

PRIORITIES MAY CHANGE BUT MEMORIES OF HOME REMAIN CONSTANT

Outline Of Need: *Florence Hink of Raymond, SD has lived in her home for 40 years. She and her husband, Marvin, bought it in 1967 and raised their children in this house. Her husband passed away in 1987, and Florence went to work at Duckwall in Clark. Three years ago, lots of things changed. Duckwall closed, leaving Florence without a job – just when she needed the money for medical expenses. Florence was diagnosed with breast cancer. Thanks to her wonderful doctor and a positive attitude, Florence came through the treatment with flying colors. However, she wasn't able to continue working full-time, so she wasn't able to keep up with the repairs on her house. She also had both knees replaced, so it was getting harder every day to get in and out of the bathtub.*

How Rural Development Helped: *USDA Rural Development was able to help Florence make needed repairs with their 504 Repair Program. Steel roofing was installed, a window and door were replaced, and her bathroom was remodeled so it is now handicapped accessible. InterLakes Community Action also helped by installing gutters, painting the exterior of the house, and painting and carpeting the kitchen. With a low-interest loan and a grant, Florence was able to have all the needed repairs completed without causing financial hardship.*

The Results: *Florence stated, "I am so thankful for the work that was done and the help that Rural Development and ICAP gave to get it done. I especially enjoy my new accessible bathroom. It's sure a lot easier on aches and pains!" Florence loves her home, with all its memories, and is glad to share it with Snaps, her black and white Shih Tzu. One of the jobs Florence was able to keep through her illness was working at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds. Florence has worked at the State Fair for 20 years and would feel lost without it. She looks forward to spending a few days in Huron each fall, seeing old friends and meeting new ones. She also volunteers 5 days a week for the 60's Plus Dining. By doing this, she gets out each day and sees the many neighbors and friends she's made in the 40 years she's lived in Raymond. She also helped out with Raymond's 125th celebration last year and invites people to visit this wonderful community.*

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