



NEWS RELEASE

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USDA Rural Development Awards Carbondale Center for Small Business Technology Transfer, Inc. \$100,000 Rural Business Grant

Carbondale, PA – August 7, 2008 – Congressman Christopher Carney and USDA Rural Development Area Director Gary H. Groves presented a \$100,000 ceremonial check to Carbondale Center for Small Business Technology Transfer, Inc.’s Paul Browne, Executive Director. The monies represent a Rural Business Enterprise Grant to be used to provide technical assistance.

“I am committed to protecting our small businesses in our rural communities. These Rural Development Funds are providing a much-needed boost to local businesses in our area that will benefit from The Carbondale Center for Small Business Technology Transfer Center kitchen incubator. These funds will have far-reaching economic impacts for the region, helping small and emerging businesses in Bradford, Lackawanna, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga and Wyoming counties,” said Congressman Christopher P. Carney.

“The Rural Development grant award will help stimulate much-needed economic development in the Carbondale area,” said Gary H. Groves, Rural Development State Director. “It demonstrates the commitment Rural Development is making to the future of our rural communities,” added Groves.

The Rural Development funds will be used to provide technical assistance in the development of food businesses, products and marketing in compliance with state and federal regulations from a fully-equipped commercial kitchen. The Carbondale Center for Small Business Technology Transfer kitchen incubator will assist small and emerging businesses in Bradford, Lackawanna, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga and Wyoming counties. Additional funding is provided by the State (\$40,000), Ben Franklin Technology Partners Program (\$25,000), Keystone College (\$35,631) and the recipient (\$609,874).

The Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program offers grants to public bodies, nonprofit corporations and federally recognized Indian tribal groups to finance and facilitate development of small and emerging businesses located in rural areas. The grant funds may be used for: 1) acquisition and development of land and the construction of buildings, plants and equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas and utility and service extensions; 2) revolving loan funds; and 3) fees for professional services, technical assistance, etc.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal agency for rural development needs by offering financial and technical assistance to individuals, businesses and communities. USDA Rural Development programs include funding for day care centers, fire trucks and other community facility projects; the purchase, construction or repair of homes; loans and guarantees to rural businesses to save or create jobs and renewable energy; and loans and grants for water and sewer utility projects. For more information on programs offered by USDA Rural Development, contact the Pennsylvania State Office at (717) 237-2299 or visit its website at www.rurdev.usda.gov/pa.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

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