



CITIES AWARDED FUNDS FOR COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION

The cities of Beloit and Concordia will each be receiving funds for downtown commercial rehabilitation projects. The funds will come from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program administered by the Kansas Department of Commerce.

The City of Beloit will receive \$162,693 to stabilize and repair a retail building constructed in the 1890s. The building owners will invest \$58,000. The building houses an appliance store and will house programming offices for a website developer. Work will include foundation improvements, stabilization of exterior walls and upgrading wiring to comply with local code standards.

The City of Concordia will receive \$249,500 to stabilize and repair a building constructed in 1888. The historic Bankers Loan and Trust Company is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Matching funds of \$83,703 will be added to tuck-point the walls, restore windows, paint the exterior, restore iron steps and replace electrical wiring. It will house an antique store and an art studio.

Staff from the NCRPC provided project planning assistance.

The CDBG Downtown Commercial Rehabilitation Program



This retail structure located at 111-115 East Main in downtown Beloit will be stabilized and repaired with the help of funding from the recent CDBG award.



The Bankers Loan and Trust Company Building located at 101 East 6th in downtown Concordia also will be repaired with funding from the recent CDBG award.

began with the 2013 CDBG program year with two application rounds — February 1 and August 1. Its purpose is to help cities improve the quality of their downtown commercial districts by assisting private property owners in the rehabilitation of blighted structures.

All CDBG-funded projects must meet one of three national objectives. This program utilizes the second national objective, which is the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. The two most relevant eligible activities are building rehabilitation and historic preservation.

Terry Marlin, Department of Commerce Economic Development Representative, says three projects for a total of \$662,193 were awarded in this first round of the program.

“There is a lot of interest in the program,” Marlin says. “This is a good opportunity to revitalize a key building in a downtown district that has economic potential.”

A decision on the program’s future beyond 2013 is expected by October.

Gloria Homeier has owned the building at 115 E. Main in Beloit since 2001 where she has operated her business, A Full House. She is excited about the project.

“The rehabilitation will enable us to put needed repairs into this historical Main Street business,” Homeier says. “It will preserve this building.”

For more information about the CDBG Downtown Commercial Rehabilitation Program, visit www.kansascommerce.com/cdbg.

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Disaster Loan Assistance Available for Businesses

A new declaration has been issued for Kansas by the Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program.

These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by the drought that began November 15, 2012. This program offers a direct loan from the government at 4% interest. The maximum loan amount is \$2 million, with the loan amount available to each business being based on the financial impact of the drought. Maximum term is 30 years.

The program is for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers that have suffered agricultural production losses caused by the disaster and businesses directly impacted by the disaster. Farmers and ranchers are *not* eligible for the SBA EIDL Program unless the majority of their income is from custom work.

The following counties in North Central Kansas are eligible under drought declaration #13466: Clay, Cloud, Dickinson, Jewell, Lincoln, Marshall, Mitchell, Ottawa, Republic, Saline and Washington Counties. To be eligible, the applicant will need to establish that the business was viable before the disaster occurred.

Questions about the program can be referred to Debra Peters, NCRPC Business Finance Director, at 785-738-2218 or by email at dpeters@nckcn.com.

NCRPC Executive Board Welcomes Claussen

Tom Claussen joined the NCRPC Executive Board of Directors in 2013. He has served on the Mitchell County Board of Commissioners since 2010.

Tom is the owner of Asher Creek Farm Tire Service. Prior to starting his own business, Tom worked for 19 years at Farmway Co-op, Inc. as a retail store manager. Tom also retired after spending 34 years in the U.S. Army. He is active in the community and serves as a member on the Post Rock Extension District #1 Board, the Mitchell County Special Populations Board and the Solomon Valley Economic Development



Tom Claussen

Board. Tom attended Fort Hays State University and studied business and accounting. He and his wife, Mary, have a daughter and a son.

In his spare time Tom enjoys traveling, home improvement projects, vehicle restoration, and supporting the local Beloit High School sports programs.

Community Health Assessments take Collaboration

Many hospitals and health departments have been taking steps to collaborate on a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) created a new IRS Code Section 501(r)(3) which imposes requirements for hospitals exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3). Charitable hospitals must complete a CHNA at least once every three years. Failure to comply results in an excise tax penalty of \$50,000 per year. Completing a community health assessment also is a future requirement for health departments to become accredited.

Deb Ohlde, NCRPC Assistant Director, recently served as a facilitator for public meetings in Washington County leading up to completion of a CHNA. There, the two hospitals

located in the county and the county health department are working together. Jennifer Hiltgen, Social Worker at the Washington County Hospital, has helped steer the core work group.

“Some successes have been hearing what people in the county feel is important to the county’s future as well as our health care in the county,” Hiltgen says. “Anytime you get people together working on a common goal you learn more and have a better chance of getting something done.”

Kansas Health Matters (www.kansashealthmatters.org) is one resource that has been used in the process. It includes a CHNA Toolbox designed for communities to conduct community health needs assessments and improvement plans.

looking ahead : Meetings, Deadlines, and More

Thursday, July 25, 2013

Executive Board Meeting
Beloit Main Office, 2 p.m.

Thursday, August 29, 2013

Executive Board Meeting
Beloit Main Office, 2 p.m.

FY 2014 CDBG Grant Deadlines

Housing — Aug. 29, 2013
Water and Sewer — Sept. 26, 2013
Community Facilities — Oct. 31, 2013
KAN STEP — Aug. 15, 2013
KAN STEP — Feb. 15, 2014
Economic Development — Open
Window Jan. 1-Dec. 10, 2013



Contact Us:
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Planning Commission (NCRPC)**

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Send newsletter suggestions to
lthielen@nckcn.com.

The past few weeks many tragic disasters have struck Americans in Boston; Moore, Oklahoma; in St. Charles; West, Texas; in rural Marshall County, Kansas and within the cyber community among others.

Misfortune can strike us most any time and any place. Disasters are the result of intentional acts or acts of nature be they flood, fire, earthquake, tornado, explosion or hurricane.

If you have experienced just such an unfortunate circumstance, you know what being prepared can mean to reduce harm to humans and to help the recovery process. A few aspects especially come to mind. One, if you are a city official, engage your county counterparts and converse about what you can do now to be prepared and what you will do for each other when the need arises to be supportive. Additionally, engage your neighbors for the same purposes. Finally, talk to your technology advisor or staff member about their role before an emergency happens. By all means do some intensive all hazards planning.

When working on a preparedness plan, all potential hazards should be explored and identified so weaknesses can be known and reviewed for their potential long-term or short-term implications. A number of vital components in a community or in a business are at risk via adversity. Physical features such as buildings, operational information, utility networks, tools, equipment, raw materials and customer items you have in storage can all potentially be impacted and need to be considered when contemplating a preparedness plan. Environmental impacts should be contemplated as well. What do

you house that your neighbor does not wish to receive as a result of an accident? What do you have that is difficult to contain or cleanup.

Purchasing insurance is a way to reduce the financial impact of a business interruption, loss or damage to a facility or equipment. Insurance companies gladly provide coverage for property damage, business interruption, workers' compensation, general liability, automobile liability and many other losses.



Doug McKinney is NCRPC Executive Director.

Insurers only pay when the loss is insured by a policy. Losses caused by flood, earthquake, terrorism or pollution may not be covered by standard property insurance policies and in some cases need to be weighed as to the expense versus the real threat. Ponder the value of mitigating the biggest impacts so your operations can recover soundly.

FEMA has developed a website, www.Ready.gov, for the purpose of helping Americans to be prepared. Launched in February 2003, *Ready* is a national public service advertising (PSA) campaign designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural and man-made disasters. The goal of the campaign is to get the public involved and ultimately to increase the level of basic preparedness across the nation.

In addition, the North Central Regional Planning Commission and its affiliate, NCKCN, is here to render aid in your project planning endeavors. Through Homeland Security fiscal agent undertakings the NCRPC is actively supporting first responders to be better prepared. Be safe, count your blessings, and contact us for assistance if needed.

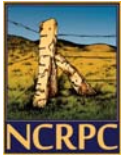
Communities that are involved with State and Federal assistance are reminded to check their DUNS number and make certain they have migrated to the SAM system. All such entities can visit <https://iupdate.dnb.com/iUpdate/viewiUpdateHome.htm> to review or complete the process.

A DUNS number is a unique, 9-digit identifier issued and maintained by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) that verifies the existence of an entity globally. Commercial, non-profit or government entities are eligible for a DUNS number. Obtaining a DUNS number is free for all entities doing business with the Federal government. Under normal circumstances, the DUNS number is issued within 1-2 business days when using the D&B online process.

SAM stands for the System for Award Management. This site, developed by the government, will combine eight federal procurement systems and the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance into one new system. To check a registration status in SAM, go to www.SAM.gov and click "Search Records" located at the top of the page. A search can be done by entering a DUNS number. If found, the registration status will be displayed.

Communities also should be aware that there have been instances of emails being received requesting fees for registrations. There is no fee to register or to renew or update an organization's information. You may see websites of private businesses or contractors that will register your organization for a fee. These websites often look like government websites at first glance. Remember, paying any fee for registering is unnecessary.

Registering is required for many funding programs. For instance, beginning with the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG) 2013 application period, all applicants must be registered in SAM.gov *before* submitting their applications.



North Central Regional Planning Commission

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business updates

A new chiropractic practice, owned by Dr. Jeremy Will, opened in Concordia in May.

Concordia Sport & Spine, LLC utilizes the latest advances in motion palpation techniques and functional evaluations to develop a proper diagnosis of every patients' condition. The clinic will emphasize health and wellness through a safe and cost-effective alternative to medications or elective surgery.

Dr. Will completed an undergraduate degree from Kansas State University before graduating with a Doctorate in Chiropractic from Logan Chiropractic College in St. Louis, Mo., in December 2011. He previously practiced in Salina.

"I realized after practicing in Salina for a little over a year that I wanted an opportunity to be part of a smaller community that was simi-

Chiropractic Clinic Opens in Concordia

lar to the small towns that I grew up in of Gypsum and Assaria," Will says. "The North Central Kansas area has always been an attractive area for me personally and Concordia really jumped out as the best fit for me and had the best potential for the opening of a new clinic."

To help mentor him as a business owner, Dr. Will formed an advisory council made up of individuals from the Cloud County area.

"My advisory council has been an invaluable resource," Dr. Will says.

Dr. Will says he's received a positive response from the community. The clinic is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

This project was made possible with funding from Peoples Exchange Bank of Concordia, Four



Dr. Jeremy Will's new business is located at 208 W. 6th Street in downtown Concordia.

Rivers Loan Pool, a StartUp Kansas Loan, and investment by the owner.

For more information about the financing programs used contact Debra Peters, NCRPC Business Finance Director, at 785-738-2218 or by email at dpeters@nckcn.com.

For more information about the clinic or its services, call Concordia Sport & Spine, LLC at 785-262-4344.