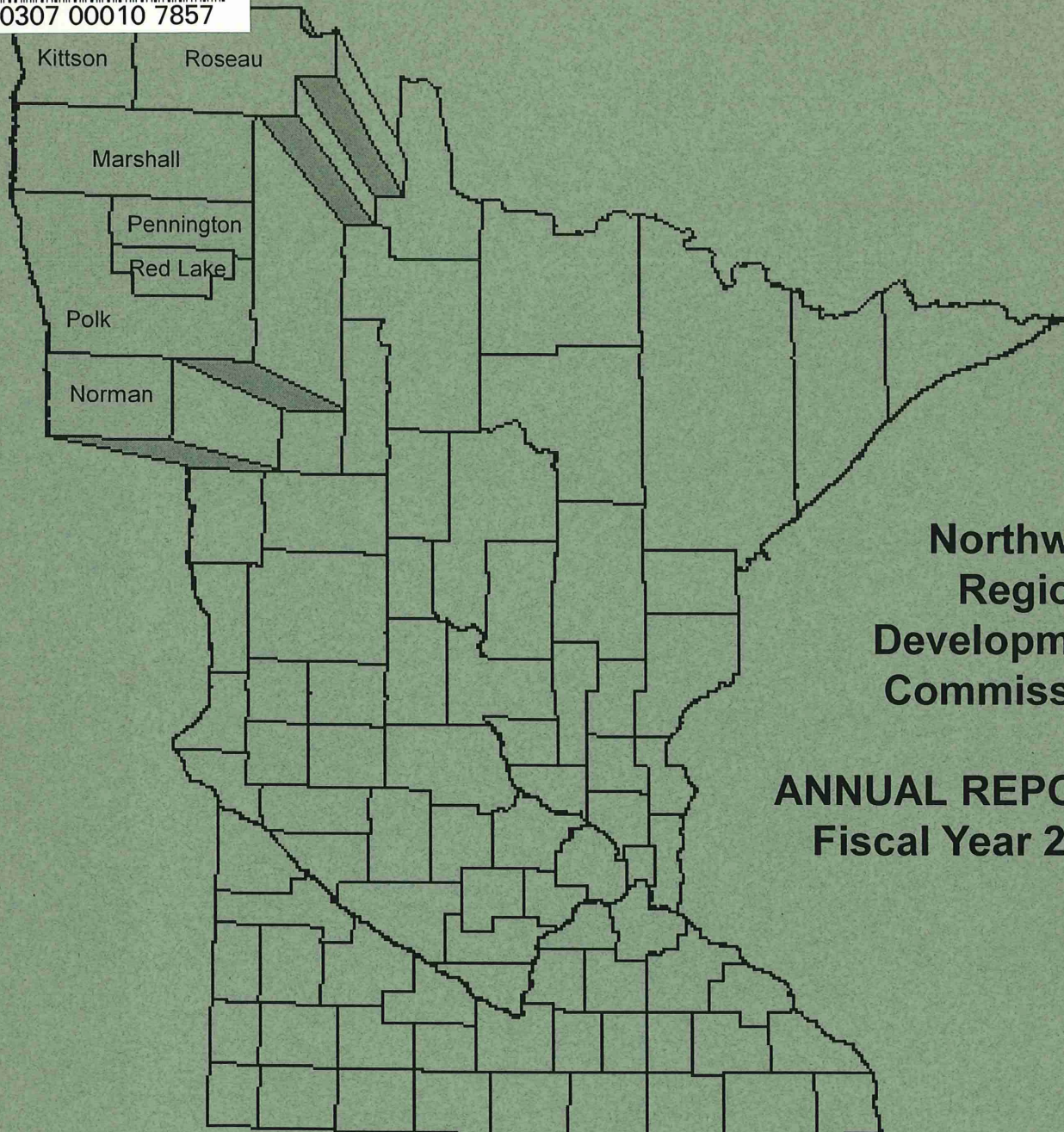




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**Northwest
Regional
Development
Commission**

**ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2001**

Working for Local Units of Government in Kittson, Marshall, Norman,
Pennington, Polk, Red Lake and Roseau Counties

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2001

NWRDC • 115 South Main, Suite 1 •
Warren, MN 56762 • 218-745-6733
E-mail Address: nwrdc@nwrdc.org
Agency Web Site Address: www.nwrdc.org

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Audit Letter

Visit Northwest Minnesota



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What The NWRDC is All About . . .

Regional Development Commissions were created by the State Legislature through the Regional Development Act of 1969. The intent of the Act was to create an option for rural units of government to supplement existing public services and coordinate specific activities of mutual concern. Although created by the State, Regional Development Commissions were left in the hands of local representatives to insure that the final design would reflect area needs and preferences.

The Northwest Regional Development Commission was created on February 2, 1973 by the joint actions of local units of government. Programs were set up to reflect priority work items

of the time; and relationships were established with the state and federal agencies that could provide assistance with local projects. Programs and work priorities have changed in response to economic and social trends; but the central mission of supporting efforts by cities, counties, townships, businesses and individuals to improve living, working and natural resource conditions in Northwest Minnesota has remained the same.

The Commission has worked to establish a manner of operation which reflects and compliments the independent, progressive style of Northwest Minnesota. Technical assistance, specialized program delivery, public participation, direct funding, access to information and formalized planning services are the basic materials which we can contribute to the construction of your project.

Please look over our Annual Report and stop by or call if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

Staff Listing

NWRDC Staff

Cameron Fanfulik, Farm Wrap Associate
Kay Hegge, Econ. Development Planner/Farm Coord.
Leon Heath, Executive Director
Coralie Jones, Health Insurance Coordinator
Brenda LaFond, Front Office Manager/Arts Associate
Linda Nelson, Loan Fund Manager
Rose Reed, Aging Technician
Danica Robson, Aging Program Director
Troy Schroeder, Transportation Planner
Carol Sorensen, Financial Officer
Mara Wittman, Arts Council Director



NWRDC Staff

(Above) Standing: Left to Right - Brenda LaFond, Rose Reed, Linda Nelson, Cory Jones, Mara Wittman, Danica Robson, Carol Sorensen. Seated: Left to Right - Leon Heath, Troy Schroeder, Kay Hegge, Cam Fanfulik

Northwest Regional Development Commission



NWRDC Board of Directors

Left to Right: Delray Larson, Velma Oakland, Dr. Joe Bouvette, Charles Lindberg, Glenn Brookshire (alternate), Warren Strandell, John Erickson. Not Pictured: Warren Olson and Orris Rasmussen.

Board Members who served for part of FY'2001: Kevin Amiot and Vaughn Thorfinnson.

COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

Kittson County

**Dr. Joe Bouvette	Hallock	County
Kimberley Johnson	Kennedy	Townships
*Charles Lindberg	Kennedy	Industry
George Wikstrom, Jr.	Karlstad	Municipalities

Marshall County

Sandra Hapka	Warren	Agriculture
*Delray Larson	Gatzke	County
Ole Soltvedt	Oslo	Municipalities

Norman County

Glen Brookshire	Halstad	Municipalities
Fred Jamison	Ada	Townships
*Warren Olson	Halstad	County

Pennington County

Elvera Cullen	TRF	Municipalities
*John Erickson	RLF	Townships
Daniel Johnson	Goodridge	SWCD
Roy Jorgenson	TRF	Seniors
Oliver Swanson	TRF	County

Polk County

Marlene Baatz	Nielsville	Townships
Arvid Clementson	Fosston	Municipalities
Martha Hurtado	Crookston	Minorities

Gerald Jacobson	Fertile	Labor
Bill Montague	Crookston	Financial Instituti
Bernie Solberg	Gully	Women
*Warren Strandell	EGF	County
Arlene Tucker	Euclid	School Boards
Kathleen Twite	EGF	Business

Red Lake County

Betty Halvorson	Plummer	School Board
Genevieve Knott	RLF	Townships
Robert Melby	Oklee	Low Income
*Velma Oakland	RLF	County
Arnold Paradis	Brooks	Municipalities
Vaughn Thorfinnson	RLF	Vocational Schools
Ronald Weiss	RLF	Watershed Dist.

Roseau County

Bruce Olson	Badger	Townships
*Orris Rasmussen	Roseau	County
Charles Walsh	Badger	Municipalities

*Board Members

**Chairperson

Members who served for part of FY'2001: Marville Magnusson, Gajen Ramanathan, Don R. Cavalier, and Kevin Amiot



Above: Commission members caucusing at the Annual Commission meeting.

COMMISSION BUDGET

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY'2001</u>	<u>PROJECTED FY'2002</u>
FEDERAL		
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMIN.	\$100,451	\$53,000
DHHS - AREA AGENCY ON AGING	\$419,435	\$588,615
USDA - NUTRITION FUNDS	\$94,896	\$126,865
	\$614,782	\$768,480
STATE		
MN/DOT	\$50,000	\$50,000
STATE ARTS BOARD	\$134,753	\$132,753
STATE NUTRITION	\$106,832	\$95,138
STATE HEALTH INSURANCE COUNSELII	\$17,000	\$19,277
DHS QMB/SLMB	\$2,200	\$4,400
MN BOARD OF INNOVATIONS & COOPERATION		\$7,500
MINNESOTA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY		\$1,000,000
	\$310,785	\$1,309,068
PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS		
MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION - ARTS	\$21,694	\$23,000
NW MN FOUNDATION	\$36,772	\$30,000
RIVERVIEW		\$36,666
	\$58,466	\$89,666
LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL		
LOCAL LEVY	\$143,667	\$149,403
MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL CONTRACT	\$330	\$16,362
	\$143,997	\$165,765
MISCELLANEOUS		
NORTHWEST ENTERPRISE FUND	\$541,569	\$875,384
INTEREST	\$28,849	\$17,200
CONFERENCE REGIST./MISC.	\$9,266	\$7,398
	\$579,684	\$899,982
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$1,707,714</u>	<u>\$3,232,961</u>

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY'01</u>	<u>PROJECTED FY'02</u>
SALARY/FRINGE	\$425,931	\$447,753
STAFF TRAVEL & REGISTRATIONS	\$29,282	\$35,994
COMMISSION/COMMITTEE TRAVEL/PER DIEI	\$26,389	\$36,223
PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$41,679	\$39,322
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$92,611	\$101,026
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	\$615,892	\$660,318
REGRANTED	\$594,722	\$1,772,643
BUSINESS LOANS	\$495,948	\$800,000
FIXED ASSETS/RESTRICTED FUND	\$5,155	\$9,000
DEPRECIATION	(\$7,517)	(\$8,000)
	(\$2,362)	\$1,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$1,704,200</u>	<u>\$3,233,961</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) TO FUND BALANCE	<u>\$3,514</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Program Highlights



Program Highlights Fiscal Year 2001

*Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington
Polk, Red Lake, Roseau
Multi-County*

Abbreviations

Following is a Listing of the Abbreviations Used Throughout This Document

AURI - Agricultural Utilization Research Institute
ATV - All Terrain Vehicle
ATP - Area-wide Transportation Partnership
CPA - Certified Public Accountant
DTED - Department of Trade and Economic Development
EDA - Economic Development Administration
FSA - Farm Service Agency
FHA - Farmers Home Administration
GIS - Geographic Information Systems
ICCC - Inter County Community Council
ICWC - Institution Community Work Crews
MBA - Minnesota Board on Aging
MHFA - Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

NWCAA - Northwest Community Action Agency
NWMCHRA - Northwest Multi-County Housing and Redevelopment Authority
NWRDC - Northwest Regional Development Commission
RC&D - Resource Conservation & Development Association
RLO - Rural Life Outreach
RSVP - Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
SWCD - Soil and Water Conservation District
TAC - Transportation Advisory Committee
TVOC - Tri Valley Opportunity Council
SAIL - Senior Agenda for Independent Living
HWS - Housing With Services

Aging

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Purpose: To build a proactive, comprehensive and coordinated system of advocacy and services that ensures the rights and benefits of all older people.

Program Funding Sources: Older Americans Act through the Minnesota Board on Aging - \$134,838; RDC Tax Levy - \$47,816; Miscellaneous - \$6,391.

Regrant Funding Sources: Older Americans Act - \$303,797; U.S. Department of Agriculture Nutrition Program - \$94,896; State Nutrition Program - \$106,832.

Service Priorities: Regrant priorities are: nutrition, congregate and home delivered meals, legal service, transportation, chore/home repair, housekeeping, visiting and medical forms assistance. Support priorities are advocacy, education, support of county committees on aging and senior centers, inter-agency linkages, and information/referral.

Aging Highlights

Dining Manager Training • • •

Conducted "Discovering Diversity" training for staff of the Nutrition Program. A self assessment helped 30 dining managers and regional staff discover attitudes about differences in the work place. This training will be used to encourage new people to participate at the nutrition sites.

Migrant Health Services • • •

Staff contacted care coordinator from Migrant Health Services to discuss the AAA and other programs. During the enrollment of migrant families, questions will be asked regarding age of family members and intent to remain in Minnesota year round. This will help us identify minority seniors for outreach efforts.

Minority Student Services Coordinator • • •

Provided information about the AAA and services funded to the Minority Student Services Coordinator at Thief River Falls School District. Encouraged him to share information with family members to facilitate accessing services by minority seniors.

Hallock Community/Senior Center • • •

Staff assisted with the preparation of a grant budget to purchase equipment for the senior center. MBA provided technical assistance regarding the process of approval needed for the senior center grant. We participated as a member of the Hallock Community Senior Citizen Center Task Force, assisting in generating ideas for fund raising and possible staffing of the senior center.



Lifetime of Learning • • •

We assisted the RSVP and Mn Extension Service with the development of a new program, which will provide seniors an opportunity to volunteer in the delivery of educational programs to communities.

Respite Strategic Planning • • •

We shared ideas with staff from Lutheran Social Services and discussed ways Respite Services could be expanded to become a regional program. Potential Partnership arrangements with Living At Home/Block Nurse Programs in Marshall County were discussed.

Fall Conference on Aging • • •

Over 350 seniors and service providers attended the 2000 Fall Conference on Aging, held at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. This conference continues to attract seniors from all seven counties in our region, as well as people from North Dakota and other counties in Minnesota.

Dual Eligibles Outreach • • •

In conjunction with Department of Human Services, Polk and Pennington counties, we implemented an outreach program to identify people eligible for the Medicare Savings Programs.

Long Term Care Task Force • • •

We participated in meetings convened by the Long Term Care Task Force. This Task Force was made of 12 bipartisan legislators and three commissioners from the Departments of Health, Human Services, and Housing. The goal of the Task Force was to develop a common understanding of the needs and issues in long term care and to recommend proposals for the 2001 Legislative Session.

Senior Linkage Information and Assistance • • •

The Area Agency on Aging assisted 1,361 individuals who called on the Senior LinkAge Line. Staff provided information on services that are available in assisting seniors to remain independent. A total of 3,296 additional contacts were made.



Your connection to the services near you.

1-800-333-2433

Aging Continued

Purpose: The Health Insurance Counseling Program offers older adults, Medicare beneficiaries and their family members assistance in obtaining appropriate health care coverage and entitled Medicare/Medicaid or insurance benefits.

Service Priorities: Specially trained volunteer health insurance counselors are available to assist all seniors, free of charge with information and assistance on a confidential, one-to-one basis. The program also serves to educate the public about the health care reimbursement systems and increase awareness of the program to seniors and family members.

Health Insurance Counseling Highlights

Information Provided • • •

Provided information and assistance to 705 persons. Of the 705 calls received, 1,306 contacts have been made. The Senior Linkage line continues to be the central access for all Health Insurance Counseling calls.

Volunteer/Direct Assistance • • •

Volunteers provided assistance to 136 individuals for a total of 207.5 hours. A total of \$180,962.48 was recovered/ saved for Medicare Beneficiaries.

Recovery of Entitled Benefits • • •

Helped assist a client with a Medicare appeal. Medicare reviewed and reversed the decision and paid \$1,700. Assisted another client who has a \$2,299 balance forward on a bill from 2000. The claim had not been filed to Medicare. The claim was filed and the bill was paid by the insurances.

Recruitment Collaboration • • •

Program continues to collaborate with existing volunteer programs such as Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Region 2, Region 5, and the Ombudsman program to recruit new volunteers.

Volunteer Information Training • • •

Provided Health Insurance Counseling volunteer training to Region 2 and Region 5 volunteers. Continuing collaboration with Region 2 and Region 5 to provide training for new volunteers and quarterly updates to staff and volunteers.

Volunteer Policies/Procedures • • •

Trained Region 2 on Program Policy/Procedures, Client Intake, and related forms and volunteer training information. Policies and Procedures will be revised to reflect the origin of services for clients in the Region 2 service area.

Educational Outreach Activities • • •

Staff conducted informational presentations to seniors, family members, health care providers and agencies that provide assistance to seniors. Information includes, but is not limited to, Medicare Fraud and Abuse, Medicare Education and Awareness, Prescription Drug Program and Long Term Care Insurance.

Health Care Access Project • • •

The North Region Health Alliance is interested in partnering with the AAA and Health Insurance Counseling Program to implement a Health Care Access Program. This program will identify individuals who have no insurance and assist them with accessing health insurance coverage. We will use the Senior Linkage Line to access information and assistance on programs available.

Outreach Activities • • •

The Commission continues to provide information on available programs to agencies that serve seniors, people with disabilities, and minority populations through the local media, newsletters, senior fairs and community calendars.



Above: Cory Jones, Health Insurance Coordinator, helps Elmer Mathiason with his health insurance bills.

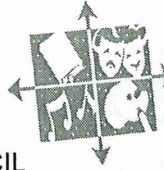
Senior Surf Days • • •

Staff collaborated with RSVP to utilize their volunteers to present Senior Surf Days to medicare beneficiaries, caregivers, and volunteers. They offered basic education on computers, HCFA health care resources and other caregiver resources available on the internet.

Dual Eligible Outreach Project • • •

Region 1 AAA/HIC program, one of three in the state, was chosen by DHS to participate in an outreach grant project for dual eligible senior citizens living in Minnesota. The program provides seniors who have low incomes with information, application assistance, enrollment in Medicare's Dual Eligible programs (QMB/SLMB), and the Prescription Drug Program (PDP).

Arts



NORTHWEST REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

Purpose: To promote, develop and encourage artistic growth and excellence of arts organizations and individual artists in northwestern Minnesota by awarding funds and conducting programs and services.

Program Funding Sources: MN State Arts Board - \$62,902 and Interest - \$2,683; McKnight Foundation - \$4,349; RDC Tax Levy - \$1,466; Miscellaneous - \$1,985.

Re-Grant Funding Sources: MN State Arts Board - \$71,851; McKnight Foundation - \$17,345.

Re-Grant Programs: *State Funds:* Production Assistance/Sponsorship; Artist in the Schools; Public Art Projects. *McKnight Funds:* Individual and Student Artist Grants; Small Capital; Training & Development.

Service Priorities: Direction setting, grants to organizations, grants to individual and student artists, information including newsletter, training/workshops.

Arts Highlights

Production Assistance/Sponsorship • • •

In fiscal year 2001, we re-granted \$46,065 to 15 different productions and 15 sponsorship projects throughout the region. Eleven of the projects were specifically aimed at children. An estimated 23,270 adults attended and over 8,380 youth participated.

Artists in the Schools Grant Program • • •

In the second year of this program, \$20,800 was re-granted to area schools. This program was so popular that after the first deadline 3/4ths of the funds allocated were awarded. With the allocation of more funds, 17 projects were awarded serving 7,130 students.

Public Arts • • •

Although only one \$5,500 award was made this year, the public art program continued to generate interest with four installations and many meetings to discuss new project ideas. Openings occurred in Red Lake Falls, Fosston, Crookston, and East Grand Forks.

Small Capital Grants • • •

\$5,160 was granted to arts organizations to purchase mainly light and sound equipment. Four organizations received awards. Three organizations are alternates for funding with \$4,175 of requests pending.

McKnight Artist Grants • • •

Seven adult artists and six student artists received awards this year. In the individual Artist category \$5,195 was granted. In the Student Artist category \$2,950 was granted. Most awards were for training in new techniques or skills related to their art form.



Artist, Andy Nelson, stands before the mural created in Fosston through the Public Art Program. Photo taken by Thirteen Towns Newspaper.

MCK Training & Development Grants • • •

Three awards totaling \$2,250 were awarded to area arts organizations. This is the last year of this program.

Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition • • •

Planned and implemented the exhibit on April 21-22, 2001, at Northland Community Technical College, in Thief River Falls. Worked with the Council and the co-sponsor to coordinate the jury process, registration, hanging, greeting, artist reception, and check-out.

Needs Assessment • • •

Conducted our needs assessment including two surveys and four needs forum meetings. The planning committee evaluated the needs assessment results and completed the biennial plan for the Minnesota State Arts Board. Needs assessments are required every four years.

Web Site Development-Arts • • •

Updated and created web pages for the arts that include our grant forms, a grant application request form, and more information on our arts organizations and artists.

Minnesota State Arts Board Outreach • • •

Two Minnesota State Arts Board staff members held a training workshop on their grant programs - Education and Individual Artist. Our office helped coordinate the meeting and present our grant programs to the six people attending.

Governor's Conference on Tourism • • •

Attended this conference in Bloomington in January 2001. Theme was Arts/Culture in tourism.

Functional Art Exhibit • • •

Helped plan the Functional Art Exhibit which was displayed in Fosston in August and September, 2000. The Forum of Regional Arts Councils was the sponsor of this exhibit.

Economic Development

Purpose: To assist in creation of new jobs by providing general planning guidance, technical assistance for specific industrial projects and services to local units of government.

Program Funding Sources: United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) - \$53,584; RDC Tax Levy - \$18,624.

Service Priorities: Regional Economic Analysis and Planning, Local Planning, Technical Assistance to Local Development Groups, Grant Writing, Business Counseling and Referral, Information on other Development Programs and Resources, Data and Statistics, and Tourism.

Economic Development Highlights

Wireless Broadband • • •

Euclid, Angus, Tabor, Argyle, West Argyle, East Warren, Alvarado, Oslo, Lancaster, Lake Bronson, Florian, St. Vincent, Strandquist, and East Grand Forks will have wireless broadband access points. This was made possible through the cooperation of Rural Access, Halstad Telecommunications Company, Marshall and Polk Counties, the University of Minnesota, Crookston, and the Department of Trade and Economic Development Catalyst grants totaling \$50,900.



Above: (Left to Right) Don Sargeant, UMC Chancellor; Kay Hegge, of the NWRDC, and Ron Laqua, General Manager of Halstad Telephone Company, holding a wireless broadband receiving unit.

CEDS • • •

Completed the 2000 update of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), including obtaining County Board approvals. Population, age, employment, income, retail, manufacturing and agriculture sales plus labor force trends are shown.

County Economic Profiles • • •

Completed county economic profiles like the CEDS, but specific to each county, and examined the need for county economic development strategies.

River Basin Planning • • •

Completed recommendations on how Northwest Minnesota counties can most effectively and efficiently participate in the Red River Basin natural resource planning.

Labor, Manufacturers, Students Survey • • •

Local economic developers, NWRDC, Headwaters Regional Development Commission, Northwest Minnesota Foundation, and others worked together to obtain \$150,000 to complete a detailed study of labor supply and demand in Regions One and Two.

Economic Developers Group • • •

The Northwest Economic Developers Group met bimonthly throughout the year with support from the NWRDC. Information sharing and featured speakers on new topics, such as the new Small Business Development Center in Bemidji, were provided. One or more community members are invited, along with economic development professionals.

Collin Peterson's Telecommunications Mtg. • • •

Featured speaker about our local efforts in high-speed, 2-way wireless, internet projects and the income/education digital divide at Congressman Peterson's Telecommunications Meeting in Wadena.

Lenders Forum • • •

Featured speaker about how lenders could help Farm Wrap at the University of Minnesota Extension's Lenders Forum in Thief River Falls.

Innovations • • •

Provided technical assistance to entrepreneurs, and individual businesses who need to start up, restructure, or move past the start up stage into real business plans. Projects included a vegetarian foods processor, an animal agriculture theme park, a custom embroidery business, a shipping carton manufacturer, a wellness center, a federally inspected meat plant, dried technologies, compost spreading, and others totaling 26 entrepreneurs. Set up meetings where beginning, expanding, e-commerce-interested businesses can learn from each other and learn about available programs and funding sources. Bringing "Access Minnesota Mainstreet" web site development classes to the area was the result.

Economic Development Continued

Computer Loaner Project • • •

Assisted with writing grants for Crookston Community Education and Crookston High School to implement a lending library of wireless computers for students to teach parents, and grandparents computer skills while developing a job resume together.

Technology Catalyst Grant-Euclid • • •

Created an application for wireless broadband equipment for test sites in and around the Euclid area. Criteria will be based on need, job creation, and business or farm growth. This DTED grant was to Polk County for regrants in the Euclid Area. Halstad Telco will provide the equipment for the grants.

Wind Industry • • •

Held an informational session on wind energy, April 5. Interest was strong in the 1 to 5 wind turbine size which in our area is appropriate. These small plants could power schools, and entire communities.

Housing

HOUSING PROGRAM

Purpose: To increase the housing stock in the region.

Program Funding Sources: NW MN Foundation - \$22,500; RDC Tax Levy - \$982.

Service Priorities: Assisting communities, lenders, consumers, and agencies to access available programs that repair, rehab and build affordable homes.

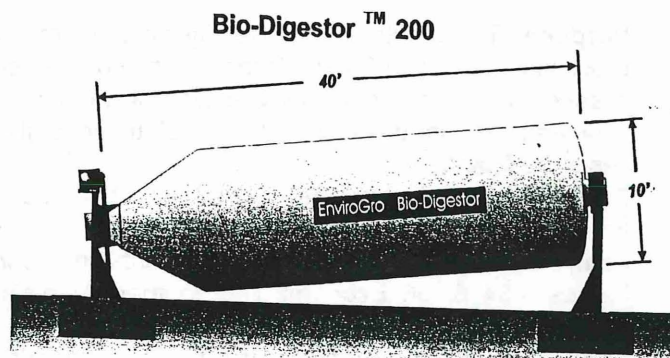
Housing Highlights

We supported and participated in ROHDA which consists of the NWRDC, Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Northwest Community Action Agency, Inter-County Community Council and Multi-County Housing Authority. We completed an application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) for funding to complete a variety of housing construction and rehabilitation projects in the Region. The application was funded for \$1,000,000. Funding was for more down payment assistance in Kittson County, new construction financing for new Institution Community Work Crews homes, and emergency housing repair grants for rural homes.

Emergency repair grants cover a gap in housing programs in that they can help rural homeowners with wells and septic tank systems, decaying windows, and other emergency type repairs not covered in existing programs. Farm Wrap™ will help collect rural applications.

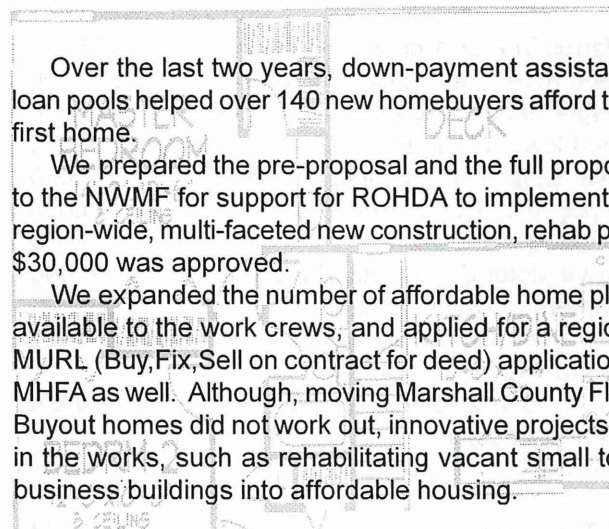
Energy Task Force • • •

Exploring more options for energy production. Wind, Methane Digestion and biomass are possibilities.



Compost Pilot Project • • •

NWRDC worked with the University of Minnesota, Extension, Minnesota Pollution Control, Board of Water and Soil Resources, Pembina RC&D, AURI, and local producers to establish sites for the business of mobile composting using EnviroGro Solutions' Bio-Digester™ from Prior Lake, Minnesota. Manure, dead animal and beet pulp composting results will be measured.



Over the last two years, down-payment assistance loan pools helped over 140 new homebuyers afford their first home.

We prepared the pre-proposal and the full proposal to the NWMF for support for ROHDA to implement the region-wide, multi-faceted new construction, rehab plan. \$30,000 was approved.

We expanded the number of affordable home plans available to the work crews, and applied for a regional MURL (Buy,Fix,Sell on contract for deed) application to MHFA as well. Although, moving Marshall County Flood Buyout homes did not work out, innovative projects are in the works, such as rehabilitating vacant small town business buildings into affordable housing.

Community Visits • • •

We went out to 12 communities in the region to see what the needs are, and especially the housing need. By combining housing programs with homes built with Institution Community Work Crews (ICWC), special Sentence to Serve crews, and community donated lots and services, it is possible to build a 3 bedroom, no basement, affordable home. Some communities will need to develop mobile home parks with covenants on the land, in order to have attractive, very low-cost housing available for young families. Strategic planning, marketing planning, growing existing businesses, water and sewer for new lots, and web site development were other key issues facing the small town. Visiting all 56 communities in our seven county region is our goal.

Enterprise Fund

Purpose: To strengthen and diversify the economy by providing a source of low interest financing to businesses when credit is not otherwise available from other sources to ensure the successful completion of activities to be financed.

Program Funding Sources: Loan Interest and Loan Fees - \$65,073.

Loan Funding Sources: Loan Repayments and Loan Interest - \$476,496, Economic Development Administration - \$18,074, NWRDC Tax Levy - \$1,378.

Service Priorities: Financing for-profit businesses which create or retain jobs, especially for the long term underemployed or unemployed.



Standard Revolving Loan Fund

The following businesses received approval for financing through the Northwest Regional Enterprise Fund, Inc. in fiscal year 2001:

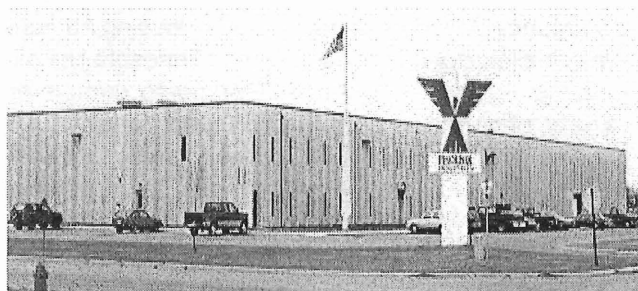
Warren Tire Service, Inc., Warren	\$ 46,300
Reed River Trading Co., Roseau	\$ 150,000
Grygla Hartz, Grygla	\$ 49,000
The Flower Shop, Hallock	\$ 42,300
River Bend Country Club, Inc., EGF	\$ 150,000
Nepco, Inc., Hendrum	\$ 68,000
LaFond's Cafe, Warren	\$ 19,150
Grove Motor Sports, Inc., Crookston	\$ 30,000
Farmers Elevator Company of Alvarado (Retention)	\$ 150,000
Farmers Elevator Company of Alvarado (Expansion)	\$ 150,000
Rural Access, Inc., Hallock	\$ 60,000
Hallock Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	\$ 34,000

TOTAL LOANS \$ 948,750

To date, one hundred eight business loans have been approved for financing for a total amount of \$6,725,777. The program has assisted forty-two new businesses, thirty-nine businesses with expansions, and twenty-seven businesses with retention. Forty-eight of the loans are currently active, forty-three are fully repaid, eleven loans have been written off, and closing is pending on six approved loans.

In fiscal year 2001, approval was obtained from the Economic Development Administration to combine the 1997 flood Disaster Relief Loan Fund with the standard Revolving Loan Fund. In addition to supporting new and expanding businesses, the loan funds may also be used to assist formerly healthy businesses with financing for working capital and other needs so they can survive the economic stresses brought on by weather-related and other disasters.

The Enterprise Fund's administration budget for the year is \$65,073. The loan fees collected and one-half of the interest earned on the loans and on accounts are used for administrative costs. The other one-half of the interest payments, along with the principal repaid on loans, becomes available for relending.



Above: Phoenix Industries of Crookston.

Farm Recovery

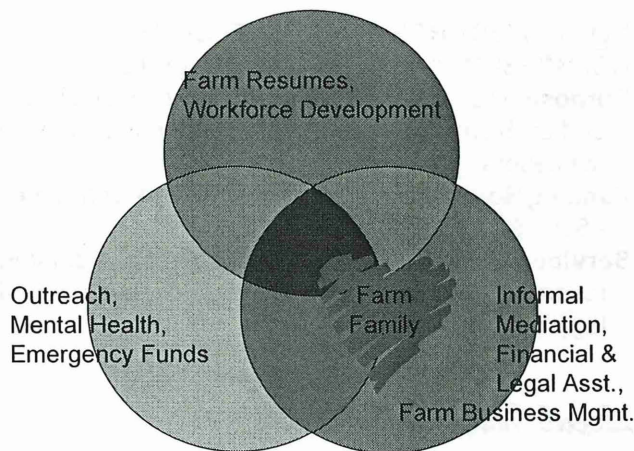
FARM RECOVERY PROGRAM

Purpose: To continue the farm recovery efforts in northwest Minnesota through a coordinated range of services designed to assist the farm family in a holistic manner.

Program Funding Sources: Economic Development Administration (EDA) - \$28,793; Tax Levy - \$19,672.

Regrant Funding Sources: MN State Legislature - \$550,000; Otto Bremer Foundation - \$52,598.

Service Priorities: Grant program for financial, tax implication, and legal counseling concerning exit or restructuring strategies for the farm family and individual assistance.



Farm Recovery Highlights

Farm Wrap™ Technical Assistance Grants •••

Farm Wrap™ took on a permanent feeling with the hiring of a former farmer from Warren, Cameron Fanfulik, and funding from the State Legislature. Farmers can choose from two grants designed to help them at an important juncture in their lives. Ag-CPA and Ag-Attorney consultation grants aid the decision-making process of restructuring or exit strategies. Grants are made through team recommendations.

Farm Wrap™ Coverage •••

Over 80 families were served through the financial and legal grant program in Kittson, Marshall, Roseau, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Norman, Mahnommen, Clearwater, and Beltrami Counties.

Farm Wrap™ Coordination •••

Supplied the overall coordination of the "group of groups," the informal network of service providers for the farmer.

Farm Wrap™ Case Conferences •••

Coordinated the team meetings needed to solve the more difficult problem situations.

Farm Resumes •••

Helped families develop their skills resume as they transition to other employment. The varied skills, abilities, and solid work ethic listed in these resumes make our farmers attractive to regional employers.

Individual Assistance •••

Helped to provide information and solutions to Farm Wrap members concerning credit card informal mediation, job search, educational opportunities, options for the disabled, help with computer operation, questions on farm mortgages, and exploring new technologies.

Phone Outreach •••

Phoned past participants in Farm Wrap™ to find out employment problems, education, housing, and health insurance needs.

Statistics •••

Keep statistics for decreases in property value, acreage farmed, farm losses, business loss, loss of income and research for various value-added options.

The Rural Help Network •••

Worked with our partner program to fill service gaps in Clay, Becker, Wilkin, Otter Tail, Traverse, Grant, Douglas, Stevens, and Pope Counties.

Individual Meetings with Legislators •••

Met with our Legislators and 22 other farm district Legislators at the State Capitol regarding Farm Wrap™ and other key economic issues.

Contracted Services •••

Served as the fiscal agent for re-granting funds to Rural Life Outreach, Lakeland Mental Health Center, NW Mental Health Center, U of M -Crookston, and MN Extension Services to assist farmers with issues related to the farm crisis. Outreach, emergency funds, mental health services, and informal mediation services were provided to over 2,000 farm families in a 23 county area.

Local Issues

NORTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Purpose: Discuss and develop solutions to rural issues and problems which are held common in Northwest Minnesota.

Funding Source: Local Tax Levy - \$39,214; and interest - \$25,892; Misc. - \$1,263.

Service Priorities: Consensus building, planning, research, information, new program development, legislative advocacy.

Local Issues Highlights

Tourism Directory • • •

Updated the 2001 Northwest Minnesota Visitor and Recreation Guide. Distributed 2,000 printed copies and published updates to the www.nwrdc.org/tourismdirectory.htm web site.

Web Site Promotion of NW Minnesota • • •

Worked to improve web coverage of our area including creating a www.visitnwminnesota.com site. Created, then published a basic city web site for Oslo at www.wiktel.net/oslo. Started to assist Norman County with their web site.

Historical Tourism Seminar • • •

Provided assistance to area groups in organizing and publicizing a one-day seminar titled "Preserving a Sense of Place" in East Grand Forks on April 20, 2001.

MN Historic Great Northwest • • •

Helped nine county historical groups work together to complete joint projects including the Historical Tourism Seminar and the formatting/mailing of their newsletter.

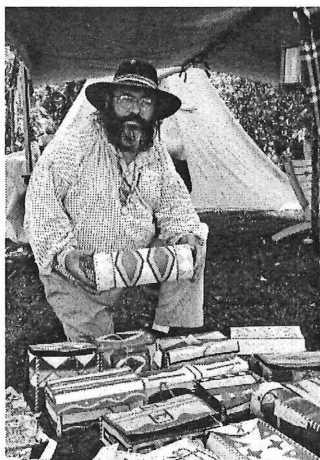


Photo by Ken McDonald

Snowmobile Initiative • • •

Continued helping snowmobile groups to promote increased trail activity in the area. Distributed several more copies of the Northwest Minnesota Snowmobile Trails map.



Photo by
Ken McDonald

MN Office of Tourism Listening Session • • •

Attended the Minnesota Office of Tourism's regional listening session to provide input into their services and focuses.

Mapping • • •

Used NWRDC Geographical Information Systems to assist with local mapping efforts including: Marshall County Flood plain and 300 foot buffer strip map, Warren-Alvarado EMT Map, planning for MN Regional Cooperative Emergency Medical Services, GIS Training in Roseau County, fiber optic maps for locating empty service areas, and maps for placing wind generated power stations.

Regional Economic Profile • • •

Updated the regional economic summary with the 2000 Census data and the latest economic statistics to help focus local and regional development efforts.

Housing Construction Funds • • •

Worked with the Region One Housing Development Alliance to secure \$1,000,000 in state funds and \$85,000 in local funds for housing construction.

Institutional Community Work Crews • • •

Developed a partnership with Tri-Valley and Inter-County to share operation of ICWC Crews and use inmate labor to build 12 affordable homes each year with a \$70,000 maximum price.

Business Outreach • • •

Completed visits to 22 area businesses to determine what assistance would increase their capacity to maintain and expand employment opportunities.

Legislative Advocacy • • •

Participated in Minnesota Association of Regional Development Organization's successful effort to obtain \$500,000 for local planning assistance.

Special Projects

A variety of sources provided funding for special projects which supplemented services in our regular programs. We wish to thank each of these organizations for the opportunity to do more for Northwest Minnesota over the past year. The following is a summary of each project:

LABOR MARKET SURVEY

Funding Sources: MN Legislature/MN Department of Trade and Economic Security, NW MN Foundation, local match.

A large number of agencies, development groups, and businesses formed a study group to complete an extensive analysis of the availability of labor and the labor needs of businesses. This information will be used to attract and encourage job growth in labor surplus areas or to help business address labor/skill shortages.

NORTHERN COUNTIES LAND USE PLANNING

Funding Sources: MN Legislature/MN Planning and local match.

We finished the administration of a grant to the Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board for the completion of draft land use plans in 10 northern Minnesota counties. NW Minnesota participants included Marshall and Pennington counties.

MHFA HOUSING FUNDS

Funding Sources: Minnesota Housing Finance Agency and local match.

We started administration of a one million dollar grant for housing construction, home repairs, and home purchases. Funds will be re-granted to Inter County Community Council, Multi-County HRA, Northwest Community Action Agency, and Tri-Valley Opportunity Council.



RED CROSS FLOOD RECOVERY

Funding Source: Red Cross

The last of our flood recovery funds were used to complete home repairs.

ANIMAL WASTE COMPOSTING

Funding Sources: Federal Economic Development Administration, NW MN Foundation, local match.

Work continued on the organization of a pilot project for high tech composting of animal waste and other agricultural by-products. This is part of an effort to encourage the continuation of animal based farming and value-added processing.

HOUSING CONSTRUCTION START-UP

Funding Sources: NW MN Foundation and local match.

The Foundation provided funding to support the development of a public sector housing development effort. This project will enable local housing organizations to secure financing, strengthen ties to local communities, establish construction methods, and create floor plans for the construction of eight affordable homes each year. Target selling prices are from \$50,000 to \$70,000.

HOUSING COALITION

Funding Sources: NW Minnesota Foundation

A coalition of housing agencies from Regions 1 and 2 completed a three year process to increase the capacity of our area to get residents into affordable housing options. This effort created the base for on-going programs including downpayment assistance, interim construction financing, homeowner education, senior housing options, public housing developers, and emergency rural housing repairs.

Left: MHFA Housing Funds will be used to repair this home in Middle River.

Transportation

Purpose: To insure safe efficient movement of people and commodities in the region. Provide an ongoing forum for important transportation issues in the region. Assist MN/DOT and provide input with it's planning efforts and programs.

Funding Sources: MN Department of Transportation - \$50,000; and RDC Tax Levy - \$12,602.

Service Priorities: Direction setting, comprehensive regional planning, legislative advocacy, MN/DOT project coordination.

Transportation Highlights

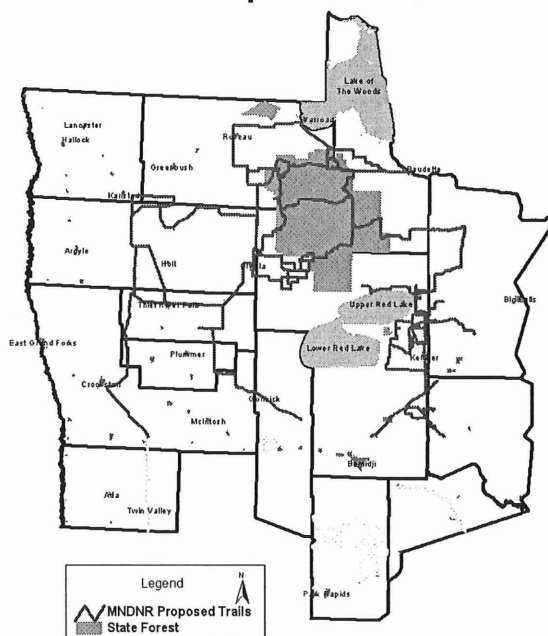
Development of Local Trails • • •

Staff continued to meet with the Northstar ATV Club and the DNR to develop multi-use trails. We are incorporating local ATV trail designs into the Mn/DNR's proposal for an Off Highway Vehicle system plan for Northwest Minnesota.

Assisted Senator's Office with Trails Maps • • •

Developed maps for Senator Stumpfs' office illustrating a trail system for ATV recreation. The map contains existing trails along with Con-Con lands that can be used for recreation in Marshall, Beltrami, and Roseau Counties. The maps were used during discussions for designations of ConCon lands. The legislative representatives have been invited on a trail tour in the Grygla to Fourtown area this October.

MNDNR Proposed ATV Trails



Above: Map illustrating the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Proposal for a Multi-use Trail System.

Regional Planning • • •

Formulated Region One transportation goals and priorities for incorporation into the district ATP plan. Coordinated an interregional 10-Ton corridor coalition to study a North-South route connecting Roseau to USTH 2.

County Board Meetings • • •

Staff visited each county board to discuss transportation issues occurring within each county and throughout the region. We discussed the proposed 10-ton corridor linking Roseau County to USTH 2 along with planning a Super 2 design of USTH 59. Discussion also focused on transportation funding for the different allotments of federal money.

Scenic Byway • • •

The Minnesota Office of Tourism held a group session for planning, development, and promotion tactics for the Waters of The Dancing Sky Scenic Byway. Gathered historical information along this corridor for incorporation into a scenic byway planning document. Discussed plans to extend to the scenic byway through Kittson County to Interstate 29.

Red River Bridge Study • • •

The bridge sub-committee identified the first steps in addressing the long term issue of replacing and maintaining bridges over the Red River. The committee is also developing a data base of information containing road closure frequency, length of road closure, and detour distances.

10-Ton North-South Corridor • • •

Staff attended the Washington D.C. Transportation Alliance Fly-In to discuss the needs for a 10-ton corridor linking Northwestern Minnesota to USTH 2. We will continue working with Congressman Peterson's office to obtain federal funding for this route.

Plan a Super 2 Design for USTH 59 • • •

Studying the possibility of a Super 2 design on USTH 59 between Fergus Falls and Thief River Falls. Two Mn/DOT districts and three RDC's are currently studying the needs for this corridor.

Transportation Webpage • • •

The Commission placed county highway construction maps onto the NWRDC Webpage for public knowledge of construction sites and possible road closures in each county. Reviewed the maps with each county board.

Plans, Studies and Publications

Prepared by NWRDC

Plans

Area Plan on Aging - The Area Plan on Aging examines senior input and demographic data to establish priorities for the use of Title III Older Americans Act funds. Includes budget information, an Executive Summary and work activities.

FY 2001 Work Program - Details the goals and objectives of the Commission in each of the program and planning areas.

2000 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) - This document examines economic, social, and physical information about the seven counties in Northwest Minnesota and makes recommendations on activities to enhance and improve the economy. The recommendations concentrate on job creation, agriculture, housing, and infrastructure activities which can help address population loss.

Regional Arts Plan - Goals, strategies and work activities for State Arts Funds and McKnight Arts Funds are included in these plans.

Revolving Loan Fund Plan - Describes the program elements and guidelines for the loan fund. Updated in 2000.

Studies

Red River Basin Natural Resource Planning - "A Strong Voice for Northwest Minnesota Counties" - A report prepared with funding from the Minnesota Legislature and MN Planning. The report outlines several strategies for counties to keep an active involvement in Basin wide natural resources issues. Strategies focus on information and education supplemented by strong advocacy on key county issues.

Red River Bridge Study - The Transportation Advisory Committee has formed a subcommittee to study the economic impacts and importance the Red River bridge crossings have on the region. Results of the study will be presented to MnDOT for future planning.

Publications

Commission Cronicle - NWRDC Newsletter - Printed on a quarterly basis and distributed to government units, service agencies and interested persons. Contains current items of interest to local communities and Commission activities.

Directory of Artists and Arts Organizations - The directory contains listings of regional artists, arts organizations, school district offices and public libraries.

Directory of Government Units and Service Agencies - The directory contains listings of service agencies and governmental offices from the township level through the legislative level.

FY 2000 Annual Report - Information on the funding and work activities of the Commission over the past year. Published and distributed to local officials and legislators.

Northwest Arts - Quarterly newsletter developed for the artists, arts organizations and schools in northwest Minnesota.

Farm Wrap Network Newsletter - Send bimonthly newsletter to Farm Wrap Network, Rural Crisis, Rural Action, and Economic Developers network lists.

Senior News - Newsletter developed for the Senior Citizens and service providers of Region One.

Senior Service Directory - Resources for Region 1 seniors, consumers and professionals in the field of aging. It provides a brief description of programs, resources and agencies.

www.nwrdc.org - Published updates of program information changes to our agency website.

Northwest Minnesota Visitor and Recreation Guide - A comprehensive listing of attractions and facilities which offer opportunities and services to local and outside visitors to area communities.

NW Minnesota Economic Profile - A current and historical profile of economic trends in the seven county area of NW Minnesota served by the NWRDC. Includes population, employment, business, and farm information.

County Profiles - Individual profiles of Kittson, Norman, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau Counties. Information includes economic, recreational, governmental, and geographical topics.

Resources for Economic Development - Descriptions of agencies and both technical assistance and financial programs for economic development. Includes special sections on labor force and housing resources. Lists community revolving loan funds and economic development contacts.

Committee Membership List

Aging Advisory Committee

Sharon Bring	Strandquist
Terence Blacklance	Thief River Falls
Bob Carlson	Thief River Falls
* Richard Dahlin	Ada
Matthew Edman	Alvarado
Gerald Jacobson	Fertile
Jamie Hennen	Ada
Beverly Hewitt	Lancaster
Roy Jorgenson	Thief River Falls
Charles Lindberg	Kennedy
Carrie Michalski	Red Lake Falls
Warren Olson	Halstad
Julie Pahlen	Roseau
Orris Rasmussen	Roseau
Lorraine Strand	Erskine
Ronald Weiss	Red Lake Falls

Regional Arts Council

Marlene Baatz	Nielsville
Karen Bang	Erskine
Mavis Benson	Stephen
Dawn Bly	Fosston
Larry Braford	East Grand Forks
Rob Conwell	Red Lake Falls
Pat Dunning	Thief River Falls
Amy Filpula	Middle River
Mary Follett	Thief River Falls
* Dorothy Gehrke	Roseau
Ruth Halverson	Karlstad
Betty Halvorson	Plummer
Kimberley Johnson	Kennedy
Gen Knott	Red Lake Falls
Linda Short	Halstad
Joyce Wikstrom	Karlstad

Transportation Advisory Committee

Milton Alm	Norman County
Kelly Bengtson	Kittson County
Sharon Bring	Marshall County
George Broadwell	Pennington County
Roger Diesen	Polk County
*Donald Jensen	Pennington County
Courtney Kleven	Red Lake County
Jeff Langan	Marshall County
Charles Lindberg	Kittson County
Bob Marvin	Roseau County
Ed Miller	Norman County
Lee Nielson	Red Lake County
Rodney Richmond	Roseau County
Delton Schultz	Pennington County
Warren Strandell	Polk County

* Chair

Enterprise Fund Members

Betty Arvidson	Crookston
Brenda Berg	Greenbush
Allen Bertilrud	Red Lake Falls
Tracy Boman	Thief River Falls
Duane Finney	East Grand Forks
Stephen Fisher	Warroad
Mark Foldesi	Greenbush
Perry Kolnes	Halstad
Lee Ann Konkin	Ada
Noel Labine	Argyle
Ronald Laqua	Halstad
Charles Lindberg	Kennedy
Stuart McFarlane	Roseau
Velma Oakland	Red Lake Falls
Vanessa Lindberg	Fertile
Terry Potucek	Warren
Jim Richter	East Grand Forks
Ray Safranski	Thief River Falls
Kari Thompson	Crookston
* Ed Turn	Warren
Dean Vikan	Fosston

Enterprise Fund Loan Committee/ Economic Development Planning Committee

Allen Bertilrud	Red Lake Falls
Perry Kolnes	Halstad
Stuart McFarlane	Roseau
Terry Potucek	Warren
Ray Safranski	Thief River Falls
Kari Thompson	Crookston
* Ed Turn	Warren

Rural Recovery Task Force (Energy)

Howard Person	U of M, Extension Educator
Linda Kingery	Sustainable Dev. Partnership
Kay Hegge	Economic Dev. Planner
Heidi Dehn	Oklee Rural Resident
Tom Schmidt	Wild Rice Electric Cooop.
*John Schmidt	Pembina Trail RC & D
Curt Nygaard	U of M, Ext.
Educator, Roseau	

(Mobile Composting)

Larry Amundson	Excel Dairy
Curtis Knutson	Fisher
Charlie Kapphahn/	Greenbush
Mark Miller	
Roger Walter	Plummer
Greg Hilgeman	Oklee
Jodi DeJong-Hughes	U of M, Morris
Dried Technologies	Humboldt
Paul Driscoll	American Crystal Sugar

Regional Project Listings



**NW Regional
Development
Commission**

Regional Project Listings Fiscal Year 2001

*Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington
Polk, Red Lake, Roseau
Multi-County*

Management and Support

Graphics Files • • •

Compiled a collection of graphics and data files to have available for use in publications and other materials that promote the Region and NWRDC.

Service Directory Update • • •

Completed the yearly update of the NWRDC Service Directory. Data updated and changes made in the ACCESS program.

Web Assistance • • •

Continue to work on improving the NWRDC website. Developed a new Visit Northwest Minnesota site to better market and promote all seven counties as well as our directories.

Health Insurance Counseling

Recruitment/Public Speaking • • •

Recruiting of volunteers is an ongoing process, done through public speaking.

Volunteer Increase Awareness • • •

Will continue to provide volunteers with information on other services such as Legal Services, Social Services and Community Action Agencies that provide additional assistance to the individuals they are helping.

Volunteer Outreach Contacts • • •

Continue to encourage volunteers to make outreach contacts with neighbors, friends, relatives and church members in their respective communities on the services available through the Health Insurance Counseling Program.

Satisfaction Survey • • •

All individuals who receive assistance from the program, whether through the Senior Linkage Line or the volunteer, receives a consumer survey to evaluate timeliness of information received and effectiveness of service.

Program Recommendations • • •

Volunteers are encouraged to provide program recommendations and changes to the program coordinator. Several recommendations were given with changes implemented to make the program more workable for both the volunteers and individuals they serve.

Educational Sessions • • •

Have Audio tapes available for vision impaired beneficiaries. Tapes have all the information that is presented at the educational sessions. Continue to do educational sessions with Legal Services and the Ombudsman.

Outreach Contacts • • •

Twenty three informational sessions were conducted to increase awareness of the Health Insurance Counseling Program. The 452 attendee's were seniors, family members, health care providers and agencies.

Volunteer Supplies • • •

Volunteers are provided necessary supplies for accurate program documentation, which results in effective gathering of statistical data.

Networking Meetings • • •

Participated in 4 networking meetings per quarter, such as Senior Coordinator Committee, RSVP, and others to maintain visibility and share information.

Recognition and Appreciation • • •

Volunteer recognition/appreciation events will be held as a thank you for the volunteer efforts and services they provide.

Local Issues

Developed Maps for Fiber Optic Service • • •

Developed the regional maps for locating empty service areas for fiber optic and telephone services.

Participated in DNR Con Con Meetings • • •

Attended Warren and Roseau DNR meetings on Con Con lands. Created maps for multi use trails in Con Con lands. Will continue trail development effort.

Developed Map for Wind Generated Power Stations • •

Working with the regional meteorologists and UND Aerospace Center in developing maps for the best suitable sites for wind power.

Designed Census Maps • • •

Created census maps for incorporation into the NWRDC central computer and the webpage.

MRDO • • •

Participated in activities of the Minnesota Association of Regional Development Organizations including development of statewide legislative approaches. The group was successful in obtaining a \$500,000 allocation to provide local planning help.

Economic Development

Community Assessments • • •

Visited all communities in the region to find out the need for infrastructure, housing, business development, marketing the town, and links on the web, etc.

McKnight Evaluation of NWMF • • •

Participated in the McKnight Foundation's evaluation process for future roles of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation.

Northern Counties • • •

Assisted in the on-going development of a coordinated process to address natural resource issues and promote science based land use planning in Northern Minnesota.

Data Requests • • •

Number of data requests from 07/01/00 to 06/30/01: 78.

Entrepreneur Support Network • • •

Held meetings for business people to learn from each other and about programs that can help with e-commerce, marketing, SBDC programs and funding sources.

Assisted Business Start-ups and Expansions • • •

Assisted 26 people with business start-ups, and possible expansions.

Industrial Space • • •

Completed telephone survey to locate potential industrial space for Department of Trade and Economic Development staff who are recruiting businesses. The list can be used for local business expansion and promotion efforts also.

Office Space Telemarketing • • •

Provided information to Department of Trade and Economic Development on eight buildings in the Region that might interest an out of the area business doing telemarketing.

Small Business Development Center • • •

Assisted in an application for the re-establishment of a Small Business Development Center in Bemidji to supplement services currently provided by the Center in Moorhead.

Farm Wrap • • •

Participated in the Farm Wrap program which assists transitioning farmers. Program has served over 11,500 persons in 22 counties since beginning in 1997.

State Rural Development Policy • • •

Worked with local and other Legislators on the development of a plan to support changes to state programs that will improve access and use, encourage ag value added, and encourage work in rural poverty issues.

Telecommuting Jobs • • •

Found two businesses who will hire employees to work out of their homes with minimal training. Farm Wrap finds the potential employees.

Animal Agriculture • • •

Assisted in identifying sites for the development of larger scale animal based operations.

Composting • • •

Partnered with Extension, Mn Pollution Control, Board of Water and Soil Resources, Pembina RC&D, AURI, and local producers to establish a pilot project for in-vessel animal waste composting in Roseau County.

RHODA • • •

Supported and participated in the Region One Housing Development Alliance which consists of the NWRDC, Community Action Agencies and Multi-County Housing Authority.

Regional Multi-faceted MHFA Grant • • •

Assisted in developing a regional multi-faceted housing grant. Awarded one million to do new construction, more down-payment assistance, plus Farm Wrap housing assistance including wells, septs, windows, roofs, and emergency repairs using work crews.

ROHDA Implementation Proposal • • •

Wrote full proposal to the Northwest Minnesota Foundation for support so ROHDA could implement region-wide housing projects. \$30,000 approved.

Farm Wrap Work Crew Proposal • • •

Prepared the preproposal and assisted with the full proposal for Farm Wrap to make emergency housing repairs using work crews. Farm Wrap will also identify rural housing in need of major work for state grant proposals. NWMNF declined.

Farm Wrap Housing Repair • • •

Coordinated the emergency rural repair dollars so one application can be used by four agencies.

Transportation

Review Transit Grant Applications • • •

Reviewed 2001 public transit participation program applications for continuance of operating non-profit public transit systems. Completed in Sept. and Oct.

Greater Minnesota Transit Planning • • •

Attended the November MnDOT Greater Minnesota Transit Planning course, which focused the discussion on providing transit to the rural communities in Northwestern Minnesota.

ATP Enhancement Application Training • • •

Attended the MNDOT enhancement application training in McIntosh to discuss procedures for the successful completion of applications. The City of Roseau's multi-use trail plan was funded by the ATP.

ATP Prioritization of Applications • • •

Assisted the ATP's prioritization process for the funding of projects. Elected projects for funding using a scoring measurement adopted by the subcommittee.

Developed Regional Transportation Plan • • •

Drafted the 2002-2005 regional transportation plan for approval by the Transportation Advisory Committee. The plan will be submitted to Mn/DOT for incorporation into district planning.

Material Preparation for ATP • • •

Reviewed the interregional project submittals for the November ATP meeting.

MnDOT Transit Hearing • • •

Attended MNDOT meeting on Greater MN Transit Improvement Plan. Abrams/Cherwony & Assoc. reviewed transit needs and performance measures. Transit officials added areas of concern to their plan which will go before the state legislature.

Issues Analysis/GIS • • •

Continued development of a Geographic Information System that can store and analyze transportation planning information.

Attend GIS Trainings • • •

Attended the GIS training courses in Alexandria and Minneapolis to gain new knowledge for operating the GIS. This knowledge will be incorporated into the NWRDC's planning methodology.

Enterprise Fund

DRLF Re-Use Plan • • •

Submitted plan to EDA to re-use 1997 Disaster Relief Loan Funds as part of ongoing loan fund. Plan was approved.

Applicant Assistance • • •

Assisted businesses with financial packaging and business planning. Number of businesses assisted from 07/01/00 to 06/30/01: 96.

Pre-Application/Information Assistance • • •

Assist businesses with RLF and DRLF preliminary loan information. Number of DRLF pre-apps received from 07/01/00 to 06/30/01: 8. Number of RLF pre-apps received from 07/01/00 to 06/30/01: 30.

RLF Final Application Assistance • • •

Assist businesses with RLF and DRLF final applications. Number of DRLF applications received from 07/01/00 to 06/30/01: 4. Number of RLF applications received from 07/01/00 to 06/30/01: 12.

Loan Servicing/Monitoring • • •

Maintained approved loan portfolios and monitor approved loans. Work on legal remedies for defaulted loans. Number of active loans as of 06/30/01: 48.

Loan Restructuring • • •

Restructured loans which will balloon. Set up special loan terms such as interest only payments. Restructured: D and R Grocery, C&M Ford, Quilt Hus, Oak Grove Nursery, Ken's Auto, Cactus Lanes, All Seasons Lube, Crookston Catalog, Suzanne's, Northern Air, etc.

Loan Fund Marketing and Information • • •

Contacted past loan fund applicants to determine success of the loan fund program, additional financing needs, or to define barriers preventing growth or stability.

Technology Businesses • • •

Provided extra assistance to a developing business that may be able to assist other businesses with technology barriers, especially those associated with computer systems and internet sales.

Farm Wrap Coordination

Network Newsletter • • •

Researched and wrote articles for newsletter concerning technology gap, computer knowledge, weather/price situation for farmers, educational opportunities, and job search.

Information and Publicity • • •

Interviewed and provided information about FarmWrap for StarTribune editorial and Matthews NewsGroup article. Spoke at Rural Help Network and Rural Life Outreach meetings on general farm situations and status of Farm Wrap Program in Minnesota Legislature.

Farm Wrap Network Funding Meetings • • •

Coordinated a regular schedule of Farm Wrap Network meetings for funding the mental health outreach, technical assistance, and workforce development pieces of Farm Wrap.

Lenders Forum • • •

Talked about Farm Wrap with lenders and how they can help us. The Forum was put on by Howard Person, Extension Educator, Pennington County. Lenders were very receptive.

Employment Barriers • • •

Worked with Farm Wrap members to identify employment problems such as high expectations, mental health, lack of computer skills, and how to get an off the farm job.

Alternative Crops • • •

Attended a meeting with FarmConnect personnel discussing cooperative ventures in value added commodity sales, niche markets for specialty crops in overseas, and restaurant markets.

Background Materials • • •

Helped in finding background materials, current research findings and other information needed to study the feasibility of new projects.

Computers for Farmers • • •

Approached local companies and universities and found that most used computers are shipped overseas after use here. Much of the hardware is outdated for use.

Technical Assistance • • •

Served over 80 farm families with financial and legal grant monies, information/referrals, help with job retraining and educational opportunities, and informal mediation with creditors.

Technical Assistance-Credit Card Counseling • • •

Worked with several families to restructure credit card debt and develop budgets and payment schedules.

Family A-Clearwater • • •

These folks have lived and worked on the farm for over 30 years. Husband now has congestive heart failure and needs to exit the farm. Farm must be sold to clear up debt and tax liability looms because of it. Meeting with CPA to get things in order.

Family B-Clearwater • • •

Had a sale for land, chattel, to clear up debt. Questions regarding the land sale needed guidance of an attorney. They are currently truck driving now, but are still short of money to pay bills.

Farm Wrap - Accounting and Legal Services • • •

Thirteen farm families in Beltrami, Clearwater, Mahanomen, Otter Tail, & Clay Counties have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$17,575 was awarded.

Arts Development

Out-of-Region TA • • •

Attended a workshop on arts development in Bemidji, August 2000.

Out-of-Region TA • • •

Attended Arts Advocacy Day on February 7, 2001 in St. Paul. Arts Council members Dorothy Gehrke and Kimberley Johnson also attended.

Newsletter • • •

Northwest Arts continued to provide a list of our grants as well as opportunities for artists, schools and arts organizations. Every other month the newsletter is printed and distributed to 650 arts constituents.

Directory • • •

Regional Artist and Art Organizations Directory was updated throughout the year. Parts of the Directory are published on the web site. Our focus is to provide more information and work samples by area artists on our web site by next spring.

Accessibility Development Program • • •

Worked with Options to provide arts organizations with assistance in developing their accessibility plans for both their programming and facilities.

Public Art Development • • •

Encouraged applications from communities for the Public Art Program in order to award three grants in fiscal year 2001. We increased the number of sculptors listed in the registry in order to help communities find artists to work on their projects.

McKnight Arts

MCK Individual Artist Grants • • •

\$3,750 is available for artists for career development projects. Grants range from voice training/recital costs to marketing new drawings on the internet. The maximum award per person is \$750.

MCK Student Artist Grants • • •

\$4,000 is available for high school and college students living in our seven county region. They can apply for \$500.00 for career development projects such as mentorships and training opportunities often in other states or countries.

Aging Administration

Senior LinkAge Calls • • •

Provided information and assistance to 120 calls from persons outside of the region from July 1, 2000 to June 29, 2001.

KNOX Interview • • •

Provided information about Fall Conference on Aging during telephone interview on KNOX Radio.

Aging Newsletter • • •

Aging newsletter distributed quarterly to seniors and service providers on issues concerning aging. Over 900 newsletters distributed.

Fall Conference on Aging • • •

Conference on Aging held on August 23, 2000 with over 325 seniors and service providers in attendance. Evaluations indicated great satisfaction with speakers and workshops presented.

LSS All-Staff Training • • •

Encouraged Nutrition Program staff to gather complete and accurate NAPIS information on program participants.

Nutrition Project Council • • •

Assisted with planning the Nutrition Project Council annual banquet.

2001 Senior Legal Services Project • • •

Granted Legal Services of NW Minnesota a IIIB grant to provide legal services and legal education to seniors in all seven counties of the region.

2001 Senior LinkAge Information & Assistance • • •

Granted the NW Area Agency on Aging a IIIB grant to provide information and assistance to seniors and family members in all seven counties through the Senior LinkAge line.

2001 Health Insurance Counseling Program • • •

Granted the NW Area Agency on Aging a IIIB grant to recruit and train volunteers, to provide assistance to seniors in all seven counties, with sorting through medical and hospitalization bills, filing Medicare appeals, and advocacy for the rights of seniors.

2001 Senior Nutrition Program • • •

Extended contract with Lutheran Social Services to provide congregate and home delivered meals to seniors in Region One. Funds compiled of Federal, USDA Reimbursement, State, State Expansion, and Nutrition Support Services.

Lutheran Social Service • • •

Granted 2001 III-D funds to Lutheran Social Services to conduct Health Promotion Fairs at nutrition sites for 2001.

Aging PD&C

Gatekeeper Program • • •

Provided Gatekeeper Training to 15 Senior Companions during scheduled in-service program.

Polk County TRIAD • • •

Participated in the Polk County TRIAD Program. Assisted with the expansion of TRIAD into other communities during 2000/2001.

Senior Center Directors/Coordinators • • •

Facilitated quarterly meetings of regional Senior Center Directors/Coordinators.

Senior Coordinating Committee • • •

Coordinated quarterly meetings of the Senior Coordinating Committee.

Senior Coordinating Committee • • •

Facilitated meeting with Senior Fellow from University of MN to discuss "Vital Aging" as a possible joint venture.

Senior Coordinating Committee • • •

Senior Coordinating Committee met with representatives from Northern Safety sharing information about new services and resources available to seniors. Service includes home monitoring devices.

Senior Coordinating Committee • • •

Senior Coordinating Committee met with representatives of the Alzheimer's Association sharing information about services. Staff from Legal Services explained the collaborative program between Health Insurance Counseling and NW Office of Ombudsman program.

5310 Regional Review • • •

Assisted MN Department of Transportation with the review of regional applications for 5310 transit services.

Respite Expansion • • •

Explored funding to support the continuation of the Respite and Caregiver Support Program in Norman, Polk, and Marshall counties.

SAIL Expansion/Technical Assistance • • •

Facilitated site visits from Arrowhead SAIL program to provide technical assistance to regional HWS providers. Lead regional effort to develop SAIL proposal for Region I.

County Project Listings



NW Regional Development Commission

Project Listings by County Fiscal Year 2001

*Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington
Polk, Red Lake, Roseau
Multi-County*

Technical Assistance Hours

Multi County	310
Kittson	267
Marshall	423
Norman	212
Pennington	230
Polk	791
Red Lake	244
Roseau	<u>240</u>
Total	2,717

Kittson County

Management and Support	County Summary	Compiled and printed county summary with economic data, tourism information and maps.	
Health Insurance Counseling	Outreach Contacts	One informational session conducted to increase awareness of the Health Insurance Counseling program. The 27 attendee's were seniors, family members, health care providers and agencies.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Fund	Provided information to the Kittson County Board on the possibility of establishing a county loan fund to assist public housing agencies in constructing housing for sale to local home buyers. Will continue working with County Board.	
Economic Development	Downpayment Assistance	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to continue the downpayment assistance program. NWCAA wrote the application and the NWRDC will serve as the fiscal agent. \$300,000 approved by MHFA.	
Transportation	Kittson Assistance	Assisted the City of Hallock with mapping the cities infrastructure. Developed a GIS database of collected data for the Two Rivers Watershed.	
Transportation	Scenic Byway Planning	Assisted the counties within the scenic byway on transportation development, planning, and promotion tactics for the Waters of The Dancing Sky Scenic Byway. Worked with the Office of Tourism on the designation of the byway through Kittson County to I-29.	
Enterprise Fund	Loan Summary	Eleven loans have been made to businesses in Kittson County, totalling \$598,620. Eight of the loans are active, two were repaid and one was written off.	\$598,620
Farm Wrap Coordination	Kittson - Employment	General assistance to farmers in transition to new employment.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Accounting & Legal Services	Eight farm families in Kittson County have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$12,000 was awarded.	\$12,000
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Rock Bakken, and Jamie Visness, Hallock; Bernie Wilebski, Kennedy; Audrey Sandahl, Lake Bronson.	
Aging Admin	Senior LinkAge Calls	Provided information and assistance to 79 calls from Kittson County, July 1, 2000 to June 29, 2001.	
Aging Admin	2001 Sr. Medical Travel	Granted Kittson County Social Services a IIIB grant to provide medical transportation services to seniors in Kittson County.	\$4,000
Aging Admin	Senior Center Funding	Granted the Hallock Area Senior Citizen's Center IIIB Senior Center funding for 2001 to purchase kitchen equipment.	\$5,094

Aging Admin	LSS Nutrition Program	Extended nutrition contract to include the purchase of a single deck convection oven for Karlstad Nutrition Site for 2001.	\$4,260
Economic Development	Technical Assistance Hallock	Technical Assistance to help a rural family understand there are no flood programs for them and look into the possibility of moving their home.	
Enterprise Fund	The Flower Shop Hallock	Closed Standard Loan for \$42,300 on October 6, 2000.	\$42,300
Enterprise Fund	Hallock Plumbing & Heating, Inc. Hallock	Approved Standard Loan Application for \$34,000.00. Closing is pending.	\$34,000
Enterprise Fund	Rural Access, Inc. Hallock	Approved Standard Loan for \$60,000. Closing is pending.	\$60,000
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Hallock	Rock Bakken's drawing won adult first prize and people's choice adult at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$700
Aging Admin	Technical Assistance Hallock	Provided technical assistance to Hallock Senior Citizens Center in the application for Title IIIB grant funds.	
Aging Admin	LSS Sr. Nutrition Program Hallock	Provided 3,829 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 164 persons in Hallock, (Senior Center and Hallock West Side apartments) 2000.	
Aging PD&C	Senior/Community Center Hallock	Contacted a representative from Rural Development to discuss potential funding sources for Hallock Senior & Community Center. Facilitated meeting with Task Force at regular meeting in Hallock.	
Aging PD&C	Community/Senior Center Hallock	Provided technical assistance with the development of a grant budget for equipment for the senior center. Contacted MBA for technical assistance regarding the process of approval needed from MBA.	
Economic Development	Compost Spreading Business Karlstad	Assisted with the development of a new business spreading compost for organic farmers.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family A Karlstad	Provided help to this family who needed to explore school and job opportunities after exiting from farming. Assisted with affordable living and financial aid decisions.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Karlstad	Funded the City of Karlstad for the sponsorship of Prairie Fire Children's theater production of "Wizard of Oz" on June 25-29, 2001.	\$1,345
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Karlstad	Provided 9,572 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 413 persons in Karlstad in 2000.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family D Kennedy	Farmed for 40 years until running into financial trouble due to economy and weather. Sold land to pay off Farm Credit but still needed to settle debt with FSA. Got help from attorney and CPA to do this with minimal tax liability.	

Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Kennedy	Provided 2,944 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 96 persons in Kennedy in 2000.	
Local Issues	Technical Assistance Kittson County	Discussed with Kittson County Economic Development Coordinator, the web assistance that our office can offer them.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Lake Bronson	Lake Bronson will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Lake Bronson	This farmer ran out of equity and needed to have an auction to satisfy debt, leaving a large tax liability. Needed CPA and Attorney grant for bankruptcy consultation.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family C Lake Bronson	Farmer fell through cracks of FSA procedures, did not receive disaster assistance, and now has judgements against him. Needed grant for CPA/Attorney to straighten out the situation.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family B Lake Bronson	Family farm forced to quit because of excessive rains and severe weather over past several years. Needed CPA grant to deal with delinquent taxes and exit strategy.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Lake Bronson	Held a needs assessment forum at the Kittson County Historical Museum in January 2001. Nine people were in attendance to discuss their arts needs.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Lake Bronson	Provided 3,398 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 145 persons in Lake Bronson in 2000.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Lancaster	Lancaster will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application to DTED.	
Enterprise Fund	Thunder Road Diner Lancaster	Closed Standard Loan in the amount of \$32,500.00 on July 25, 2000.	\$32,500
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Lancaster	Provided 2,961 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 98 persons in Lancaster in 2000.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband St. Vincent	St. Vincent will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	

Marshall County

Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Alvarado	Alvarado will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Enterprise Fund	Farmers Elevator Company Alvarado	Approved expansion loan for \$150,000. Closing is pending.	\$150,000
Enterprise Fund	Farmers Elevator Company Alvarado	Assist Alvarado Elevator with malting barley expansion project.	

Enterprise Fund	Farmers Elevator Company Alvarado	Approved retention loan for \$150,000. Closing is pending.	\$150,000
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family B Alvarado	Young farmer needed help with CPA, skills, and aptitude testing for job search. Exited farming because of flood, crop disease, and economy. Faces bankruptcy as farm is liquidated.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Alvarado	Spoke to the Alvarado Women's Federation about the arts programs available for their community as well as the healthy aspects of keeping dance and movement in their lives on May 9, 2001.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Alvarado	Nicki Boman's photograph won student third place in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$50
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Alvarado	Provided 84 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 24 persons in Alvarado in 2000.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Angus	Angus will have high speed internet access through Halstad Telco and the Marshall County grant through DTED.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Angus	Erin Barrett's drawing won a student merit award in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$25
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Angus	Kathleen Barrett's painting won student first place in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$100
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Argyle	Argyle will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County Grant application to DTED.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Argyle	Young farmer facing legal, financial, and personal problems as a result of economy and crop failures. Marriage ended, and husband is raising kids himself. He is going through an Offer in Compromise with CPA help, and is working on tax liability.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family C Argyle	Older farmer, forced to quit and have an auction to satisfy creditors. Now faces a large tax liability. Provided CPA grant to achieve successful settlement with IRS.	
McKnight Arts	Student Artist Grant Argyle	Funded Brent Radeke to attend the Summer Performing Arts workshop in Grand Forks including individual dance instructions from June 1- July 31, 2001.	\$500
Management and Support	County Summary	Compiled and printed county summary with economic data, tourism information and maps.	
Local Issues	EMT Map Warren-Alvarado	Developed a map for EMT personnel. Map can be used as a tool for the county 911 emergency system. Planning will continue to develop with the MN Regional Cooperative, Emergency Medical Services.	

Local Issues	Buffer Strip Map County	Created a flood plain and 300 foot buffer strip map for future Marshall County land use planning. Map was completed in July, 2000.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband East Warren	East of Warren will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Loan Fund	Provided information to the Marshall County Board on the possibility of establishing a county loan fund to assist public housing agencies in constructing housing for sale to local home buyers. A \$65,000 fund was established.	
Transportation	Inter-Regional Project	Reviewed and commented on regional applications for enhancement projects. Assisted the Pembina Trail group with development of a trail system connecting Old Mill State Park and Florian County Park.	
Transportation	Marshall Assistance	Attended the June County Board meeting to discuss the North-South shipping corridor and the events of the Washington D.C. Fly-In. The County Board provided a resolution supporting the project that was sent to Congressman Peterson's office.	
Enterprise Fund	Loan Summary County	Eighteen loans have been made to businesses in Marshall County, totaling \$994,893. Seven of the loans are active, six loans were repaid and five loans were written off.	\$994,893
Farm Wrap Coordination	Accounting & Legal Assistance	Fourteen farm families in Marshall County have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$15,784 was awarded.	\$15,784
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Nicki Boman and Mari McDowell, Alvarado; Angela Ecklund, Oslo; Nolan Buchner, Paul Fredrickson, Jennifer Hill, Dustin Kalt, and Tess Solberg, Warren.	
Aging Admin	LSS Nutrition Program	Extended nutrition contract to include the purchase of an under counter dishwasher for Stephen Nutrition Site for 2001.	\$3,750
Aging Admin	Senior LinkAge Calls	Provided information and assistance to 190 calls from Marshall County from July 1, 2000 to June 29, 2001.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Florian	Florian will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Grygla	Visited with City Clerk and Mayor on issues important to them. Housing remains a top concern. Their challenge is to have ICWC build homes less than \$45,000.	
Economic Development	Loan Assistance Grygla	Assisted City with loan agreements, terms, collateral and other items related to loan to May Corporation.	
Enterprise Fund	Grygla Hartz Grygla	Closed Disaster Relief Loan for \$49,000 on September 21, 2000.	\$49,000

Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Gry gla	Provided 9,248 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 323 persons in Gry gla in 2000.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Holt	Visited with City Clerk on issues important to Holt.	
Aging Admin	LSS Sr. Nutrition Program Holt	Provided 726 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 69 persons in Holt in 2000.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Middle River	Visited with City Clerk and Council Member on issues important to them. Housing remains a top concern. Combining ICWC homes with down-pay ment assistance and other programs is a viable option.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Middle River	Funded Middle River Community Theater for five performances of "Bless Me Father" on September 27, 28, 30 and Oct. 1, 2000.	\$1,175
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Middle River	Provided 5,025 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 102 persons in Middle River in 2000.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Newfolden	Visited with City Clerk and Mayor on issues important to them. Housing remains a top concern. Combining ICWC homes with down-pay ment assistance and other programs is a viable option.	
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Newfolden	Funded Marshall Co. Central School for the sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theatre's production of "Aladdin" from May 28-June 1, 2001.	\$1,040
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Newfolden	Funded Marshall County Central School for a media arts residency with Kris Sorenson from October 2-13, 2000.	\$2,450
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Newfolden	Provided 8,504 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 282 persons in Newfolden in 2000.	
Local Issues	Technical Assistance Oslo	Assisted Oslo City Clerk Jan Nice in creating a basic web site for their city on June 25, 2001.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Oslo	Oslo will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Economic Development	Provision Farms, Inc. Oslo	Assist with focus, marketing plan, financial projections for this business, which uses locally grown commodities and packages vegetarian foods in five different product lines.	
McKnight Arts	Student Artist Grant Oslo	Funded Angela Ecklund for the purchase of visual art supplies including frames in order to participate in area exhibits in the summer of 2001.	\$500
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Oslo	Provided 3,261 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 114 persons in Oslo in 2000.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Stephen	Visited with city clerk, mayor, and leaders about community issues. How to attract young people with families to move into town is a top concern. The EDA and City Council will be developing a marketing plan, web site, and other initiatives.	

Economic Development	Wellness Center Businesses Stephen	Assisted the City of Stephen with funding for the rehabilitation of a downtown building into three offices, and one fitness center. This creates one business with several employees, and independent contractors.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Stephen	Farm family needed help with restructuring or exit strategies for the farm. He has a full-time job, but is unaccepting of having to exit completely. CPA grant and outreach provided consultation.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Stephen	Spoke to a group in Stephen about our arts grant programs available for their community on April 30, 2001.	
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Stephen	Funded Stephen/Argyle School for the sponsorship of a workshop by the Minnesota Opera from November 27-29, 2000.	\$2,500
McKnight Arts	Small Capital Grant Stephen	Funded Stephen Arts Council for the purchase of microphones.	\$1,555
McKnight Arts	Training & Development Grant Stephen	Funded Stephen Arts Council for a sound equipment training with specialist Jamie Lunski in Nov., December 2000 and March 2001.	\$750
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Stephen	Provided 7,992 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 235 persons in Stephen in 2000.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Strandquist	Strandquist will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Tabor	Tabor will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Viking	Visited with City Clerk and Mayor on issues important to them. Housing remains a top concern. Their challenge is to see if STS could build one home and rehab one home to sell at less than \$40,000.	
Aging Admin	LSS Sr. Nutrition Program Viking	Provided 3,154 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 222 persons in Viking in 2000.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Warren	Visited with City Clerk about community growth and housing issues.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Funding Warren	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to buy, rehab, sell a home. NWCAA wrote application, NWRDC will serve as fiscal agent, TVOC will complete. \$47,750. approved by MHFA.	
Enterprise Fund	Warren Tire Service, Inc. Warren	Closed Standard Loan for \$46,200 on 10/31/00.	\$46,200

Enterprise Fund	LaFond's Cafe Warren	Closed Small Loan for \$19,150 on January 31, 2001.	\$19,150
Enterprise Fund	DRLF Warren	Assist City of Warren with reviewing applications for Warren Disaster Relief funds.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family A Warren	Farmer forced to liquidate and declare bankruptcy; his wife was severely injured in accident and he must work away from home to make ends meet. CPA grant helped get finances back on track.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Warren	Spoke to the Warren Chamber of Commerce about our public art and individual artist program as a way of adding artwork to their community on May 15, 2001.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Warren	Dustin Kalt's digital photograph won a student merit award at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$25
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Warren	Funded Warren/Alvarado/Oslo School for the sponsorship of Safari's workshop and production of "Aladdin" on August 6-11, 2001.	\$1,000
Aging Admin	Senior Meals Presentation Warren	Provided information about Area Agency on Aging, Senior Linkage Line, and Health Insurance Counseling Program during presentation at Warren Senior Meals Program.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Warren	Provided 12,872 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 380 persons in Warren in 2000.	
Aging PD&C	Marshall Manor Advisory Comm. Warren	Participated in Advisory Committee Meeting for Marshall Manor. Discussed ideas for funding sources for nursing home operations and legislative proposals for increasing alternative services to seniors.	

Norman County

Arts Development	Technical Assistance Ada	Held a needs assessment forum at the community center in January 2001. Five people were in attendance to discuss their arts needs.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Ada	Funded Ada Children's Theater for the sponsorship of Missoula Children Theater's workshop and production of "Sleeping Beauty" on August 6-10, 2001.	\$1,450
Arts Development	Arts Grant Ada	Funded Valley Community Theatre for the production of "Love, Sex, and the IRS" on February 23-25, 2001.	\$1,500
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Ada	Funded Michael DuChene to produce a music CD from October 2000 - November 2000.	\$750
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Ada	Funded Robert Larson to tour with his music history performance including some sound equipment purchases Oct. 2000 - Oct. 2001.	\$750

Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Ada	Provided 10,320 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 280 persons in Ada in 2000.	
Management and Support	County Summary	Compiled and printed county summary with economic data, tourism information and maps.	
Health Insurance Counseling	Outreach Contracts	One informational session conducted to increase awareness of the Health Insurance Counseling program. The 33 attendee's were seniors, family members, health care providers and agencies.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Fund	Provided information to the Norman County Board on the possibility of establishing a county loan fund to assist public housing agencies in constructing housing for sale to local home buyers. Will continue working with County Board.	
Economic Development	Economic Development Mtg. County	Held a county wide meeting to discuss economic and community development issues and strategies. Meeting resulted in the identification of projects in housing, web site promotion, and job development.	
Transportation	Norman Assistance	Assisted Norman County Board members in the planning and development of a multi-use trail system. Attended the April board meeting to discuss transportation issues within the county. Discussed regional projects involving the TAC and federal money.	
Enterprise Fund	Loan Summary County	Eleven loans have been made to businesses in Norman County, totaling \$451,560. Seven of the loans are active and four of the loans were repaid.	\$451,560
Farm Wrap Coordination	Accounting & Legal Assistance	Seven farm families in Norman County have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$10,000 was awarded.	\$10,000
Aging Admin	Senior LinkAge Calls	Provided information and assistance to 160 calls from Norman County from July 1, 2000 to June 29, 2001.	
Aging Admin	2001 LSS Nutrition Program	Extended nutrition contract to include the purchase of an under counter dishwasher for Shelly Nutrition Site for 2001.	\$3,750
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Gary	Visited with City Clerk about community growth and housing.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Gary	Operating losses forced his retirement and is now trying to pass farm assets on to sons with minimal liability for tax problems. Needs help from CPA to arrange transfer.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family C Gary	Low prices are straining finances on this dairy farm. Farmer needs to transition to beef or hogs with son, or possibly exit entirely. Meeting with farm management and CPA to look over options.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family B Gary	Eighty year old farmer lost everything to FSA, including farm and home. He owed almost \$30,000 to IRS, but with CPA grant was able to achieve a successful Offer in Compromise.	

Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Gary	Provided 3,342 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 81 persons in Gary in 2000.	
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Halstad	Funded Norman County West School for the sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theater's workshop and production of "Alice in Wonderland" on June 3-9, 2001.	\$965
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Halstad	Provided 4,097 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 73 persons in Halstad in 2000.	
Enterprise Fund	Nepco, Inc. Hendrum	Closed Standard Loan for \$68,000 on April 18, 2001.	\$68,000
Enterprise Fund	Nepstad Oil Company Hendrum	Closed Disaster Relief Loan for \$60,000 on July 21, 2000.	\$60,000
Arts Development	Arts Grant Shelly	Funded Norman County Historical Society for the sponsorship of a weaving workshop by Bob Paulson on June 4, 2001.	\$670
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Shelly	Provided 3,058 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 115 persons in Shelly in 2000.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Twin Valley	Visited with City Clerk and community leaders about housing and community needs. Two more ICWC homes are planned.	
Economic Development	Technical Assistance Twin Valley	Technical Assistance to help with expansion of custom shipping container business.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Funding Twin Valley	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to build and rehab family homes. NWCAA wrote application, NWRDC will serve as fiscal agent, TVOC will build/rehab two homes. \$75,500 approved.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family A Twin Valley	This family went through foreclosure, mediation, and auction to satisfy debt, and had to sell the farm site and some land to make payments. CPA grant helped to make debt manageable, and allow the family to stay in the area without going on welfare.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Twin Valley	Older farmer forced to sell by FHA, auction pulled in much less than what was owed. Does not want to declare bankruptcy and is working on Offer in Compromise with CPA.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Twin Valley	Funded Norman County East School for the sponsorship of Rolling Plains Gallery in November 2000.	\$250
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Twin Valley	Provided 7,424 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 150 persons in Twin Valley in 2000.	

Pennington County

Economic Development	Housing Construction Fund	Provided information to the Pennington County Board on the possibility of establishing a county loan fund to assist public housing agencies in constructing housing for sale to local home buyers. A \$20,000 fund is established.	
Transportation	Pennington Assistance	Attended the June County Board meeting to discuss the Transportation Alliance Washington D.C. Fly-In. Discussed the support offered by Congressman Peterson's office and received a resolution from the Board that was sent to the Congressman's office.	
Enterprise Fund	Loan Summary County	Six loans have been made to businesses in Pennington County , totaling \$464,600. Two of the loans are active, three have been repaid and one was written off.	\$464,600
Farm Wrap Coordination	Accounting & Legal Assistance	Five farm families in Pennington County have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$6,350 was awarded.	\$6,350
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Sheena Custer, Jared Daley , Allisa Holmaas, Travis Johnson, Chris Krapohl, Teri Krogstad, Chris Lane, Kimberly Schneider, Lisa Schultz, and Katie Walseth all of TRF.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Violet Barr, Paul Bruggeman, Daren Dobson, LaVonne Forsberg, James Howard, Beth Iliff, Vick Kolden, Celeste Leach, Shaun McGrath, Lisa McGrath, Stephanie Tveiten all of TRF.	
Aging Admin	Senior LinkAge Calls	Provided information and assistance to 145 calls from Pennington County from July 1, 2000 to June 29, 2001.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Goodridge	Visited with City Clerk, Mayor, and leaders about community issues. Extremely affordable housing has been a successful strategy for growth.	
Economic Development	Meat Processing Plant Goodridge	Help entrepreneur with a marketing and business plan for start-up of a federally inspected meat processing facility for exceptionally clean meats.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family A Goodridge	50 year old farmer with a shared appreciation mortgage due. Needed help with incorrectly prepared tax returns for the past several years. Did not need legal assistance after getting taxes corrected. In mediation with FHA for the mortgage.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Goodridge	Farmer's Shared Appreciation Mortgage has come due and he has no way to pay . His CRP payment was offset by FSA to settle debt. With no money coming in to pay taxes, he needed a CPA grant for consultation.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family C Goodridge	Farmer needs to sell land to settle debt. Will need tax planning regarding sale and help with financial setup with sons.	

Local Issues	Listening Session Thief River Falls	Attend the Minnesota Office of Tourism's regional listening session on April 12, 2001 to provide input into the discussion on their services and focuses for tourism.	
Local Issues	Technical Assistance Thief River Falls	Discussed with the Red Lake Watershed District the web assistance that our office can provide for them.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Thief River Falls	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to build and rehab homes. NWCAA wrote application, NWRDC will serve as fiscal agent, ICCC will build 2 and rehab 1 home. \$75,500. approved by MHFA. Also started the process to establish a TRF construction fund.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family D Thief River Falls	Farmer lost part of father's land after losing equity and trying to borrow his way out of it. Had an auction sale, is working on an Offer in Compromise with IRS.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family C Thief River Falls	Farmer was forced to quit and lost the farm. Provided CPA and outreach consultation to deal with tax liabilities, debt, and depression.	
Arts Development	Coffee Time Thief River Falls	Appeared on coffee time on KTRF to discuss upcoming arts programming and arts issues. The episode ran on May 22, 2001.	
Arts Development	Coffee Time Thief River Falls	Appeared on coffee time on KTRF to discuss upcoming arts programming and arts issues. The episode ran on January 19, 2001.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Thief River Falls	Held workshop on grant programs with two Minnesota State Arts Board representatives from their Education and Individual Artist programs. Six people attended.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Thief River Falls	Provided advice on two percent for art commissions at Northland Community Technical College.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Thief River Falls	Teri Krogstad's drawing won student second place in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$75
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Thief River Falls	Lisa MCgrath's sculpture won a merit award at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$50
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Thief River Falls	Stephanie Tveiten's photograph won third place at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$100
Arts Development	Arts Grant Thief River Falls	Funded the Thief River Falls Community Arts Council for the production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" on Aug 8-11, 2001.	\$2,000
Arts Development	Arts Grant Thief River Falls	Funded Northwest Service Cooperative for the Young Author's Conference: Off the Beaten Path on April 30, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Thief River Falls	James Howard's painting won a merit award at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$50
Arts Development	Arts Grant Thief River Falls	Funded the Thief River Falls Community Arts Council for the production of "Social Security" on July 11-13, 2001.	\$2,000

Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Thief River Falls	Lisa Nelson's photograph won a merit award at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$50
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Thief River Falls	Chris Lane's sculpture won a student merit award at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$25
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Thief River Falls	Funded Thief River Falls School for a residency with music composer Jeanie Brindly-Barrett titled "Butterfly Project". Performance is May 21, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Exhibit Reception Performers Thief River Falls	Linda Samuelson, Vanessa Anderson and Kathy Johnson provided musical entertainment at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Thief River Falls	Chris Krapohl's drawing won student people's choice at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$75
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Thief River Falls	Funded Jeremi Hanson for a travel and study visual art trip to London, England in June 2001.	\$700
McKnight Arts	Small Capital Grant Thief River Falls	Thief River Falls Community Arts Council was selected as an alternate to receive \$1,290.00 for a portable lighting system if funding becomes available.	
Aging Admin	Coffee Time Thief River Falls	Provided information about Fall Conference on Aging, and Area Agency on Aging during broadcast of Coffee Time.	
Aging Admin	Northland Retired Educators Thief River Falls	Provided information about Area Agency on Aging, Senior Linkage Line, and Health Insurance Counseling Program to 12 members of Northland Retired Educators.	
Aging Admin	Minority Student Services Coord. Thief River Falls	Provided information about AAA and services funded to Minority Student Services Coordinator at Thief River Falls School District. Encouraged him to share information with family members to facilitate accessing for services by minority seniors.	
Aging Admin	Delta Kappa Gamma Meeting Thief River Falls	Provided information about Area Agency on Aging and legislative proposals to members of Delta Kappa Gamma group. Discussed services available from AAA and Senior Linkage Line.	
Aging Admin	Heritage Center Anniversary Thief River Falls	Participated in anniversary celebration for the Heritage Center. Discussed "Advocates for Aging" and encouraged seniors to contact legislators to share their opinions on needed services.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Thief River Falls	Provided 21,666 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 1154 persons in Thief River Falls in 2000. (4 Sites-Sr. Centers, Riverside Terrace Apts., Sky light Apts, Greenwood Apts.)	

Polk County

Farm Wrap Coordination	Family D Beltrami	Low dairy prices and poor farm economy have led this farmer to exit after buying the family farm from his parents. He is receiving tax consultation regarding sale of assets and is going to continue working with RLO personnel. Looking at more schooling.
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Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Beltrami	Genesis Gast's painting won adult second prize at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$200
Management and Support	County Summary	Compiled and printed county summary with economic data, tourism information and maps.	
Health Insurance Counseling	Outreach Contacts	One informational session conducted to increase awareness of the Health Insurance Counseling program. The 15 attendee's were seniors.	
Economic Development	Animal Agriculture Park County	Explored the feasibility of developing an animal agriculture park/zoo. Possible sites include East Grand Forks or Crookston.	
Economic Development	Use Versus Tower Zoning	Met with the Polk County Board regarding improving zoning to include allowing sites in Industrial Park, permitting on a per use basis versus the tower (real estate) basis for wireless access points and wireless broadband antennas.	
Transportation	Polk Assistance	Attended the June County Board meeting to discuss the Washington D.C. Fly-In. Received a resolution from the Board supporting the 10-ton shipping corridor and discussed the needs for a 10-ton highway through the East portion of the County.	
Enterprise Fund	Loan Summary County	Thirty-Seven loans have been made to businesses in Polk County, totaling \$2,576,725. Seventeen of the loans are active, seventeen of the loans have been repaid and three of the loans were written off.	\$2,576,725
Farm Wrap Coordination	Accounting & Legal Assistance	Twenty-four farm families in Polk County have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$27,313 was awarded.	\$27,313
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Michelle Curfman, Farelana Aho, Jenn Steinbrek, and Scott Valdes, Crookston; Genesis Gast, Beltrami; Vera Pearson, Chelsea Baderek-Thompson, Lengby; and Lindsay Bergeson, Trail.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Mary Ann Laxen, Casey Novacek, Jacqueline Pribula, Jessica Pribula, East Grand Forks; Jamie Pulkrebek, Euclid; Erin Barrett, Kathleen Barrett, Angus.	
Aging Admin	Senior LinkAge Calls	Provided information and assistance to 399 calls from Polk County from July 1, 2000 to June 29, 2001.	
Economic Development	Computer Loaner Project Crookston	Assisted with writing grants for Crookston Community Education and Crookston High School to implement a lending library of wireless computers for students to teach parents, and grandparents computer skills while developing a job resume together.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Crookston	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to buy, rehab & sell a home. NWCAA wrote application, NWRDC will serve as fiscal agent, and TVOC will complete. \$47,750. approved by MHFA.	

Enterprise Fund	Grove Motor Sports, Inc. Crookston	Closed Small Loan for \$30,000 on 11/28/00.	\$30,000
Enterprise Fund	Phoenix Industries Crookston	Closed Standard Loan for \$150,000 on 11/30/00.	\$150,000
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Crookston	This farmer needed to file bankruptcy and had health and family troubles due to financial situation. Helped him with CPA grant, resume and job search. He is now working in Grand Forks.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Moe, Lieder, Skoe Meeting Crookston	Attended the pre-legislative listening session held in Crookston.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Crookston	Funded Crookston Community Theater for the production of "Wizard of Oz" on June 7-11, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Arts Grant Crookston	Funded Crookston Public Library for the sponsorship of story teller Rick Ponzio at Crookston, Ada, Climax, Fertile, Fosston, and McIntosh libraries from July 9-11, 2001.	\$765
Arts Development	Arts Grant Crookston	Funded Impressions Dance Company for two performances of "The Nutcracker" on December 9-10, 2000.	\$2,185
Arts Development	Public Art Project Grant Crookston	Funded the City of Crookston for the creation of a veterans memorial sculpture in 2001.	\$5,500
Arts Development	Arts Grant Crookston	Funded Crookston Community Theater for four performances of "Over the river and through the Woods" on Nov. 9-11 and 13, 2000.	\$1,190
McKnight Arts	Small Capital Grant Crookston	Funded Crookston Community Theater for the purchase of sound equipment to enhance the current system.	\$2,500
McKnight Arts	Small Capital Grant Crookston	Crookston Community Theater was selected as an alternate to receive \$1,710.00 for the purchase of sound and light equipment if funds become available.	
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Crookston	Selected for alternate funding Patrick Henry's project to purchase visual art supplies including framing materials to be used in portfolio development.	
McKnight Arts	Student Artist Grant Crookston	Funded Nicole Halstenson to participate in Dance Olympus in the summer of 2001.	\$500
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Crookston	Provided 29,227 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 705 persons in Crookston in 2000. (3 sites-Sr. Center, Nimens Apts., Oak Court Apts.)	
Aging PD&C	Gatekeeper Training Crookston	Provided Gatekeeper Training to Senior Companions as part of scheduled in-service training. Discussed methods for connecting seniors with services to maintain independence.	

Economic Development	Custom Embroidery Business East Grand Forks	Help a custom embroider business and billboard business with a marketing plan for growth and expansion.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband East Grand Forks	East Grand Forks will have high speed internet access through Rural Access and the Marshall County grant application through DTED.	
Enterprise Fund	River Bend Country Club, Inc. East Grand Forks	Approved Disaster Relief Loan for \$150,000. Closing is pending.	\$150,000
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family B East Grand Forks	Young farmer in his 40's faced with exiting the farm. Was able to refer him for proper planning regarding sale of equipment and commodities in order to pay off debt and minimize tax liability. Doing job search and looking at higher education opportunities with him.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance East Grand Forks	Spoke about our public art program at the Campbell Library Grand Opening celebration on April 21, 2001.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance East Grand Forks	Presented information on the Arts Council for a community group in August 2000.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant East Grand Forks	Funded the Community Performing Arts Council for a choral workshop and performance by Chris Fettig on February 9-11, 2001.	\$1,360
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant East Grand Forks	Funded East Grand Forks School for the sponsorship of four saxophone workshops and a performance by Lucy and Massimo Mazzori in April 2001.	\$1,950
Arts Development	Arts Grant East Grand Forks	Funded the Friends of the Campbell Library for the sponsorship of artists for their grand opening celebrations from April 16-21, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Arts Grant East Grand Forks	Funded Summer Arts STAGES for the sponsorship of a childrens theater workshop ending in a production of "Aladdin" from July 23-27, August 2-4, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Arts Grant East Grand Forks	Funded Summer Arts STAGES for the sponsorship of a start-up clinic from May 1 - June 3, 2001 to prepare to tour Safari to area communities in the summer of 2001.	\$1,325
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner East Grand Forks	Jessica Pribula's painting won a student merit award in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$25
McKnight Arts	Training & Development Grant East Grand Forks	Funded Twin Forks Sweet Adelines to send two members to the International Educational Symposium in San Antonio, Texas on July 25-28, 2001.	\$750
McKnight Arts	Small Capital Grant East Grand Forks	Funded the Twin Forks Sweet Adelines for the purchase of a four track recorder.	\$500
McKnight Arts	Student Artist Grant East Grand Forks	Funded Tricia Lind for voice lessons in Italian singing with Maria Williams from October 2000 - June 2001.	\$500

Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program East Grand Forks	Provided 8,886 Congregate meals to 469 persons in East Grand Forks in 2000. (3 sites-Sr. Center, Sunshine Terrace Apts., Townsquare Apts.)	
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Erskine	Funded Win-E-Mac School for the sponsorship of a folk music residency on May 17, 2001.	\$405
Arts Development	Arts Grant Erskine	Funded Pioneer Memorial Care Center for the sponsorship of folk music artists on May 17, 2001.	\$220
Aging Admin	City Council Erskine	Provided information about Area Agency on Aging, Senior Linkage Line, and Nutrition Program to members of Erskine City Council.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Erskine	Provided 5,479 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 132 persons in Erskine in 2000.	
Economic Development	Technology Catalyst Grant Euclid	Created an application process for wireless broadband equipment for test sites in and around the Euclid area. Criteria will be based on need, job creation, and business or farm growth. This DTED grant was to Polk County for Halstad Telco to offer services.	
Economic Development	Wireless Broadband Euclid	Euclid will have high speed internet access through Halstad Telco and the Polk County grant through DTED.	
McKnight Arts	Student Artist Grant Euclid	Funded Jamie Pulkrabek for the purchase of visual art supplies including frames in order to participate in area exhibits in the summer of 2001.	\$450
Arts Development	Arts Grant Fertile	Funded Fertile Area Arts Council for the sponsorship of Safari Childrens Theater workshop and production of "Pinocchio" on June 4-8, 2001.	\$685
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Fertile	Provided 5,678 Congregate meals to 172 persons in Fertile in 2000.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family A Fisher	This family lost their home in the '97 flood. The farm was downsized and we were able to help restructure their credit card debt and budget.	
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Fisher	Partially funded Fisher School's sponsorship of Fargo-Moorhead Community Theater's performance and workshop of "Special Class" on March 7 and 8, 2001.	\$2,070
Economic Development	Veterans Medical Care Facility Fosston	Assisted in the promotion of Fosston as the site for a new medical center to serve veterans.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Funding Fosston	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to build and rehab homes. NWCAA wrote the application, NWRDC will be fiscal agency, NWMCHRA will build the home. \$75,550 approved by MHFA.	
Enterprise Fund	Business Expansions Fosston	Work with City of Fosston in their efforts to have businesses expand to Fosston from the Twin Cities Area.	

Farm Wrap Coordination	Family F Fosston	Dairy farmer trying to hang on by custom feeding for other farmers and still maintaining a small leased dairy herd and running some beef. He had a plan that would have worked but prices have hurt him bad. Needs help with finances. CPA helping to clarify.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family C Fosston	Older farmer needed CPA assistance to retire and transfer farm to son. Farm was successfully transferred allowing retired farmer to still work with his son on farm and keep it going. A brother of this farmer was helped in the same way through FarmWrap referral.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Fosston	Funded Fosston Library Arts Center for the sponsorship of story teller Cheryl Sawyer on March 26, 2001.	\$500
Arts Development	Arts Grant Fosston	Funded Fosston Library Arts Center for the production of "Mousetrap" on June 28-July 1, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Exhibit Featured Artist Fosston	Heather Sabian was the featured artist at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition. Her art includes large mixed media paintings on leather hides.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Fosston	Funded Fosston School for the sponsorship of Rolling Plains Gallery in November 2000.	\$250
McKnight Arts	Student Artist Grant Fosston	Funded Devin Klink to buy visual supplies to study with Lori Messick in July and August 2001.	\$500
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Fosston	Provided 3,059 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 123 persons in Fosston in 2000.	
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Lengby	Vera Pearson's drawing won a merit award at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$50
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program McIntosh	Provided 8,527 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 175 persons in McIntosh in 2000.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Mentor	Provided 1,716 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 43 persons in Mentor in 2000.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Winger	Visited with Mayor and City Clerk about housing and community needs. Strategic planning and help for small business growth has been requested.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Winger	Provided 2,609 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 73 persons in Winger in 2000.	

Red Lake County

Management and Support	County Summary	Compiled and printed county summary with economic data, tourism information and maps.	
Health Insurance Counseling	Outreach Contacts	Two informational sessions conducted to increase awareness of the Health Insurance Counseling program. The 53 attendee's were seniors, family members, health care providers and agencies.	

Economic Development	Housing Construction Fund	Provided information to the Red Lake County Board on the possibility of establishing a county loan fund to assist public housing agencies in constructing housing for sale to local home buyers.	
Transportation	Red Lake Assistance	Attended the March County Board meeting to discuss transportation issues within the region and county. Discussed the TAC goal of creating a Super 2 highway design on portions of USTH 59. Discussed the 10-Ton corridor between Gully and Gry gla.	
Enterprise Fund	Loan Summary County	Seven loans have been made to businesses in Red Lake County , totaling \$333,115. Three of the loans are active, three loans were repaid and one loan was written off.	\$333,115
Farm Wrap Coordination	Accounting & Legal Assistance	Eight farm families in Red Lake County have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$10,150 was awarded.	\$10,150
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Robin Bodie, Christopher Foster, Robin Foster, Ann Piersol, Mary Jo Schmitz, Amy Hagen, Red Lake Falls; Julaine Sparley , Emma Rustan, Oklee.	
Aging Admin	2001 LSS Nutrition Program	Extended nutrition contract to include the purchase of a two door refrigerator for Red Lake Falls Nutrition Site for 2001.	\$2,195
Economic Development	Housing Construction Oklee	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to build single family homes. NWCAA wrote application, NWRDC will serve as fiscal agent, ICCC will complete. \$27,750. approved by MHFA.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family B Oklee	Farm family put land in CRP, sold grain and beef calves to take care of Main Street bills and bank debt. Also has a Shared Appreciation Mortgage to deal with and needs CPA help on that.	
Aging Admin	Committee on Aging Oklee	Met with members of Red Lake County Committee on Aging to share program information and determine service needs.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Oklee	Provided 4,260 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 180 persons in Oklee in 2000.	
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Plummer	Funded Plummer School for the sponsorship of a performance and workshop of Fargo-Moorhead Community Theater's "Special Class" on March 8 and 9, 2001.	\$2,500
Economic Development	Housing Construction Funding Red Lake Falls	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to buy , rehab, sell a home. NWCAA wrote application, NWRDC will serve as fiscal agent, ICCC will complete. \$47,750. approved by MHFA.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family E Red Lake Falls	Younger farmer was losing money milking cows and needs to restructure or exit. Helped explore school and job options, and CPA grant was provided for consultation.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family C Red Lake Falls	Older farm couple that needed restructuring and mediation with Farm Credit Services. Their attorney was able to negotiate a successful Offer in Compromise and these folks can enjoy a much less stressful retirement without facing huge debt.	

Farm Wrap Coordination	Family D Red Lake Falls	Many years of losses have forced this farmer to quit and retire. He needs consultation regarding sale of assets and auction, and how that will affect his tax situation.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family A Red Lake Falls	Older farmer needed to retire because of poor health, but couldn't get out from under debt load at bank and FHA. Needed to transfer debt and machinery to son, which will take years due to IRS consequences and proper planning schedule.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Red Lake Falls	Held needs assessment forum at the high school cafeteria in January 2001. Four people were in attendance to discuss their arts needs.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Red Lake Falls	Helped with the planning of the opening for the public art piece in August 2000.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Red Lake Falls	Funded the Association of the French of the North for the sponsorship of French musician Lauren Pelon on April 19, 2001.	\$1,500
Arts Development	Arts Grant Red Lake Falls	Funded the Association of the French of the North for the sponsorship of several artists for the arts festival portion of Chautauqua on August 24-26, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Arts Grant Red Lake Falls	Funded Two Rivers Area Theater for the production of "BIG-the musical" on June 20-24, 2001.	\$2,500
Arts Development	Arts Grant Red Lake Falls	Funded Two Rivers Area Theatre for the production of "You Can't Take It With You" on April 6-9, 2001.	\$1,500
Arts Development	Exhibit Award Winner Red Lake Falls	Robin Foster's pottery won a merit award at the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition.	\$50
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Red Lake Falls	Funded Mary Schmitz to receive pottery instruction and set up a studio from October 2000 - September 2001.	\$750
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Red Lake Falls	Funded Robin Foster to buy materials to create a salt fire kiln for his ceramic/clay studio.	\$745
McKnight Arts	Small Capital Grant Red Lake Falls	Funded Two Rivers Area Theater to purchase microphones, a curtain track, music stand lights, and other lighting equipment.	\$1,895
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Red Lake Falls	Provided 10,597 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 195 persons in Red Lake Falls in 2000.	

Roseau County

Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Badger	Funded Badger School for a visual art residency with Jean Honl for "Arts Around the World" from September 27-November 2000.	\$2,015
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Badger	Funded Badger School for a cartooning residency with Paulette Christianson in April 2001.	\$390

Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Badger	Funded Badger School for a basic drawing residency with Shelly Wokasch in February 2001.	\$910
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Badger	Funded Badger School for a painting/collage residency with Annette Hermansen in March 2001.	\$610
Aging Admin	LSS Sr. Nutrition Program Badger	Provided 2,636 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 193 persons in Badger in 2000.	
Management and Support	County Summary	Compiled and printed county summary with economic data, tourism information and maps.	
Health Insurance Counseling	Outreach Contacts	Three informational sessions conducted to increase awareness of the Health Insurance Counseling program. The 61 attendee's were seniors, family members, health care providers and agencies.	
Local Issues	GIS Training County	Instructed the SWCD office in the operation of GIS. Displayed possibilities to the office for when (if) they purchase the Arcview software. Completed in September.	
Economic Development	Technical Assistance	Conversation with David Heggen about options for 20 units of assisted living and 20 units of congregate living for Seniors.	
Economic Development	Composting Project	Partnered with Extension, Mn Pollution Control, Board of Water and Soil Resources, Pembina RC&D, AURI, and local producers to establish a pilot project for in-vessel animal waste composting in Roseau County.	
Transportation	Roseau Assistance	Attended the Roseau County Board meeting to discuss transportation concerns in the county. Discussed the need for a 10-Ton North-South route linking the City of Roseau to USTH 2 via the shortest route. Reviewed construction projects occurring this summer.	
Transportation	Scenic Byway	Attended the Minnesota Office of Tourism group session on the development, planning, and promotion tactics for the Waters of The Dancing Sky Scenic Byway. Working with the City of Roseau on incorporating historical data into informational pieces.	
Enterprise Fund	Loan Summary County	Twelve loans have been made to businesses in Roseau County, totaling \$612,264. Four of the loans are active and eight loans have been repaid.	\$612,264
Farm Wrap Coordination	Accounting & Legal Services	Four farm families in Roseau County have been granted accounting and legal assistance. A total of \$4,600 was awarded.	\$4,600
Arts Development	Exhibit Participants	Artists participating in the Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibition included: Frances Karlsson, Roseau.	
Aging Admin	Senior LinkAge Calls	Provided information and assistance to 102 calls from Roseau County from July 1, 2000 to June 29, 2001.	
Aging Admin	2001 Senior Medical Travel	Granted Roseau County Committee on Aging a IIIB grant to provide senior medical transportation to seniors in Roseau county.	\$8,000

Aging Admin	2001 STS Chore Program	Extended contract with Roseau County Sheriff's Department to provide chore services to seniors in Roseau County utilizing the Sentencing to Service Program.	\$6,000
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family B Greenbush	Worked on resume and job search with this farmer, who lost his farm and is facing more negotiation with FHA. Provided consultation on issues of depression.	
Farm Wrap Coordination	Family A Greenbush	Disease outbreak affected family dairy and meat processing business. Need for legal consultation on options available to farmer.	
Arts Development	Artist in the Schools Grant Greenbush	Funded Greenbush/Middle River School for the sponsorship of a creative dramatics residency with Perrin Boyd the week of October 8, 2001.	\$1,050
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Greenbush	Provided 3,867 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 104 persons in Greenbush in 2000.	
Enterprise Fund	Reed River Trading Co. Roseau	Approved Standard Loan for \$150,000. Closing is pending.	\$150,000
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Roseau	Gave a presentation on our Arts Grants and programs to a group of community members including a short grant writing session in August 2000.	
Arts Development	Technical Assistance Roseau	Spoke about board development and fundraising issues at the Roseau Area Arts Associations annual retreat on May 14, 2001.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Roseau	Funded Roseau Friends of the Library for the production of the regional ramblings publication "Firm Foundations" in August 2001.	\$1,250
Aging Admin	Committee on Aging Roseau	Met with members of Roseau County Committee on Aging to share information on current activities and determine programming needs.	
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Roseau	Provided 14,784 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 708 persons in Roseau in 2000.	
Aging PD&C	Alternative Housing Committee Roseau	Met with members of Roseau County Alternative Housing Committee. Discussed legislative proposals for providing increased housing options to seniors.	
Capacity Building Housing	Community Visit Warroad	Visited with City Clerk about housing and other community needs. Strategic planning help requested.	
Economic Development	Housing Construction Funding Warroad	Assisted with application to MHFA for funding to buy, rehab, and sell a home. NWCAA wrote application, NWRDC will serve as fiscal agent, NWCAA will complete. \$47,750. approved by MHFA.	
Arts Development	Arts Grant Warroad	Funded Warroad Summer Theatre for the production of "Pirates of Penzance" on August 1-5 and 8-12, 2001.	\$2,220
Arts Development	Arts Grant Warroad	Funded Warroad Summer Theatre for the production of "A Barrel Full of Pennies" on March 22-25, 2001.	\$1,725

McKnight Arts	Student Artist Grant Warroad	Funded Mina Ounchith to attend the visual arts weeklong workshop at the International Music Camp in Rugby, ND on July 22-28, 2001.	\$500
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Warroad	Funded Constance Wells for the purchase of a computer and software to help her promote her writing and to create higher quality samples of her writing.	\$750
McKnight Arts	Individual Artist Grant Warroad	Funded Lea Soltis to attend the Grand Marais Art Colony classes on painting from October 1-8, 2000.	\$750
McKnight Arts	Small Capital Grant Warroad	Warroad Summer Theater was selected as an alternate to receive \$1175.00 to purchase lighting equipment, a CD player, speakers, and muslin if funds become available.	
McKnight Arts	Training & Development Grant Warroad	Funded Warroad Summer Theater's technical training sessions with various professionals on auditioning, impro, make-up application, and set construction on July 14, 2001.	\$750
Aging Admin	LSS Senior Nutrition Program Warroad	Provided 9,011 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 316 persons in Warroad in 2000.	

Multi County Projects

Kittson, Marshall, and Pennington Counties

Aging Admin	2001 NW STS Chore Program	Extended contract with Northwest Sentencing to Service to provide chore services to seniors in Kittson, Marshall and Pennington counties.	\$15,000
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Kittson, Pennington, Red Lake, and Roseau Counties

Aging Admin	2001 Respite & Caregiver Support	Granted Lutheran Social Service a IIIB grant to provide respite services and coordinate caregiver support groups for seniors and their families in Pennington, Red Lake, Roseau and Kittson counties.	\$14,062
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Norman, Polk, and Red Lake Counties

Aging Admin	2001 Tri-County STS Chore Program	Extended contract with Tri-County Community Corrections to provide chore services to seniors in Norman, Polk and Red Lake counties utilizing the Sentencing to Service program.	\$13,469
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Norman, Pennington, Polk, and Roseau Counties

Aging Admin	2001 Valley Housekeeping Program	Extended contract with Tri-Valley Opportunity Council to provide homemaker services to seniors in Roseau, Pennington, Polk and Norman counties.	\$29,750
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors
Northwest Regional Development Commission
Warren, Minnesota 56762

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of Northwest Regional Development Commission as of June 30, 2000, and for the year then ended, as listed in the Table of Contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of Northwest Regional Development Commission, management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

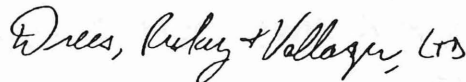
We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northwest Regional Development Commission, as of June 30, 2000, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued a report dated September 28, 2000 on our consideration of the Northwest Regional Development Commission's internal control over financial reporting and our test of compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as whole. The individual fund statements and schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of Northwest Regional Development Commission. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations", and is also not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of Northwest Regional Development Commission. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

DREES, RISKEY & VALLAGER, LTD.



Certified Public Accountants

September 28, 2000
Crookston, Minnesota

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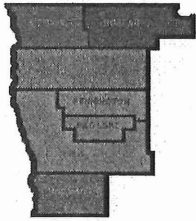
Welcome! This Visit Northwest Minnesota site is filled with information on the counties and cities of northwest Minnesota, and all they have to offer in terms of services and recreation. The counties covered include Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau. A special highlight of this site is the Northwest Minnesota Tourism Directory.


So . . .

- Visit Northwest Minnesota to swim and boat in our lakes.
- Visit Northwest Minnesota to snowmobile and ski on our trails.
- Visit Northwest Minnesota to relax with your family.
- Visit Northwest Minnesota to learn about business development opportunities.
- Visit Northwest Minnesota to experience our culture and natural beauty.

Visit Northwest Minnesota, you won't regret your trip.

Main Contents:
 Area News
 County Information
 Road Construction Maps
 Directories and Services





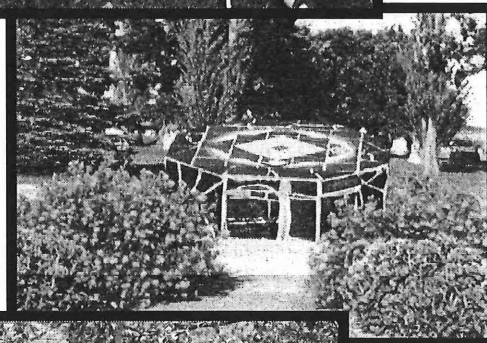
Contact Information

Visit Northwest Minnesota is created and published by the Northwest Regional Development Commission. To view information on NWRDC programs and services click on the NWRDC Home icon throughout this web site and it will take you to www.nwrdc.org

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Top and bottom photo's taken by Ken McDonald at festivals in our region. Middle photo taken of the public art project in Red Lake Falls honoring their communities founder Pierre Bottineau.

"Visit Northwest Minnesota" is the new slogan which will complement the NWRDC sponsored web site: www.visitnwminnesota.com an example of the first page of the web site is shown above.

This site contains our tourism directory as well as information about the seven counties in Region 1. More information will be continually added on local communities, links to other sites promoting Northwest Minnesota, and connections to groups who share a passion for all types of activities, sports, recreations, and events. Please check out our new site and let us know if you would like to add some information on your community.