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RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

402 East State Farm Rd., PO Box 310
North Platte, NE 69103

Phone (308) 749-2291
Fax (308) 749-2223

BECA Grant Projects 2006-2007

- Bassett and Rock County (Village of Newport)**
The City of Bassett and Rock County - partnership received \$650 to host "Spend the Day in Rock County" for area residents and employers. Job opportunities in Bassett, and the villages of Newport and Rose will be highlighted during the day. Rock County and Bassett will provide matching fund.
- Burwell**
Unlocking Our Potential- received \$9,850 for a plan that includes establishing an annual leadership and development class, retaining area youth, providing opportunities for business transfer education and helping energize local business owners in Burwell, Neb. Burwell Economic Development will provide matching funds.
- Butler County (David City)**
Butler County Development Initiative - which includes Butler County and the city of David City, received \$12,500 to design a development strategy based on the building blocks of leadership and business development, and youth and young adults engaged in entrepreneurship and community leadership. Butler County Supervisors, the city of David City, David City Area Chamber of Commerce, David City Home Town Competitiveness and Butler County Development Alliance will provide matching funds.

Executive Committee:

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Gayle McClure
Chuck Hassebrook

Other Commissioners:

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- Cambridge & McCook**
Tri-Edge – Cambridge/McCook Entrepreneur Development Program – The communities of Cambridge and McCook will be able to enhance economic development efforts by offering a new entrepreneurship development program. Cambridge Economic Development prepared the application on behalf of the cities. The Cambridge and McCook Economic Development Council, business owners, Chambers of Commerce, Rotary, and individuals are partnering to provide \$22,000 matching funds.
- Cambridge & McCook**
Cambridge-McCook Vision 2010 Initiative – a partnership among the cities of Cambridge and McCook, received \$60,000 to produce a regional strategy for developing business and engaging youth and young adults in entrepreneurship and community leadership. The Cambridge Economic Development Corporation and Hormel Family Foundation will provide the match.
- Cheyenne County**
Creating Virtual Entrepreneurs – Cheyenne County entrepreneurs will learn how to implement existing eBusiness and eCommerce web technologies to benefit their businesses as a result of the project. The Cheyenne County Technology committee and Cheyenne County Chamber of Commerce prepared the application and will contribute \$11,020 matching funds.
- City of Laurel, Coleridge, Newcastle, and Wynot**
Collaborative Innovation “Rethinking Business Partnership” – which involves the city of Laurel, and villages of Coleridge, Newcastle, and Wynot, received \$41,177 to establish mentorship, apprenticeships and new business ventures. The applicants, along with Laurel-Concord Public Schools, Coleridge Community Schools, Newcastle Public Schools and Wynot Public Schools will provide the match.

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- City of Lyons & Bancroft**
The Logan Valley Initiative – a partnership of the city of Lyons and village of Bancroft, received \$5,000 to sponsor workshops, speakers and mentors that increase leadership capacity, empower youth and enhance communications in Pender, Thurston, Bancroft, Rosalie, Lyons and Decatur. Pender Education, Pender Public Schools, Bancroft Public Schools, and Lyons Community Foundation will partner with the applicants to provide matching funds.
- City of Omaha & Juan Diego Center (in Omaha)**
The Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce – the Juan Diego Center in Omaha, and the City of Omaha received \$23,800 to develop training sessions, and a business development series that addresses information and educational gaps in the minority business community, primarily composed of Hispanic businesses. The Grand Island Area Chamber of Commerce will provide matching funds.
- Frontier County**
(City of Curtis, Maywood, Stockville, & Moorefield)
Building the future of Medicine Valley – This project is designed to increase the tax base of the area, and to attract and maintain businesses, and students and families within the designated school districts. The Medicine Valley Economic Development Corporation (MVEDC) and City of Curtis, the villages of Maywood, Stockville, and Moorefield, MVEDC, Medicine Creek Chamber of Commerce, Medicine Valley Schools, Maywood Public Schools, and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture. MVEDC, Free Land Partners, and the redevelopment of Curtis LB840 plan will match the project’s funding with \$30,600.
- Fullerton and Albion**
The cities of Fullerton and Albion – received \$2,500 to target young entrepreneurs and small business owners with educational opportunities and technical assistance in the form of teach-ins and networking, with the focus of impacting youth retention. The cities of Fullerton and Albion, and the Center for Rural Affairs will provide matching funds.

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- Furnas and Harlan**
Building for the Future of Our Area – Small business growth and development, and long-term sustainability and viability of communities located in Furnas and Harlan counties are the goal of the project. Furnas/Harlan Partnership, Inc., prepared the application, and a group of cooperatives and local community leaders are matching \$18,475 in funding.
- Garden County, City of Oshkosh, and Lewellen**
Garden County Entrepreneurial Community – made up of Garden County, the City of Oshkosh, village of Lewellen and application partners, received \$40,000 to establish and economic development steering committee, provide community planning training, and to identify and provide training that promotes new and existing businesses. All project partners, in addition to Volunteers of America. Garden County Commissioner, Garden County Health Services, Garden County Schools, Garden County Community Foundation, Garden County Chamber of Commerce, and Turner Board will provide matching funds.
- Grant and Imperial**
Chase-Perkins Hometown Competitiveness Program – This program will continue working to identify similarities among issues that affect the region’s ability to attract and grow its youth population, and to sustain leadership development programs, charitable giving efforts, and entrepreneurship services. Southwest Nebraska Community Betterment prepared the application on behalf of the southwest Nebraska region. Great Plains Communications, and the cities of Grant and Imperial are matching \$10,000 in funding.

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- Grant and Imperial**
Chase and Perkins Counties – received \$8,115 to provide educational and technical assistance that targets rural sustainability to existing business owners and entrepreneurs. The Chase-Perkins County hometown Competitiveness Steering Committee is partnering with the Southwest Nebraska Community Betterment Corporation, local cities of Grant and Imperial will match the funding with LB 840 Economic Development Fund.
- Holt County**
Holt County 2010 Initiative – received \$30,000 for a strategy that addresses business development issue, and encourages more youth and young adults to engage in entrepreneurship and community leadership. Cities and Villages in Holt County will provide matching funds.
- Johnson County (Otoe and Nemaha)**
Expansion of Southeast Nebraska EDGE Program – received \$6,000 to collaborate with existing programs and extend continuing education classes to small business owners in Otoe, Nemaha, and Johnson counties. Rural Enterprise Assistance Projects, Southeast Nebraska EDGE Coalition, River Country Economic Development Corporation, Auburn Economic Development and the City of Tecumseh Economic Development will provide matching fund.
- Knox County**
Knox Business Transfer – This project will equip 15-25 Knox County business owners with proven and effective strategies for business transfer. The Knox County Development Agency prepared the application and will provide \$2,470 matching funds.

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- Knox County**
Destination Knox County – received \$14,075 to increase business transition education and develop a growing tourism base. The Knox County Development Agency and Knox County will provide matching funds.
- Logan Valley (City of Lyons & Bancroft)**
Six northeast Nebraska communities that comprise the Logan Valley Initiative – received \$15,000 for a strategy crating a more entrepreneurial-friendly climate, increasing leadership, empowering youth, and enhancing overall communications. The City of Lyons, the City of Bancroft, Bancroft-Rosalie Public Schools, Pender-Thurston Community Education, Pender Public Schools, and the Lyons Community Foundation will provide matching funds.
- Phelps and Kearney counties**
PK Entrepreneurial Coalition – received \$8,135 to offer Nebraska EDGE (Enhancing, Development and Growing Entrepreneurs) Classes and workshops to new and existing entrepreneurs to spur new business ideas, business succession and retention, and youth entrepreneurship. Coalition members will provide matching funds.
- Platte & Colfax Counties (City of Columbus)**
Drive to Five Initiative – which involves Platte And Colfax counties and the City of Columbus, will use its \$25,000 grant to hire a coordinator to facilitate regional and national marketing and education campaigns to retain and attract employees. The Columbus Area of Commerce, Loup Power District, Archer Daniels Midland Company, Columbus Economic Council, Behlen Mfg. Company, Becton Dickinson Medical, Camaco LLC, and applicant partners will match the grant.

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- Scotts Bluff County (Cities of Scottsbluff, Gering, Bridgeport, and Mitchell)**
Western Nebraska Entrepreneurial Initiative - Creation of a comprehensive community program that provides education and technical assistance geared toward attracting young small business owners or entrepreneurs is the goal of this program. Twin Cities Development prepared the application on behalf of Scotts Bluff County, the cities of Scotts Bluff County the cities of Scottsbluff, Gering, Bridgeport and Mitchell, Twin Cities Development, Western Nebraska Community College, and the Village of Morrill, and will match the projects funding with \$28,000.
- Sherman County (Loup City)**
Sherman County Economic Development Project – a partnership of Sherman County and Loup City, received \$30,000 to provide technical assistance for new and expanding businesses and tourism attractions, develop entrepreneurial skills of youth and adults, and educate area residents about endowments as a form or permanent financial support. The city of Loup City, Sherman County, Loup City Economic Development Corporation, Sherman County Community Foundation, and the Sherman County Bank will provide matching funds.
- Thayer county**
Thayer County Economic Development Alliance – the University of Nebraska-Lincoln County Extension Office in Thayer County and Great Plains communications received \$2,500 to undertake Thayer County Leadership that involves continuing a Leadership Plenty Class, and starting up Home Town Competitiveness with the goal of building enthusiasm and vitality throughout the county. Thayer County Economic Development Alliance, the University of Nebraska Extension in the Southern Plains Unit, and Great Plains Communications will provide matching funds.

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- Valentine/Cherry County**
Building Blocks for Community Revitalization and Prosperity – Leadership and entrepreneurship are this project’s focus toward building community capacity, and ultimately revitalization and prosperity in Valentine and throughout Cherry County. The Valentine/Cherry County Economic Development board prepared the application, and the city of Valentine and Cherry County will match the project’s funding with an additional \$25,000.
- Valley County and the city of Ord**
Valley County Youth Initiative – Attracting and retaining the area’s youth is the goal of this project. Valley County Economic Development prepared the application on behalf of Valley County and the City of Ord. The city and Loup Valley’s Rural Public Power District are providing \$25,000 in matching funds.
- Wayne County**
Wayne Area Economic Development, Inc. – received \$13,008 for its Building Wayne’s Distinct Advantage project that will combine innovative components of entrepreneurial development, and community planned giving and education to achieve economic sustainability and long-term transfer of wealth for Wayne County. Wayne County, Wayne Area Economic Development, Inc., and the northeast Nebraska Resource Conservation and Development Council will provide matching funds.

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