

Lewis and Clark Regional Development Council

Outline of Need:

In 1984, an underground diesel plume was discovered underneath the downtown area of the city of Mandan. Although it has been over 20 years since its discovery, the plume has still prohibited the community from attracting businesses and development in the downtown community. Despite the substantial progress in the clean up efforts, a need still exists for additional capital to assist in the revitalization of the Mandan business environment.

How Rural Development Helped:

Community leaders decided to establish a revolving fund in order to promote economic development and attract new businesses. Through Rural Development's Intermediary Relending Program (IRP), Lewis and Clark Regional Development Council applied for, and were awarded, a \$750,000 loan to be matched with a \$250,000 contribution by the city of Mandan. Through their combined efforts, a \$1 million revolving loan fund was created. The loan fund is available to businesses and community development projects within the city and a 10-mile radius of the city within Morton County.

The Results:

With the revolving loan fund in place, the Lewis and Clark Regional Development Council will be able to assist Mandan's downtown economic revitalization. The Council will also assist in the creation of new jobs and will increase the activity of existing downtown businesses. This will have a positive impact, not only for the local tax base, but also for the self esteem of the city as a whole.

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