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# News Release

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## **USDA Awards \$50,000 to Neighborhood Housing Services of the Black Hills, Inc. to Repair and Rehabilitate Rural Housing**

**Huron, SD** October 28, 2015 – USDA Rural Development approved a \$50,000 grant, through the [Housing Preservation Grant \(HPG\) program](#), to the Neighborhood Housing Service of the Black Hills to assist in providing low cost, high quality and timely repairs for eligible homeowners.

"Many low-income families in rural areas struggle to afford necessary housing upkeep," Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said. "This USDA program provides grants for repairs not only to ensure that properties are in compliance with health and safety codes, but also to help people lower their maintenance costs through energy efficiency and weatherization improvements. All of these efforts make sure rural folks can stay in their homes."

USDA provides financing to local governments, public agencies, federally recognized Indian Tribes, non-profit organizations and Faith-Based and community groups. These entities distribute the grants to individual homeowners as well as to owners of multi-family rental properties or cooperative dwellings who rent to low- and very-low-income residents.

Through today's announcement, [USDA is providing grants](#) for 106 projects in 46 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Funding is contingent upon the recipients meeting the terms of their grant agreement.

Since the start of the Obama Administration, USDA has provided almost \$47 million in Housing Preservation Grants that have leveraged more than \$167 million to repair and rehabilitate 12,000 homes and apartments in rural communities.

President Obama's historic investments in rural America have made our rural communities stronger. Under his leadership, these investments in housing, community facilities, businesses and infrastructure have empowered rural America to continue leading the way – strengthening America's economy, small towns and rural communities.

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