

# Agency 95 - Rural Development Commission

## Statutory Authority:

Authority for the Nebraska Rural Development Commission is found in Sections 81-1282 through 81-1287.

## Vision Statement:

The Nebraska Rural Development Commission believes that every rural citizen, business, farmer, rancher and community should have the opportunity to grow, thrive and prosper. The Commission believes this should happen in an environment of sustainable community and economic development that contributes to enhanced opportunity, quality of life, and wealth creation throughout Nebraska's communities and society. The Commission agenda is organized to focus on the critical issues of the day that will make a difference in the ability of all rural citizens and communities to succeed.

## Mission Statement:

The mission and purpose of the Rural Development Commission, as outlined in state statute, shall be to advocate and recommend programs that encourage regional cooperation, foster community sustainability, and enhance economic development initiatives in rural Nebraska. The Commission fulfills its mission largely through initiatives that provide rural input into decision making, monitoring issues, facilitating challenges and championing solutions.

## Goals:

1. To provide up to date and comprehensive information to rural citizens on community and economic development initiatives and programs in Nebraska that may be adapted to their particular needs.
2. To improve rural/urban communication and relations.
3. To provide training and learning opportunities to commissioners to enhance their abilities as rural leaders.
4. To improve communications between rural Nebraska and state leaders and officials.
5. To continue to build the development network in Nebraska.
6. To continue the Commission's partnerships with other state agencies dedicated to improving Nebraska quality of life and build new partnerships with appropriate entities.
7. To serve as a field resource for rural Nebraskans providing them with information and technical assistance in their communities.
8. To continue to participate in the National Rural Development Partnership and ensure through our participation a voice in national rural development policy.

## Financial Data:

	Actual FY00	Approp FY01	Request FY02	Recom FY02	Request FY03	Recom FY03
General Fund	341,713	355,792	366,946	371,369	365,853	387,291
Cash Fund	31,856	20,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Federal Fund	98,602	125,000	116,400	116,400	116,400	116,400
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>472,171</b>	<b>500,792</b>	<b>488,346</b>	<b>492,769</b>	<b>487,253</b>	<b>508,691</b>

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## Program 134 - Rural Development Commission

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### Program Objectives:

As stated in the Commission's Agency Vision statement, the Commission believes that every rural citizen and community should have the opportunity to grow, thrive and prosper in an environment of sustainable community and economic development; an environment that contributes to enhanced opportunity, quality of life, and wealth creation. The Commission's purpose is to foster sustainable community and economic development initiatives that enable Nebraska citizens and communities to realize the goals of growth, prosperity, opportunity, and positive quality of life. The Commission will provide information to the Governor, Legislature, other state agencies, and communities to assist them in identifying challenges and opportunities that either diminish or enhance the development environment.

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### Performance Measures:

- Objective #1: Enhanced rural awareness campaign.
- Objective #2: Increase rural advocacy efforts.
- Objective #3: Strengthen community sustainability and growth through capacity building.
- Objective #4: Better rural development innovation and "best practice" information transfer.
- Objective #5: Facilitate increased rural service provider coordination and cooperation.
- Objective #6: Continue role as advisory body to Governor, Legislature, and state agencies.
- Objective #7: Utilize multi-community and agency partnerships to foster, deliver, and implement rural development initiatives.
- Objective #8: Continue to serve as Nebraska's rural development council within the National Rural Development Partnership.
- Objective #9: Continue to serve as a member of the Partnership for Rural Nebraska.
- Objective #10: Continue to administer and support the Nebraska Development Network.