

Castle Announces Grant for Job Placement Program at University of Delaware -- October 10, 2007

Washington, DC - Delaware Congressman Michael N. Castle announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded a \$50,000 grant to Delaware's Sussex County Council. The funds will help to finance housing rehabilitation programs for low-income homeowners in Kent and Sussex County. Serving on the House Financial Services and Housing Committee, Rep. Castle believes it is critical to fund these types of programs to increase homeownership.

"Safe and affordable housing is an issue of growing concern across Delaware and the nation. Groups like USDA should be commended for their efforts to provide adequate housing through grants like this and rehabilitation projects, particularly to those in rural areas of the state," Rep. Castle said

This program has been long supported by the USDA in Delaware. "The USDA Rural Development grant provided to Kent and Sussex Counties will help homeowners with limited income remove health and safety hazards from their homes," said USDA Rural Development State Director Marlene Elliott. "We are pleased to be a partner with our local governments by returning the people's money to rural Delaware to help provide for safer homes and improve the quality of life for our rural residents."

Bill Lecates of Sussex County Council said, "The housing preservation grant allows the Sussex County Council and Community Development and Kent County Levy Court to alleviate substandard housing conditions immediately for very low income homeowners. There is an immense need for this greatly appreciated program."

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