor John Hoeven, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson, oversees the NDHFA. For more information about the NDHFA or the Helping HAND program, contact the agency at 701-328-8080, 800-292-8621 or 800-366-6888 (TTY). Information is also available online at www.ndhfa.org.

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FURTHER INFORMATION: Pat Fricke (701) 328-8080