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Rental Rehab Funds Available

BISMARCK – Recently the Industrial Commission announced that approximately $41,000 in grant funds are available to owners of rental property. These grant funds may only be used to address the needs of very low-income people who have physical disabilities. Applications for the Rental Rehab Assistance Program (RRAP), which is administered by the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA), must be received by close of business on Friday, October 13.

"This program provides funding to make existing rental property more accessible for individuals who have a physical disability," Gov. Ed Schafer said. "It is important that rental housing continues to be upgraded to meet accessibility needs."

"Preference will be given to nonprofit applicants making improvements that benefit individuals participating in the North Dakota Department of Human Services' Developmental Disabilities (DD) and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Division programs," said Attorney General Heidi Heitkamp. "Applications that include at least a dollar-for-dollar match will also receive greater consideration."

"Grant funds may be used to build ramps, install door openers, audio and visual smoke detectors, walk-in showers, chair lifts, kitchen faucets, door hardware, and similar items to make apartments more accessible for individuals with disabilities," said Commissioner of Agriculture Roger Johnson.

For an application or more information about the Rental Rehab Assistance Program, contact the Housing Finance Agency directly at (701) 328-8080, 1-800-292-8621, or 1-800-366-6888 (TTY) or Robin Hendrickson at the Department of Human services at (701) 328-8932 or Bill Harmsen at Vocational Rehabilitation at (701) 328-3999. Information is also available on the NDHFA web page at www.ndhfa.state.nd.us.

The North Dakota Housing Finance Agency is overseen by the Industrial Commission of North Dakota consisting of Gov. Edward T. Schafer, as Chairman, Attorney General Heidi Heitkamp, and Commissioner of Agriculture Roger Johnson.

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FURTHER INFORMATION: Pat Fricke (701) 328-8080