



Oklahoma Outlook

Best of 2007 - City of Miami \$99,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant



The City of Miami has been selected as the 2007 spotlight project of the year. Rural Development is recognizing The City of Miami for their utilization of the Rural Business Enterprise Grant program to save a local business.

Boat Floaters Industries LLC., a manufacturer of boat lifts in the Miami area, faced many challenges as they performed their daily operations in an inadequate facility. In fact, their facility did not accommodate their assembly line manufacturing process which required many duties to be performed outside on a neighboring lot and the shuffling of equipment and product among three small buildings located on both sides of the street. Many times Boat Floaters employees worked outside in undesirable elements to make sure production demands were met.

After identifying the need for facility improvements, the City of Miami officials worked with Boat Floaters to develop an incentive package which would address their need for expansion. The \$99,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant from USDA Rural Development was leveraged with \$326,000 from the City of Miami Economic Development Authority and as a result the City of Miami was able to offer a 5 acre tract of land and a 34,000 square foot industrial facility which would accommodate Boat Floater's entire manufacturing process.

To complicate things further, the existing facility was located in a floodplain. On July 2, 2007 flood waters threatened to consume Boat Floaters entire operation. Luckily, Boat Floaters and the City of Miami closed on their new arrangement and that very day they worked together to physically relocate office files, equipment and raw materials into the new facility.

Today, Boat Floaters employees perform their manufacturing duties in a fully enclosed facility which also provides office space and a small show room. The facility was purchased by Boat Floaters for \$250,000, a portion of the purchase price is being financed by the Economic Development Authority. The term is for 10 years at 4 percent.

The economic development philosophies of saving these jobs in the Miami area and the community spirit displayed by the Miami officials as they rolled up their sleeves to lend a hand is why this project has been selected as the Best of 2007.

Congratulations!



Officials from the City of Miami, Boat Floaters LLC, and USDA Rural Development celebrate the awarding of the \$99,000 federal grant



The new facility provides space to display a full-size boat lift which increases opportunities for marketing their product to potential customers.



The 34,000 square feet facility is capable of accommodating the entire assembly-line manufacturing process



Dingy yellow lines mark the depth of the floodwater that entered the former home of Boat Floaters, LLC

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Dates to remember!

- Dec 5-7 Community & Econ Development Conf. OKC-Sheridan
- February 21-22, 2008 Agricultural Outlook Forum Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel

Application Deadlines!

Contingent upon
Pending FY '08 Allocations

Woodward Oklahoma's Providence Place sets the bar high for assisted living.



Health Care Service Foundation officially cuts the ribbon on Providence Place



Common areas such as this library provide residents a cozy environment to visit with friends and relatives. Other common areas located throughout the facility offer LCD televisions for relaxing and catching a favorite show or sporting event.

Residents of Woodward, Oklahoma looking for a great place to meet their assisted living needs will not have to look any further than their rural home town. Thanks to the coordinated efforts of the Health Care Services Foundation and USDA Rural Development, a state-of-the-art, elegant facility is available in Woodward, Oklahoma. The 32-unit assisted living center offers twelve studio units, eighteen efficiency units, and two 2-bedroom units, along with many other conveniences and services typically found in a first-class facility. Although it is best to visit Woodward to experience the beauty and elegance of the project first hand, these pictures are provided for those who may not get to make the trip.



Beautiful chandeliers, flowers, and furnishings make the dining area a great place to enjoy the delicious meals prepared daily in the state of the art kitchen facility.



Spacious private rooms display same elegance as seen throughout the facility



Residents of Providence Place also enjoy the benefit of a hair salon within the facility



Above: Representative Jeff Hickman, Dr. Kay Decker, Barclay Holt-Bd of Directors for Freedom West CDC, Sherrill Meyer, Housing Development Director for FWDC, receive ceremonial check from state director, Brent Kising.

Housing Preservation Grants Totaling \$217,348 Awarded to Oklahoma

The Housing Preservation Grant program assists eligible applicants to provide resources to very low and low income rural residents to make needed repairs to their homes. Typically, the improvements will enhance the general living conditions or weatherization of the home. However, in some situations, projects will include the removal or correction of health or safety hazards or improve accessibility for persons with a disability. If it is not economically feasible to repair the home, the grants funds may be used to provide replacement housing. Three Oklahoma programs were recently selected to receive funding through the Housing Preservation Grant Program.

Freedom West Community Development Corporation received \$108,600; Little Dixie Community Action Agency received \$54,437; Southwest Oklahoma Community Action Group Inc. received \$54,311.



Right: Representatives from Southwest Oklahoma Community Action Group receive ceremonial check from USDA Rural Development

Staff Changes

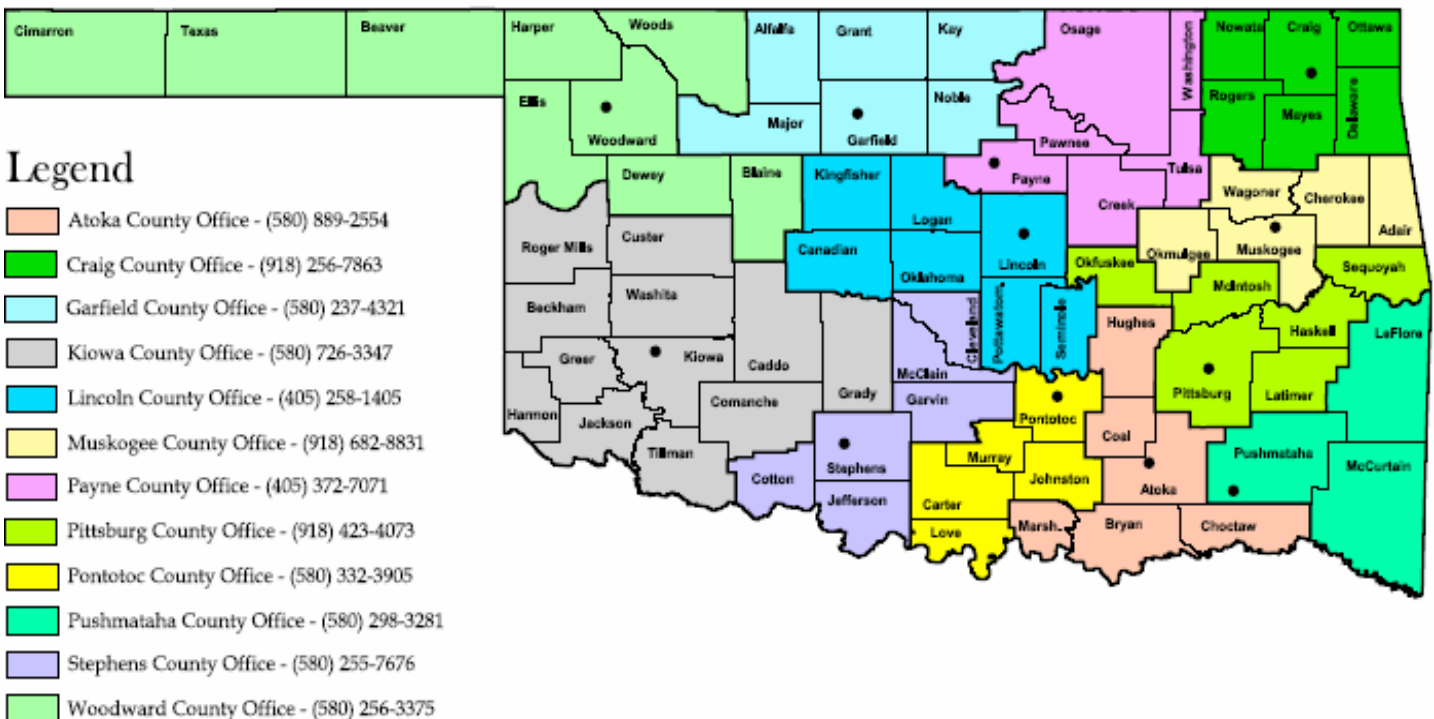
Congratulations

Position Changes:

Tom Roberts - Ada, OK
Area Director

David Toney - Muskogee, OK
Area Technician

Oklahoma Rural Development Offices

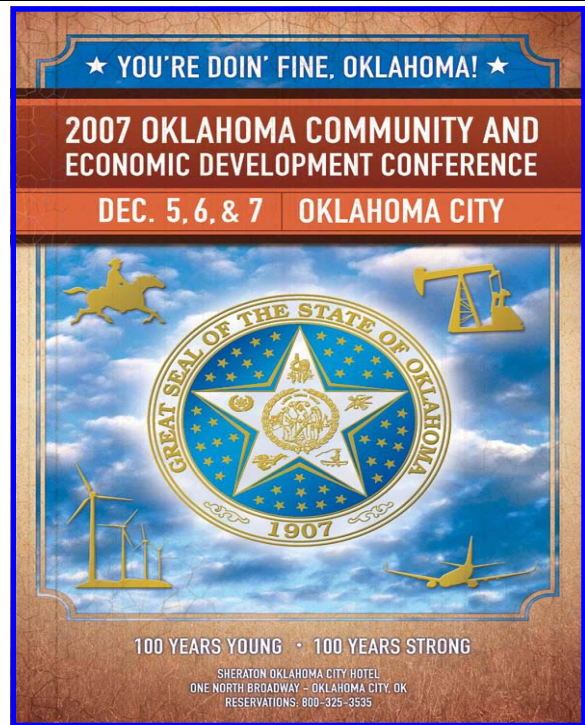


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December 5, 6, and 7
Sheraton Downtown OKC
1 North Broadway Oklahoma
City, OK 73102



To access online tools for funding availability, homes for sale, or online forms, just click the picture.

Notice of Funding Available



USDA Rural Development
State Office
100 USDA Suite 108
Stillwater, OK 74074
Phone: 405-742-1000
Fax: 405-742-1005



Properties for Sale



Online Forms

Visit our website at



www.rurdev.usda.gov/ok

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