COMMISSION APPROVES HELPING HAND GRANTS

BISMARCK - The Industrial Commission of North Dakota has approved the distribution of nearly $450,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations statewide through the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency’s (NDHFA) Helping Housing Across North Dakota (Helping HAND) program.

“Helping HAND dollars do just that – they help to address the immediate housing needs of low income families in North Dakota,” said Gov. John Hoeven. “Combined with local resources, the funds enhance a community’s ability to improve single and multifamily dwellings for people and families in need.”

“The grant recipients typically use the funds to support weatherization programs, or update existing residential properties,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem.

“The funds provided by North Dakota Housing are used to address the housing needs of approximately 300 families each year,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring.

Distribution of the 2010 program dollars follows:

Southeastern ND Community Action Agency, Fargo ........................................................ $74,604
Community Action Program Region VII, Bismarck ........................................................... $62,149
Red River Valley Community Action Agency, Grand Forks .............................................. $51,102
Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency, Devils Lake ...................................................... $35,993
Community Action Partnership-Minot Region, Minot .................................................... $38,407
Community Action Partnership, Dickinson/Williston ..................................................... $30,403
Community Action Region VI, Jamestown ...................................................................... $27,342
Three Affiliated Tribes, New Town .................................................................................... $20,000
Trenton Indian Service Area, Trenton .............................................................................. $20,000
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe/CHIP Office, Fort Yates ....................................................... $20,000
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, Belcourt .................................................... $20,000
Spirit Lake Housing Corporation, Fort Totten ................................................................. $20,000
Red River Valley Habitat for Humanity, Grand Forks ...................................................... $6,250
Missouri Valley Habitat for Humanity, Bismarck ............................................................ $6,250
Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity, Fargo ....................................................................... $6,250
Northern Lights Habitat for Humanity, Minot ................................................................. $6,250
Rebuilding Together, Bismarck ......................................................................................... $2,500

Since 2000, the Helping HAND program has leveraged more than $17.5 million in additional funding, resulting in the construction or rehabilitation of more than 3,300 housing units statewide. The program is funded with NDHFA’s earnings.

Helping HAND is prized by grant recipients because it offers flexibility to fill the funding gap left by other rehab programs. Eligible entities can use the funds for single- or multi-family housing projects. The program requires a
nominal local match of 25 percent. Community Action Agencies and Tribal grantees are encouraged to use funding to benefit the largest number of households.

For more information about Helping HAND, contact Nancy Rice at (701) 328-8080, (800) 292-8621, (800) 366-6888 (TTY) or info@ndhfa.org. Information is also available online at www.ndhfa.org.

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor John Hoeven, as chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem and Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, oversees NDHFA.

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