

\$25,000 CDAA Tax Credits Awarded To Ansley Area Community Foundation

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) has awarded \$25,000 in Community Development Assistance Act (CDAA) tax credits to the Ansley Area Community Foundation. The credits will be used to construct a new fire hall that houses fire protection services for the villages of Ansley and Berywn and the surrounding Rural Fire District. To date, \$65,000 of a \$350,000 FY 2010 allocation of CDAA tax credits have been awarded.

The Ansley Fire and Rescue Department currently provides emergency services to 1,220 people residing in an approximately 229-square mile area. The foundation of the oldest part of the facility, built in the 1960s, is sinking. As a result, overhead doors are misaligned and don't open or close properly. The department has had to choose which equipment to store in the sinking building. The building's floor and wall blocks have been repaired twice. An addition was built in 1990, however this building is not big enough to store all necessary fire and rescue squad equipment. Consequently, a smaller tanker truck and grass rig are stored in a building in nearby Berwyn.

A new fire hall will provide enough space to house all emergency equipment as well as separate office space for firefighters and EMTs, increasing security and privacy required by law for medical records. Currently firemen and EMTs share an office.

The Community Development Assistance Act was created in 1985 by the Nebraska Legislature to encourage financial support by businesses to community betterment organizations in their efforts to

implement community service and development projects in chronic economically distressed areas.

Non-profit community betterment organizations may apply to become qualified to award tax credits to eligible contributors. On DED's approval of a project, the community betterment organization can award a state tax credit to a business, corporation, insurance firm, or financial institution, or individual contributing to the project of up to 40 percent of the value of a contribution.

Projects that may qualify provide:

- Employment training
- Human and medical services
- Physical facility and neighborhood development services
- Recreational and educational activities
- Crime prevention

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