



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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Rural Development Finances new Multi-Million Dollar Childcare Facility for Warren County

COLUMBUS, OHIO – Dec. 18, 2009 – Ohio USDA Rural Development State Director, J. Anthony “Tony” Logan joined the staff of the South Lebanon Early Learning Center and members of the community yesterday for the groundbreaking ceremony of the new multi-million dollar facility. The center is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2010.

“Groundbreaking for the new facility is a very significant event for the families in Warren County and surrounding areas who are seeking safe, affordable childcare options,” said Logan. “This project was financed with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), which is a vital component of the Obama administration’s job stimulus bill. Rural Development is focused on strategically investing program funds in rural communities that have demonstrated needs for essential projects like childcare.”

Rural Development provided a total financial assistance package of \$1,850,000, with \$50,000 of that coming from a grant. That funding was supplemented with \$150,000 from the Health and Human Services and \$95,000 from the Warren County Community Services, Inc.

Funding will be used to build a new 14,450 square foot head start facility that will house six classrooms, support staff offices, bathrooms, kitchen and community meeting room. The increased space will allow the learning center to almost double its capacity to 150 children from six months to kindergarten age.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural development needs, and administers funding through three major program delivery areas: Housing Programs, Business Programs, and Community Programs. USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents.

Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in home ownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on USDA Rural Development programs can be obtained by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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