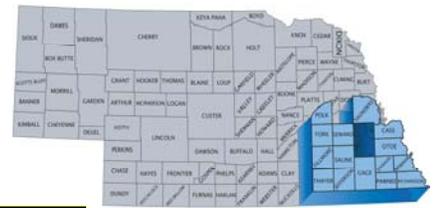


# SEND D

Southeast Nebraska Development District



## SEND D RECEIVES NADO INNOVATION AWARD

The Southeast Nebraska Development District, received a 2014 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation for the "Regional Early Warning Sirens" project.

Early in 2009, SEND D staff began working in conjunction with emergency management directors and local officials in SE Nebraska on an Early Warning System (EWS) Project. The participating communities and counties reached an agreement on the terms and conditions for participation in a regional joint purchasing project to acquire new warning systems through a program involving political subdivisions in all 15-member SEND D counties.

The project involved identification of local EWS needs; securing firm commitments from the governing bodies to participate in the project; securing the financial participation of grant funding of just over \$1.0 million through the Department of Commerce—Economic Development Administration (EDA); distribution of RFP's for Outdoor Warning Siren manufacturers; selection and negotiation of supplier(s) and final services and prices, siting and construction of sirens based upon stringent engineering evaluation; testing; on-site inspections; and final approval of the EDA project administrator. Political subdivisions realized a cost savings of approximately 75% per unit

by participating in the project, which included 45 communities and a total of 80 EW Sirens, siren equipment, and service upgrades for a total investment of \$1.35 million.

SEND D Executive Director, Dave Taladay, said "This is an important and exciting project to improve the safety and well being of citizens living and working in Southeast Nebraska. The project is an example of innovative collaboration between SEND D and the communities and counties our organization serves. We are honored to be involved in a project that will impact such a large number of communities and citizens in Southeast Nebraska."

For 28 years, NADO's Innovation Awards have recognized regional development organizations for their hard work and commitment to promoting economic development in rural and small metropolitan communities across the country. Award recipients have created innovative solutions that build on the unique strengths and challenges of their regions, all while continuing to promote sustainable economic growth not only now, but for many years to come," said NADO President Peter Gregory, Executive Director of the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission in Woodstock, VT.

NADO is an association that promotes programs and policies that strengthen local gov-

ernments, communities, and economies through regional cooperation, program delivery, and comprehensive strategies. The association's Innovation Awards program recognizes regional developmental organizations and partnering organizations for improving the economic and community competitiveness of our nation's regions and local communities. Award winners are being showcased during NADO's 2014 Annual Training Conference, August 23-26 in Denver, CO.



AUGUST 2014  
NEWSLETTER



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Southeast Nebraska Development District Newsletter— August 2014

Funded in part by the US Dept. of Commerce—Economic Development Administration

## 2014 NAHTF Disaster Recovery Program

### Owner Occupied Rehab

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) is offering a disaster recovery program for three regional organizations for owner-occupied rehab in affected counties. The counties of Butler, Lancaster, Otoe, Saunders, and Seward are included as part of the Southeast Nebraska Affordable Housing Council, Inc. (SENAHC) area. SENAHC will be applying for these disaster funds and then make them available to eligible homeowners in the declared disaster areas. SENDD staff will be working with these homeowners to apply for assistance.

- How does a homeowner qualify?

The unit damaged must be their primary residence, household annual income must be at or below \$77,520 regardless of family size, provide proof of ownership, have homeowner's insurance as of the date the damage occurred from the disaster, and proof of flood insurance if applicable,

- How much assistance can be received and what are the terms?

Homeowners can receive up to \$10,000 in NAHTF funds for eligible repairs and costs, these funds will be in the form of a grant and will not be repayable. Depending on the severity of the disaster additional assistance from FEMA and SBA may be available. The homeowner is responsible for ensuring that any additional funds received (including homeowner's insurance) is also used by the homeowner for recovery efforts.

- What are the eligible repairs and costs?

This is based upon the type of natural disaster that occurred. A list of eligible repairs and costs can be obtained from the program administrators. Insurance deductibles are an eligible cost—however, work must not have been completed prior to applicant's Notice of Approval. Homeowners that have completed rehab to their homes with other resources prior to selection for assistance cannot be reimbursed for these expenses. Funding may be available for expenses not fully covered by insurance, up to the limits of the grant. Repairs to mobile homes, as defined by the NDED are not eligible costs, regardless of ownership status.

### Village of Cook Gets USDA Assistance For Water Tower Emergency

USDA Rural Development is assisting the Village of Cook with funding of \$136,000 to repair the water tower's bottom four foot riser so the village is able to turn the tower back on and supply water to the residents. The water tower was leaking extensively and the village needed to act fast. The project was funded through the USDA Rural Development Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant program.

The Village contacted SENDD, who in turn assisted the community in contacting USDA and obtaining these grant funds quickly.

### MINK Meeting—Sept. 11th

The Missouri-Iowa-Nebraska-Kansas (MINK) organization will be meeting September 11th in downtown Plattsmouth, NE. The meeting will be held at the VFW Facility (corner of 6th Street & 1st Ave.), starting at 10:00 a.m. Contact Charles Jones, Plattsmouth Main Street Association at (402) 408-3727 for more information.

RSVP by Sept. 5th to:

[plattsmainst@gmail.com](mailto:plattsmainst@gmail.com).

A hot lunch will be served for \$11.00—reserve your spot today.

**SAVE THE DATE!**



The Southeast Nebraska Resource Network (SERN) is hosting an Elected Official Training Seminar on Oct. 16th in Beatrice. Stay tuned for more information in the September issue of this newsletter.

**SAVE THE DATE!**



The Southeast Nebraska Resource Network (SERN) will be holding their next quarterly meeting on November 5, 2014 at the York Holthus Convention Center. More information will be sent out closer to the meeting date.