



3 0307 00010 7899

Kittson

Roseau

Marshall

Pennington

Red Lake

Polk

Norman

**NW Regional
Development
Commission**



**ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 1996**

HT
393
.M62
N67ax
1996



Information about Government and Development Issues
in Northwest Minnesota

Working for Local Units of Government in Kittson, Marshall, Norman,
Pennington, Polk, Red Lake and Roseau Counties

TABLE OF CONTENTS •

Letter from the Chairperson	.	.	.	.	.	2
Commission Membership List	.	.	.	.	.	3
Budget	.	.	.	.	.	4
Audit Letter	.	.	.	.	.	5
Community Development	.	.	.	.	.	7
Regional Forum	.	.	.	.	.	10
Economic Development	.	.	.	.	.	12
Arts	.	.	.	.	.	16
Aging	.	.	.	.	.	18
Transportation	.	.	.	.	.	22
Enterprise Fund Annual Report	.	.	.	.	.	24
Publications	.	.	.	.	.	26
Committee Lists	.	.	.	.	.	27
Projects Listings						
Kittson	.	.	.	.	.	28
Marshall	.	.	.	.	.	29
Norman	.	.	.	.	.	31
Pennington	.	.	.	.	.	32
Polk	.	.	.	.	.	34
Red Lake	.	.	.	.	.	38
Roseau	.	.	.	.	.	40
Multi County	.	.	.	.	.	41



NW Regional Development Commission

RECEIVED

AUG 15 1996

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

What The NWRDC is All About . . .

Regional Development Commissions were created by the State Legislature through the Regional Development Act of 1969. The intent of the Act was to create an option for rural units of government to supplement existing public services and coordinate specific activities of mutual concern. Although created by the State, Regional Development Commissions were left in the hands of local representatives to insure that the final design would reflect area needs and preferences.

The Northwest Regional Development Commission was created on February 2, 1973 by the joint actions of local units of government. Programs were set up to reflect priority work items of the time; and relationships were established with the state and

federal agencies that could provide assistance with local projects. Programs and work priorities have changed in response to economic and social trends; but the central mission of supporting efforts by cities, counties, townships, businesses and individuals to improve living, working and natural resource conditions in Northwest Minnesota has remained the same.

The Commission has worked to establish a manner of operation which reflects and compliments the independent, progressive style of Northwest Minnesota. Technical assistance, specialized program delivery, public participation, direct funding, access to information and formalized planning services are the basic materials which we can contribute to the construction of your project.

Please look over our Annual Report and stop by or call if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

NWRDC Staff

Rose Carriere, Aging Program Assistant
Carolyn Eeg, Loan Fund Consultant
Leon Heath, Executive Director
Arlys Korynta, Secretary/Receptionist
Steve Lorch, Transportation Planner
Mara Lunde, Arts Council Director
Linda Nelson, Loan Fund Manager
Danica Robson, Aging Program Director
Carol Sorensen, Financial Officer
Kathy Thunem, Economic Development Planner

Staff who worked at the NWRDC this past year but no longer work at the RDC:

Jim Strandlie

NORTHWEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION •

Letter from the Chairperson

"A Clearer Rural Vision"

The past year has seen the start of what may be some significant new thinking for our part of the state. Issues such as wetlands, land use planning and road funding have awakened a desire to find new ways to communicate our needs and to deal with the social and natural differences which exist across the state. This desire, combined with an improving economic picture in Minnesota, may afford us the opportunity to more carefully examine how we want to live and what we want our communities to look like in the future. Over the past ten years unemployment has dropped by 4.7% in the seven counties which the Northwest RDC serves and employment has grown by almost 10,000 jobs. Although the growth is not evenly spread, it appears that even the economically hardest hit areas have stabilized.



NWRDC Board of Directors

Back Row: Lyle Eisert, Joe Bouvette, Delray Larson, Oliver Swanson

Front Row: Charles Lindberg, Kevin Amiot, Rudee Anderson

Not pictured: Glen Brookshire

- 2 Natural resources' questions have seemed to grow in importance, even though many of the predominate past issues such as solid waste disposal have moved toward acceptable solutions. One of the most significant changes in natural resource has been the increasing role of local units of government, especially counties. Water planning, shoreland management, feedlot management and wetlands management have recently become part of each counties set of responsibilities. This requires new types of decision making capacity and counties are discussing the types of materials that are needed to make informed decisions. Comprehensive land use plans have been at the center of this discussion; and we will probably see several counties moving toward strong county planning in the next few years.

NWRDC members and staff have been following these developments, and several shifts have been made to make certain that our programs reflect local needs. The two central changes have been the development of modern information systems and a movement toward county and community based program planning. Staff expect to have basic

Geographical Information System (GIS) capacity in place by the end of this summer. We are also planning an individual input and evaluation session in each county this fall to make certain our programs are responsive to local situations.

The abundance of high quality natural resources and the growing economic strength in Northern Minnesota have provided us with great opportunity. The planning and organizational efforts now underway can result in a clearer vision for the use of those opportunities. We look forward to working with everyone in this effort during the upcoming year. Please be sure to contact us if we can be more supportive of initiatives in your communities.

Joe Bouvette, Chair



NWRDC Staff

Back Row: Leon Heath, Linda Nelson,
Carol Sorenson, Steve Lorch, Mara Lunde
Front Row: Kathy Thunem, Arlys Korynta,
Rose Carriere, Danica Robson

Commission Membership

Kittson County

**Dr. Joe Bouvette	Hallock	Industry
Kimberley Johnson	Kennedy	Township
*Charles Lindberg	Kennedy	County
George Wikstrom, Jr.	Karlstad	Municipalities

Marshall County

Bruce Anderson	Argyle	Municipalities
Duane Fillipi	Warren	Financial Inst.
*Delray Larson	Gatzke	County
Marville Magnusson	Argyle	Townships
Susan Schuler	Grygla	School Boards

Norman County

*Glen Brookshire	Halstad	Municipalities
Fred Jamison	Ada	Townships
Warren Olson	Halstad	County

Pennington County

John Erickson	RLF	Townships
Jean Heinrichs	TRF	Municipalities
Daniel Johnson	Goodridge	SWCD
Roy Jorgenson	TRF	Seniors
*Oliver Swanson	TRF	County

Polk County

Marlene Baatz	Nielsville	Townships
Don R. Cavalier	Crookston	Labor
Dan Chapa	EGF	Minorities
*Lyle Eisert	Crookston	County
Duane Knutson	Fertile	Municipalities
Jon Rustad	Fosston	School Board
Bernie Solberg	Gully	Women
Warren Strandell	EGF	Business

Red Lake County

*Kevin Amiot	RLF	County
Genevieve Knott	RLF	Townships
Robert Melby	Oklee	Low Income
Arnold Paradis	Brooks	Municipalities
Vaughn Thorfinnson	RLF	Vocational Schools
Ronald Weiss	RLF	Agriculture

Roseau County

*Rudee Anderson	Greenbush	Watershed Dist.
Bernie Burggraf	Roseau	Municipalities
Glenn Darst	Greenbush	County
Carol Kofstad	Warroad	Townships

*Board Members

**Chairperson

Members who served for part of FY'96: Thora Abrahamson
and Earl Visser.

COMMISSION BUDGET

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY'96</u>	<u>PROJECTED FY'97</u>
FEDERAL		
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMIN.	\$334,088	\$337,333
DHHS - AREA AGENCY ON AGING	\$442,951	\$441,146
USDA - NUTRITION FUNDS	\$131,476	\$161,257
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR ARTS	\$5,723	\$0
	\$914,238	\$939,736
STATE		
MN/DOT	\$38,812	\$39,952
STATE ARTS BOARD	\$77,115	\$72,647
MN CENTER FOR ARTS EDUCATION	\$8,722	\$8,300
MN DEPT. TRADE & ECONOMIC DEV.	\$32,766	\$0
STATE NUTRITION	\$82,977	\$82,977
	\$240,392	\$203,876
PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS		
MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION - ARTS	\$16,000	\$19,500
NWMIF	\$21,808	\$750
	\$37,808	\$20,250
LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL		
LOCAL LEVY	\$131,689	\$133,531
MISCELLANEOUS LOCAL CONTRACTS	\$11,115	\$17,500
COUNTY AND RDC MATCH FOR LOAN FUND	\$23,722	\$142,667
	\$166,526	\$293,698
MISCELLANEOUS		
NORTHWEST ENTERPRISE FUND	\$386,303	\$383,923
INTEREST	\$16,374	\$8,571
CONFERENCE REGIST./MISC.	\$3,108	\$4,600
	\$405,785	\$397,094
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$1,764,749</u>	<u>\$1,854,654</u>

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY'96</u>	<u>PROJECTED FY'97</u>
SALARY/FRINGE	\$296,158	\$298,558
STAFF TRAVEL & REGISTRATIONS	\$21,006	\$27,246
COMMISSION/COMMITTEE TRAVEL/PER DIEM	\$24,810	\$35,515
PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$31,957	\$10,263
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$78,634	\$73,157
TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	\$452,565	\$444,739
REGRANTED	\$631,624	\$653,763
BUSINESS LOANS	\$322,610	\$755,152
FLOOD BUSINESS LOANS	\$330,000	\$0
FIXED ASSETS/RESTRICTED FUND	\$7,173	\$9,000
DEPRECIATION	(\$8,367)	(\$8,000)
	(\$1,194)	\$1,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$1,735,605</u>	<u>\$1,854,654</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) TO FUND BALANCE	<u>\$29,144</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Certified Public Accountants

117 South Broadway

Crookston, Minnesota 56716

Telephone (218) 281-3789

FAX (218) 281-5245

-3-

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Directors
Northwest Regional Development Commission
Warren, Minnesota 56762

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of Northwest Regional Development Commission as of June 30, 1995, and for the year then ended, as listed in the Table of Contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of Northwest Regional Development Commission, management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

5

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-128 Audits of State and Local Governments. Those standards and Circular A-128 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Northwest Regional Development Commission, as of June 30, 1995, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as whole. The individual fund statement and the Schedule of Federal Financial Assistance are presented for purposes of additional

analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of Northwest Regional Development Commission. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

DREES, RISKEY & VALLAGER, LTD.

Drees, Risky & Vallager, LTD

Certified Public Accountants



Community Development • "The

capacity now exists to democratize electronic information ." Al Steele, USDA Forest Service, Economic Action Program, Morgantown, WV.

Purpose: Provide local units of government, community organizations and governmental agencies with professional services which will support and encourage projects designed to improve the quality of life in the area.

Funding Sources: RDC Tax Levy - \$15,275

Service Priorities: Planning, Grant Writing, Contracted Community Services, New Technology,

Community Development activities concentrate on providing help to local groups in completing a wide variety of improvement projects. This program has been moving more and more toward information services both in terms of raw data and specialized computer services. These services make it easier for local groups to promote attractions, to plan out a course of action or to complete a grant application. In many cases the development of increased capacity at the community or county level has resulted in NWRDC staff providing information and technical support where we would once have provided more direct day to day assistance on projects.

7

One of the priority activities this year was making contacts with community leaders and lenders to make certain that our economic development loan fund is accessible and responsive to local business needs. Visits were made to each community in the region and input on specific projects or suggestions on possible process changes were directed back to both Loan Fund staff and the Enterprise Fund Loan Committee. Several new projects were identified during these conversations and suggested changes are being incorporated into the loan process.

Throughout the year staff has been providing assistance in creating promotional maps and brochures for cities, counties and non-profit organizations. This activity helps promote the region to prospective businesses and tourists.

Community Development • con't

PENNINGTON WATER PLANNING

Purpose: Assist with Pennington Counties effort to plan for a sustainable system of water resources which can safely support the economic, social and natural systems in the County.

Funding Sources: Local Contract - \$3,870, and RDC Tax Levy - \$203

Service Priorities: Implementation of Initiatives, Plan Administration, Workplan and budget development.

The Pennington County Water Planning project is part of the effort by the Commission to support an expanded role for counties in natural resource issues. County water planning has grown over the past few years to include key issues such as wetlands, feedlots, septic systems, shorelands and more. Hopefully, activities in water planning, land use planning, data systems and statewide planning coordination will come together in an informed decision making process.

8

County Water Plans must look at a wide variety of information sources and identify priority issues which affect both surface and ground water quality. Priorities for 1996 include shoreland improvements, data collection, new septic system rules and maintaining educational effort in conservation methods.

NORTHERN COUNTIES

Purpose: Assist with the Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board's (Northern Counties) effort to develop a model for comprehensive county land use planning.

Funding Sources: Northern Counties - \$7,245.

Service Priorities: Project Administration, Workplan and Budget development, Selection of Contractors.

The Northern Counties group contracted with the NWRDC to provide administrative and project management support to a \$375,000 project with the following objectives:

- A. Develop a scientifically sound model for county based land use planning.
- B. Design and complete a public participation process to establish a natural resource planning round table in Northern Minnesota.
- C. Develop a GIS system to support the planning model
- D. Complete draft land use plans for the ten member counties.

Consultants will be selected to complete work activities under each objective and the final products will be available in an electronic format for use by other counties and organizations. Involvement in this project should assist the Commission in establishing the capacity to support land use planning efforts in our area.

FLOOD RECOVERY PROGRAM

Purpose: Develop recovery strategies based on the identified damages and implement strategies to correct the damage, and assist with many flood related projects due to the 1993 flood.

Funding Sources: Economic Development Administration - \$17,076.

Service Priorities: Capital needs of business including emphasis on a Disaster Revolving Loan Fund, public facilities construction; especially community infra-structure projects, long-term mitigation and flood plain management, and individual assistance.

The special program related to the 1993 flood was closed out in the early part of FY 96 . This program provided funding for the NWRDC to hire staff to assist local communities in applying for funding under a variety of special federal programs. The primary impacts of the program were the creation of a \$652,500. business loan program and assistance to various local grant applications which totaled \$3,162,500.

Community Development Projects

Information and Data Services

- Maintained a set of current economic and demographic information and responded to requests for information.
- Obtained basic natural resource data in an electronic format to support increasing interest in county water and land use planning.
- Started the process of establishing the use of new information technologies such as CD-ROM storage, electronic databases, GIS and internet as replacements for existing paper storage methods.
- Established computer programs, printer hardware and staff capacity to provide mapping, promotional materials and other types of digital based information processing services to local communities.
- Participated in statewide discussions on the establishment of improved systems for sharing information and assisting local units of government with the new technologies involved in natural resource management. This effort concentrated on the creation of basic Geographical Information Systems which are easy to use.
- Updated and distributed the 1996 version of the Northwest Minnesota Tourism Directory.

Flood Coordination

- Provided input into the completion of the Red River Environmental Assessment.
- Finished up work on the flood recovery effort related to the 1993 Flood.
- Contacted all communities affected by flooding in 1996 to determine if there were needs which could be addressed by programs of the NWRDC.

Loan Fund Services

- Completed visits to each community in the Region to determine if there were business loan needs that could be more effectively met by the Commission
- Completed a marketing program to make certain businesses are aware of our loan programs.
- Provided increased technical assistance to loan applicants with special financing issues.
- Assisted with changes to the Loan Fund to make the program more accessible to potential users.



REGIONAL FORUM

"There is good regional and there is bad regional."

Purpose: To create a consensus between policy makers, service providers and the public on the most cost effective approaches to resource development and improving the quality of life in Northwest Minnesota; and to assist in implementing those approaches that are most appropriate to the Commission's role as a service provider.

Funding Source: Local Tax Levy - \$11,462; and interest - \$14,732.

Service Priorities: Consensus building, planning, research, information, new program development, legislative advocacy.

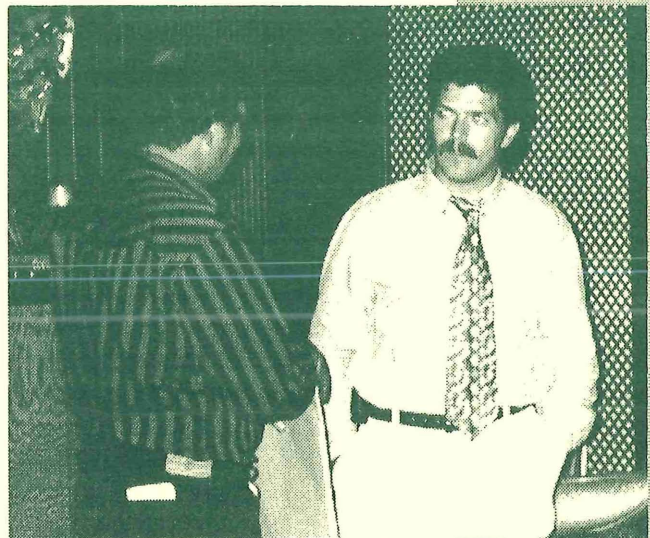
Regional Forum describes the activities which support the operation of the Commission and the place where resources are allocated to emerging concerns in the area. Priorities tend to change in this program on a fairly regular basis as new issues come to the forefront. The past year saw a finish up of efforts to assist units of government, businesses and individuals with damage created by the 1993 flood and a decrease in telecommunications planning following successful efforts by several local groups. New issues included a significant effort to support an examination of land use planning and an active program by the Minnesota Association of Regional Development Organizations (MRDO) to start a reexamination of Regional Development Commission legislation.

The renewed interest in planning, especially multi-jurisdictional planning, created a small spotlight on the relationship between regional entities and the units of government they serve. Proposed legislation to require a regional study of growth in the St. Cloud area touched off a vigorous discussion of the different ways local units of government (LGUs) can work together. The Metropolitan Council joined with MRDO in order to start discussions of how to coordinate planning efforts related to growth around the seven county metropolitan area. The nine county Northern

Counties Land Use Coordinating Board, which includes two counties from Region One, moved forward with an effort to establish a sound scientific basis for county natural resource management.

An emerging trend in many of these activities seems to suggest that a statewide planning system is needed which can address both unique local needs and the demand for a means to coordinate issues which deal with multi-county, state or federal concerns. Although the final configuration for any statewide planning system is far from determined, it does seem clear the good regional planning will consist of strong technical support for planning efforts by counties and other LGUs, while bad regional planning would consist of any efforts to set any broad policy direction by region.

NWRDC activities will continue to concentrate on technical support of planning efforts by local units of government and encouraging discussions on how joint problems can be cooperatively addressed by the different levels of government.



Commission members and staff discuss issues after the annual meeting.

Regional Forum Projects

- Service Directory
Maintain extensive mailing list of all Governmental and Service Agencies in Region I. Provide mailing lists on a request basis to appropriate agencies.
- Local Performance Aid
Examine the possibility of assisting in development of a format to complete local performance aid planning for local units of government
- Northern Counties Landuse Planning
Assist in development of the methodology for counties to complete comprehensive landuse plans which address human, economic and natural resource issues
- MNet Telecommunications Committee
Served as a member of the MNet Committee of the State Department of Administration. This Committee makes recommendations on the development of the state system for telecommunications connections between state and local units of government.
- Private Industry Council
Complete grant proposal and background work for administration of the program and role of the Local Elected Officials group
- Local Presentations on NWRDC Activities
Made presentation in Fosston and Hallock.
- MRDO
Participated in activities of the Minnesota Association of Regional Development Organizations including development of statewide legislative approaches, sharing program ideas and providing information on RDC activities
- Legislative Advocacy
Completed a listing of legislative priorities. Completed more detailed work on the issue of local environmental planning councils

Economic Development

• "With the cuts in state and federal staff, it's imperative that Regional Planning Commissions be able to take on more of the responsibility for assisting in Economic Development Administration (EDA) programs." Jack Arnold, Economic Development Representative for Minnesota, EDA

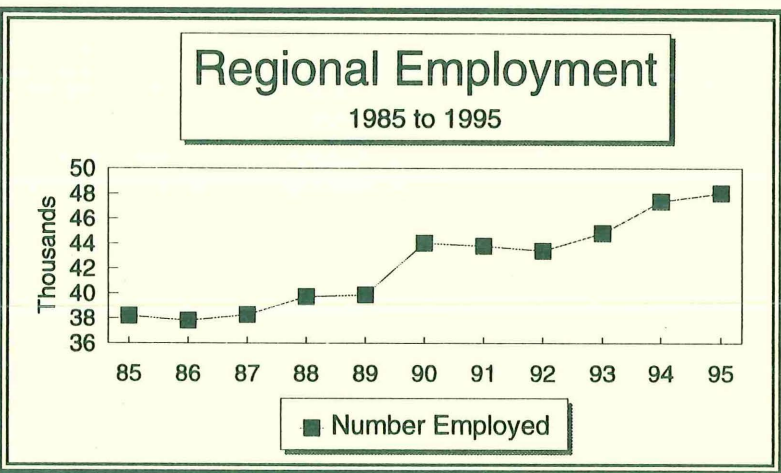
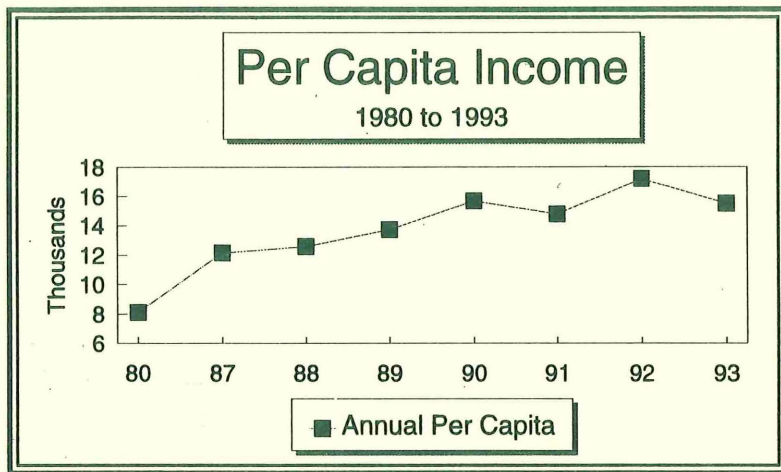
Purpose: Improve the economic base in the Region by providing general planning guidance and technical assistance to local units of government and specific industrial projects that will result in increased job opportunities, an enlarged tax base, and a more positive economic image for the area.

Funding Sources: United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) - \$55,466 and the RDC Tax Levy - \$19,654.

Service Priorities: Regional direction setting, county/local direction setting, grant writing, encouraging innovation, financing industry, agricultural value added, tourism, international trade, environmental sustainable methods, and telecommunity development.

The counties of the region have been designated as an Economic Development Planning District of the US Economic Development Administration (EDA). This designation entitles communities to participate in funding programs provided through EDA that can assist in the creation or expansion of businesses that provide jobs in the region.

Additionally, this designation requires an annual update of the region's Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP). The OEDP provides insights into the economic potentials of Northwestern Minnesota and outlines approaches which can lead to increased job opportunities and economic activity. In 1996 these approaches concentrate on supporting the economic development efforts of local communities, encouraging local innovation and providing direct assistance to industry, agricultural processing, tourism and increased trade with Canada. Each approach recognizes that the long term creation of jobs starts with a good local idea which is helped through the process of becoming an industry or a business.



Economic Development services provide for direct technical assistance to your community in a variety of projects such as grant writing, provision of data and statistics and local planning. Services also include research and information packaging and projects that will benefit all communities in the region.

As a result of region wide communications, a major focus of the Economic Development program during 1996 has been to begin to address the lack of affordable housing for the region's labor force. This emphasis will continue for the next three years during which time we will strive to increase local housing capacity throughout the region.

Economic Development Projects

- Overall Economic Development Program

Prepared the annual OEDP Update and presented to County Commissioners. The OEDP is required to maintain status as a Federal Economic Development District. EDA has funded over \$17 million for projects in Region One since its inception.

- The RED Book

Distributed over 400 copies of the Resources for Economic Development Directory over the past two years.

- NW MN Economic Developers Network

Provided coordination/organization/information dissemination for the regionwide organization of economic development professionals. The Network meets three times per year and members receive information regarding funding opportunities and events.

- Region I Program Participation List

Maintained listing of federal and state programs in which communities and businesses in Region I participate.

- DTED Projects/Assistance

Responded to Department of Trade and Economic Development requests for assistance in projects and contacts in the Region. -

- DNR ReLeaf Program

Participated in review of communities' applications to receive grant dollars from the DNR ReLeaf program for the planting of trees for the purposes of energy conservation.

- Community Planning

Began development of a method to assist communities in developing a written plan through review of problems and needs, development of goals and indicators, a review process and data and mapping information.

- Enterprise Facilitation/"IdeaNet"

Assist counties/communities and residents in pursuing development of ideas and projects as they relate to the stated goals of the Region I OEDP: "Ideas to Jobs." Updated IdeaNet booklet for second printing.

- NW MN Blueprint for Econ Develop Implementation

Administrative tasks relative to implementation of \$20,000 grant for Blueprint Implementation projects. Establish work program, budget, materials for distribution, project contracts, monitor and report on program and budget activities. Issue final report.

- MHFA Projects/Assistance

Responded to Minnesota Housing Finance Agency request to assist in the development of "Investment Guidelines" for the 12-County MHFA Region.



Housing Projects

- Northwest MN Housing Coalition

Participated with Headwaters RDC, Northwest MIF, Greater MN Housing Network, and MN Multi-County HRA in development of a program to encourage the construction of multi-family and single family housing which is needed to support job growth. A three-year plan has been funded through the Minnesota Housing Partnership and the NWMIF.

- Regional One Housing Development Alliance

Work with Multi-County HRA, Tri Valley, Northwest Community Action and Inter County to administer a grant from DTED to provide assistance to communities that are experiencing problems with the lack of affordable housing for new workers. NWRDC provides administrative services for ROHDA and facilitates project initiation, progression and completion.

- Housing Local Needs Assessment

Issued Technical Assistance Request to all mayors, city clerks, economic development professionals and county commissioners to acquire information on project needs. Tallied results and provided to each respondent. Results used for program planning.

- Full Cycle Home Ownership Program

NWRDC received funding for delivery of education and counseling programs for potential home buyers. The services will be delivered through the CAP agencies and the Extension service. The NWRDC will administer the project.

- Housing: Construction

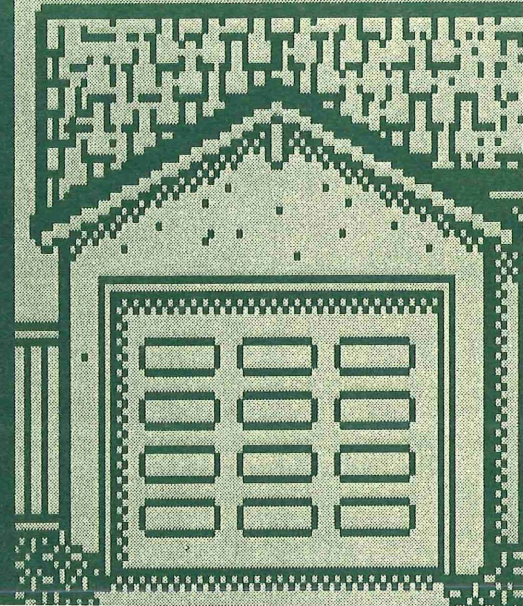
ROHDA participants are investigating housing construction alternatives to stick built.

- Housing: 4-plex Project

Began investigating methods of producing 4 plexes in communities throughout the region through a multi-community project.

- Regional Meetings

Held two regional meetings to discuss housing projects and potential funding sources. Representatives from Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Rural Development, Greater MN Housing Funds, Minnesota Housing Partnership and the Department of Trade and Economic Development participated in assisting community representatives including bankers, realtors, developers and local government staff.



Home Buying: Are You Ready?

Mondays - June 10, 17, 24

**7:00-9:30 p.m. - Northwestern Technical
College - East Grand Forks**

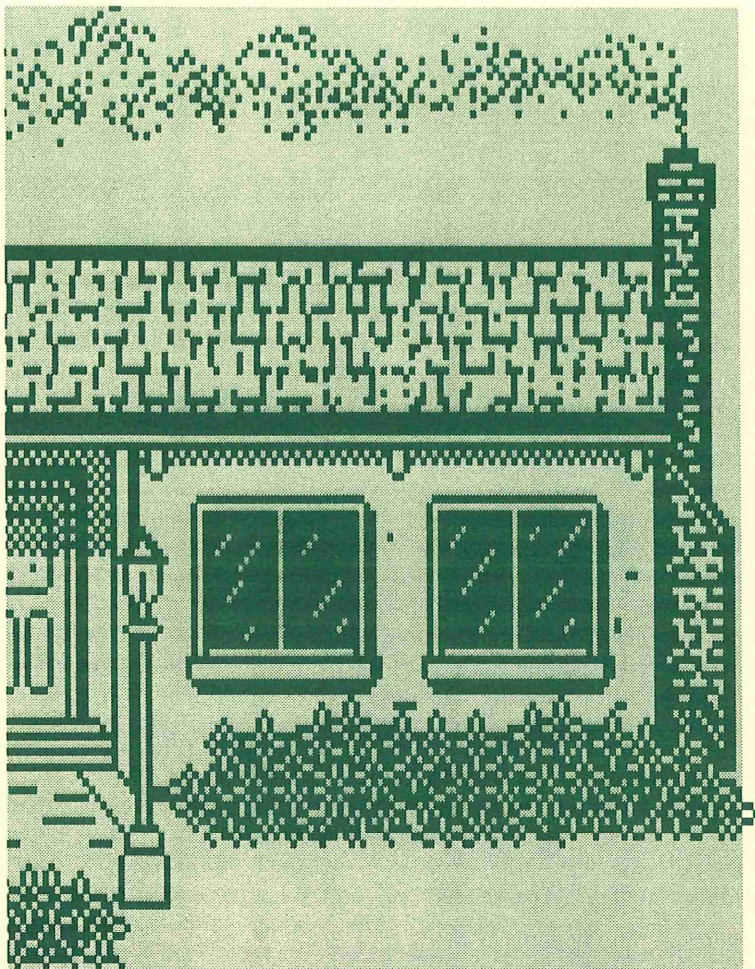


- How much home can you afford
- Shopping and qualifying for a mortgage
- Finding the perfect home
- The real estate transaction
- The responsibilities of home ownership



Sponsored by Minnesota Extension Service, Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.
For registration information call Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. at
218 281-5832 or 1-800-584-7020

Home Buyer workshops are being presented in communities throughout the Region in connection with the Full Cycle Home Ownership Program



Region One Housing Development Alliance offers a variety of services to assist Northwestern Minnesota Communities in the creation and preservation of affordable housing, including:

- ...Housing planning and strategy development
- ...Financial packaging
- ...Funding applications
- ...Project coordination
- ...Local capacity building

Housing •

“Having strong leadership at a regional level is critical to coordinating and leveraging funding sources and increasing investment in the region. Region I has provided this leadership in the Northwest Region and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency very much appreciates its good work.” Commissioner Kit Hadley, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

Purpose: Improve the quality of life for the people who live and work in the region by upgrading and maintaining existing housing stock, encouraging construction of new affordable housing, creating additional opportunities for home ownership and increasing the availability of decent, safe and affordable rental housing

Funding Sources: MN Housing Finance Agency - \$9,000, NW MN Initiative Fund - \$12,500, MN Department Trade & Economic Development - \$2,597 and RDC Tax Levy - \$22.

Service Priorities: Local Capacity Building, Housing Project Development, Home Buyer Training and Counseling, Assisting Communities to identify and access resources, and Increase Home ownership Opportunities.

Increased employment opportunities, decreased number of persons per household, the region's aging housing stock and the rising cost of building construction have contributed to a lack of available housing for the region's labor force. Historically, housing opportunities have been provided by the federal government and the State of Minnesota through financial resources and a delivery system to implement their programs. With federal and state resources becoming scarce, we are seeing a shifting of responsibility to the local units of government.

In the spring of 1995, in response to requests from the Northwest Minnesota Economic Developers Network and funding from the NWMIF and DTED, the NWRDC Economic Development Committee established housing as a major strategy to address the region's economic development needs. The NWRDC invited key staff of leading nonprofit organizations that have traditionally delivered housing related services to participate in a regional housing development effort. The Region One Housing Development Alliance (ROHDA) was formed as a result of the collaborative effort of these organizations.

The ROHDA is committed to working with local communities to build their capacity to engage in providing opportunities for affordable housing.

ARTS • "The children still talk about

the paintings they completed during the residency. It was difficult to take them from the display box."

NORTHWEST REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

Purpose: To promote, develop and encourage artistic growth and excellence of arts organizations and individual artists in northwestern Minnesota by awarding funds and conducting programs and service.

Program Funding Sources: MN State Arts Board - \$37,383 and Interest - \$917, McKnight Foundation - \$3,004 and Interest - \$297, MN Center for Arts Education \$8,722, National Endowment for the Arts - \$998, RDC Tax Levy - \$874.

Re-Grant Funding Sources: MN State Arts Board - \$39,732, McKnight Foundation - \$12,996, National Endowment for the Arts - \$4,725.

Service Priorities: Direction setting, grants to organizations, grants to individual artists, arts mentoring for students, information/education including newsletter.

The arts are active and strong in our communities and schools. The Northwest Regional Development Commission strives to meet the growing needs of our area through grant support, publications and technical assistance.

The Minnesota State Legislature provides funding for regrant, technical assistance and program administration. Most arts projects consist of either a production or a sponsorship activity. This year many of our area schools received funds for artist in residency grants. Community theater was very active in requesting assistance for their local productions.

McKnight Foundation funds were used for three grant programs this past year. Support was given to individual artists for career development projects, non-profit arts organizations for small capital purchases and to schools for a special artist in residency program. Schools could apply for either a folk dancer or a writer to come into their school for a five-day period.

Minnesota Center for Arts Education funding was used this year to complete the last year of the Artist Mentor Program and to start planning a new program called InterART (explained on page 14.)

Our region also received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts to regrant in a program designed for Local Arts Agency Development. The two grants awarded were to help purchase a concert grand piano and to support the hiring of a part time director.



Regional Arts Projects

- Arts Directory

Northwest Regional Artist and Art Organizations Directory lists a variety of area artists, over 35 area arts organizations, schools, and libraries. The 1996 Directory is available, call and request a copy.

- Arts Advocacy

Co-sponsor the Arts Session of the Mini-Legislative Session in Bemidji on September 21, 1995. Coordinate for regional arts advocates to provide testimony and entertainment.

- Northwest Arts Newsletter

Quarterly newsletter listing information on the arts programs and grants awarded by the NWRDC. Also lists opportunities for artists, schools and artists organizations.

- InterART Program

New program that links two artists with two teachers for training and a 40 hour residency. Planning and program development were concluded throughout the Spring of 1996. The first school will participate in the Fall of 1996.

- InterART Focus Group Session

Session with area artists and teachers to discuss the new program and receive their thoughts on the strengths and weaknesses of the program.

- McKnight Foundation Planning

Develop the next three year proposal for the McKnight Foundation. Highlights included: Increasing regrant and administration time, holding an artist conference in the Fall of 1996, and offering the Artist Mentor Program.

- Forum Activities

Participate in the statewide group of Regional Arts Council Directors. Activities include: developing the state-wide arts funding formula, updating the Forum policy manual, working on the telecommunications and data management system.

- Minnesota Citizens for the Arts

Member of the Board of Directors that works on issues related to arts advocacy and the legislature. Attend Arts Advocacy Day in February and encourage all area artists organizations to write and thank our representatives for supporting the arts.



Another "Opera on the Farm" experience in Red Lake Falls

AGING • "The Minnesota Board

on Aging believes that seniors are one of Minnesota's greatest resources. They contribute their time, talents and wisdom to their families and children, churches, schools and civic groups in their communities. They do this because they believe that problems - even difficult ones - can be solved if everyone does their part."

Ken Moritz, Chair, Minnesota Board on Aging

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Purpose: To build a proactive, comprehensive and coordinated system of advocacy and services that ensures the rights and benefits of all older people.

Program Funding Sources: Older Americans Act through the Minnesota Board on Aging - \$83,233, RDC Tax Levy - \$27,470, Miscellaneous - \$3,108 and Interest - \$428.

Regrant Funding Sources: Older Americans Act - \$359,718, U.S. Department of Agriculture Nutrition Program - \$131,476, State Nutrition Program - \$82,977.

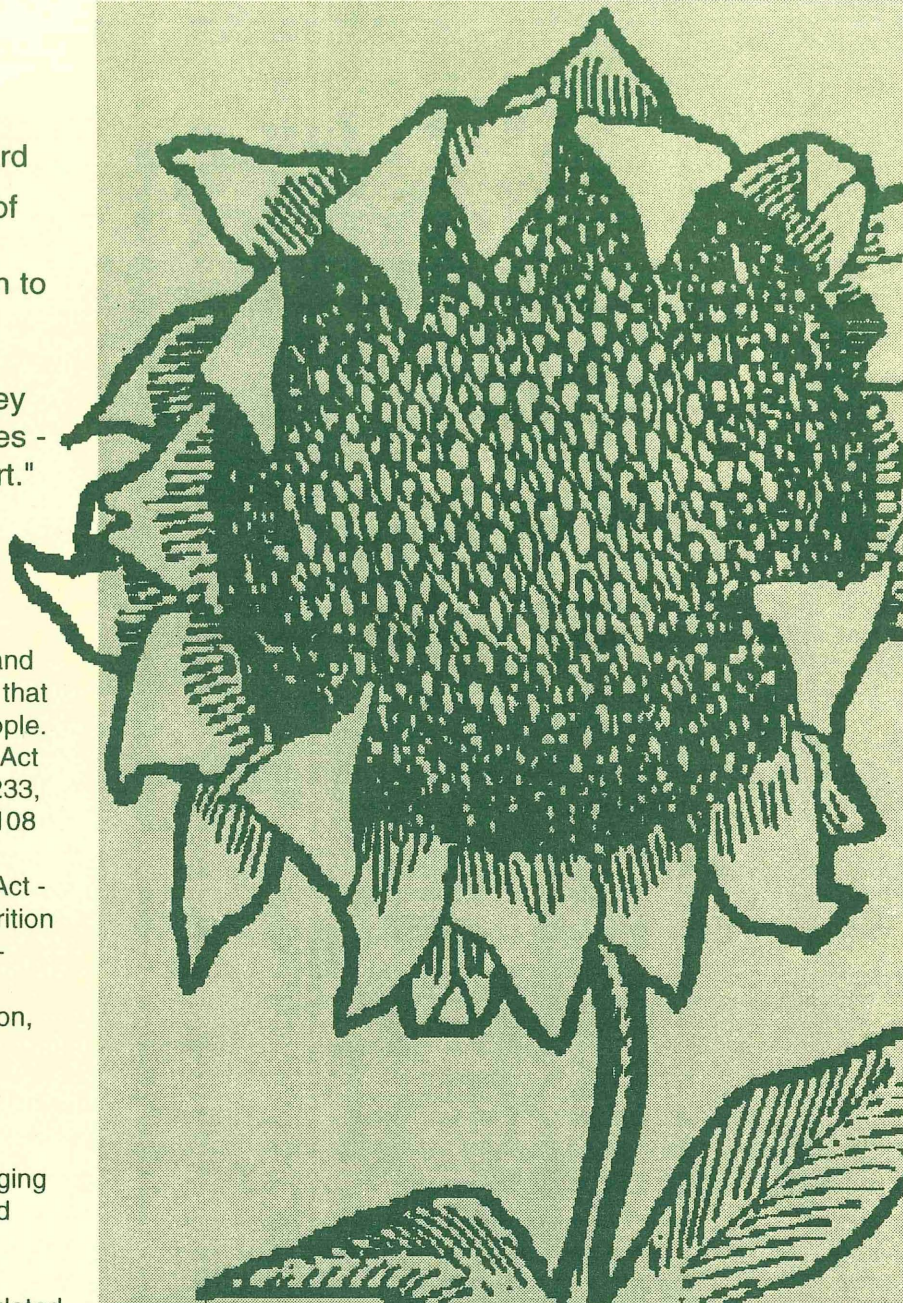
Service Priorities: Regrant priorities are: nutrition, congregate and home delivered meals, legal service, transportation, chore/home repair, housekeeping, visiting and medical forms assistance. Support priorities are advocacy, education, support of county committees on aging and senior centers, inter-agency linkages, and information/referral.

18

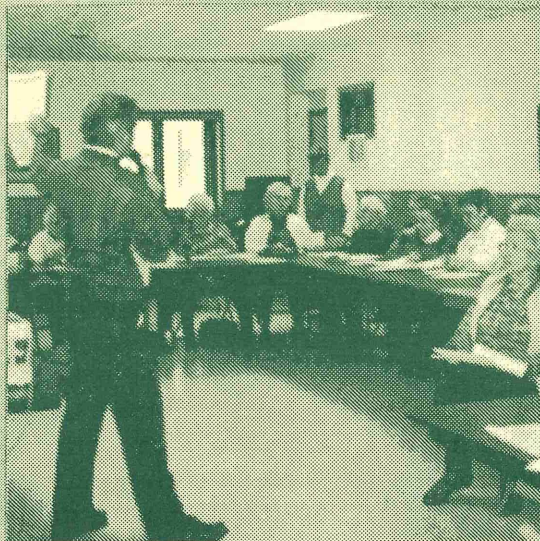
The mission of Area Agencies on Aging, as articulated in the Older Americans Act, is *to develop a comprehensive, coordinated service delivery system for older people*. This service delivery system will allow individuals, age 60 and older, to maintain their independence and dignity, potentially avoiding hospitalization or placement in a nursing facility. Through the use of needs assessments, key informant surveys, and focus groups, the Area Agency on Aging gathers information which will identify services needed to fill this mission.

Through the use of grants, and in the future, contracts, the Area Agency on Aging works with agencies to develop or maintain the system of services to meet identified needs.

In addition to this, the Area Agency on Aging serves as the local advocate for senior needs, the educator on emerging trends, and the provider of information on aging issues.



Seniors proving you're never too young
to learn new skills!



Systems Advocacy
Training at the Stephen
Community Center



Educational sessions
provided information to
many seniors

Regional Projects

Senior Linkage Line

Are you looking for information about services available to support the independence and dignity of someone age 60 and over? Contact the Area Agency on Aging by using the Senior Linkage Line. The Area Agency on Aging assisted 125 callers during calendar year 1995 with finding answers to questions or concerns about services available for seniors in Region I.

Senior Advocacy Network

Working with 19 regional agencies, the Area Agency on Aging developed the Senior Advocacy Network. This network provided training to more than 100 seniors in all seven counties on the importance of contacting elected officials in response to legislation affecting seniors. This network also allowed for the sharing of Action Alerts between agencies, increasing the number of contacts to legislators made by seniors.

Nutrition Funding

Participated in public meetings regarding the potential for increases in state funding to the nutrition program. Through the work of the Minnesota Board on Aging, Area Agencies on Aging, and Nutrition Programs, and seniors across the state, legislation was passed this session increasing the state allocation to these programs.

Older Americans Month

Each year, May is proclaimed as Older Americans Month, highlighting the contributions made to communities, families, churches, and civic groups by individuals 60 and older. The Area Agency on Aging is active in the promotion of Older Americans Month, developing press releases and sharing information about the accomplishments and contributions of seniors in the northwest region of Minnesota.

AGING • con't

Senior Spelling Bee

The Area Agency on Aging disseminates Senior Spelling Bee information to regional senior centers, providing technical assistance in the development of local, and the regional Spelling Bee. This year twelve individuals participated in the Regional Spelling Bee, held in Thief River Falls. Jean Bratton, from Crookston, was announced the winner of the event. She will compete in the State Spelling Bee in August in Hibbing.

Fall Conference on Aging

1995 Fall Conference on Aging was held in Crookston, with 376 seniors and service providers in attendance. The theme, "Aged to Perfection", allowed for positive sessions on healthy aging, positive thinking, and even pet therapy.

Senior Focus Week

Governor Arne Carlson proclaimed February 5-9, 1996 as "Senior Focus Week". Information compiled addressing volunteer time provided to agencies showed a staggering 178,758 hours of time donated by seniors throughout northwestern Minnesota. This information was shared during radio talk show broadcasts during Senior Focus Week.

Community Based Partnerships - Nutrition Grant

1995 saw the implementation of "a new way of doing business" for the nutrition program. Lutheran Social Service, provider of congregate and home delivered meals, moved from a regional controlled program to a community/customer controlled program. Decisions previously made by LSS staff are now being made by local site councils. The site councils make budget decisions regarding the operations of their meal site. Deficits and gains to the operations of the site are also absorbed by the site council.

Aging Resources Awareness

Providing information about services available which will help seniors live independently is an important function of the Area Agency on Aging. Presentations have been made to senior clubs, church groups, homemaker groups, and retired teacher groups, all with the intent on increasing awareness of service options available to seniors.

Nutrition 2000

Participated on a work group consisting of Area Agency on Aging staff, Aging and Adult Services Division staff, and Nutrition project staff. The objective of this work group was to research and evaluate current practises relating to the provision of congregate and home delivered nutrition services, making recommendations for future improvements. This group convened a statewide meeting of agencies involved in senior nutrition programs, establishing the foundation for the development of a state wide plan addressing future needs and practises.



Workshop sessions on pets and pet therapy were part of the 1995 Fall Conference on Aging.



Antique dolls and collecting was a popular workshop session at Fall Conference.

NAPIS Training

The 1992 Reauthorizations of the Older Americans Act called for improved reporting of individuals served by OAA funded programs. This has resulted in the development of NAPIS (National Aging Program Information Systems), which will provide improved reporting information to the Administration on Aging. Area Agency on Aging staff participated in state wide and on site training to learn about the software system, with plans to provide training to Aging Program grantees. This new software system will allow for more accurate information regarding individuals served, program costs, and potentially, the electronic transmittal of quarterly reports.

County Committees on Aging

One of the Area Agency on Aging's link to seniors in local communities is the County Committee on Aging. Members of County Committees on Aging are seniors, with a concern for local and national issues which affect them. The Area Agency on Aging provides technical assistance and support to County Committees on Aging through meeting with members, mailings of information and materials, and working on special projects with the committees.

Contracting vs Granting

As all governmental agencies strive to become "leaner, meaner machines", so too, has the Aging Network in Minnesota been encouraged to do the same. The Minnesota Board on Aging has developed policy which mandates that Area Agencies on Aging switch from the traditional grantmaking role to that of contractor and purchaser of services. Some of these changing roles will be implemented with 1997 Older Americans Act funds.

Advocacy System Development

A task force, comprised of Area Agency on Aging directors and staff from Aging and Adult Services Division, was created to evaluate current systems that assist the Aging Network with the task of advocating for the rights and benefits of all older individuals. This task force has completed a survey of Area Agencies on Aging to determine advocacy activities; individual, system, and legislative. This information will be shared with all Area Agencies on Aging to facilitate improved joint advocacy ventures.

21



Senior Needs Forums were conducted in nine different communities.

Intergenerational Programs

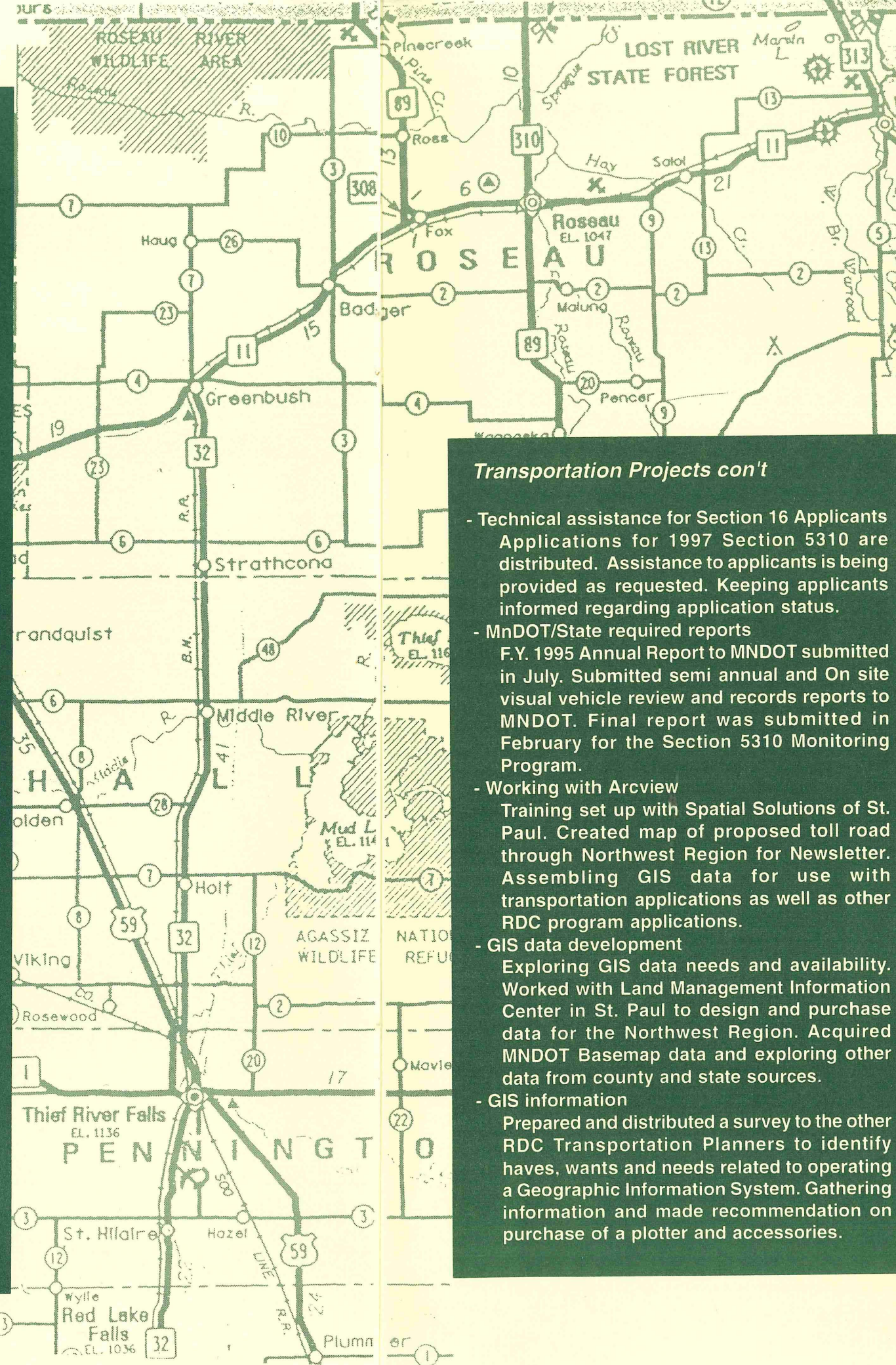
Interest generated from a workshop session on Intergenerational Programs during the 1995 Fall Conference on Aging led to the expansion of this concept to allow for regional implementation. Working with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and the Living at Home/Block Nurse Program - Argyle, the Area Agency on Aging facilitated a day-long training on implementing Intergenerational Programs. Staff from the Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging conducted the training following a model implemented in the Arrowhead Region.

Area Plan Development

The Area Agency on Aging submits an annual Area Plan on Aging to the Minnesota Board on Aging, highlighting how Older Americans Act funding will be utilized to improve the lives of seniors throughout Region I. As part of the Area Plan development, the Area Agency on Aging conducted nine Senior Needs Forums in various communities throughout the Region. Information gathered during the Senior Needs Forums will be utilized to determine funding priorities for 1997 Older Americans Act program dollars, and to establish Area Agency on Aging objectives for the Area Plan on Aging.

Transportation Projects

- Update State and Regional Transportation Plan
Reviewed the November 1995 Draft Summary of the Minnesota Statewide Transportation Plan. Working with other RDC Transportation Planners on process for updating the Region 1 Transportation Plan.
- MNDOT Management Systems
Provided regional input for the state Intermodal Management System.
- Freight Study
A three part study is taking shape in the region; technical pavement life study, commodity movement study, and market research study to provide information on why a commodity uses a particular route and mode. NWRDC may assist MNDOT in this study.
- Railroad Planning
Provided input to MNDOT's Office of Railroads and Waterways to assist in the development of the business plan for the Railroad/ Highway Grade Crossing Safety Improvement Program.
- Regional Road Prioritization
Scheduled and held Regional Road Prioritization (RRP) Meetings for Region 1. The RRP list was approved by the Commission, and the board following finalization by the TAC. The list was submitted to MNDOT on January 30.
- Mileage based tax subcommittee
Mileage Based Tax Subcommittee member. Worked with MNDOT Office of Alternative Financing on the mileage based tax portion of the Congestion/Road Pricing Study being conducted. I provided input at two subcommittee meetings.
- Enhancement Subgroup Staff
Worked with other Enhancement Subcommittee staff, MNDOT and FHWA to complete a rewrite of enhancement funding application. Facilitated solicitation and review process. Subcommittee recommendations were presented to the ATP and accepted.
- Transit Subgroup Staff
Updated vehicle information on all Region 1 Public Transit vehicles. Transit meeting was held in Bemidji on December 21. Recommendations were presented to the ATP to aid decisions for the 1997-1999 State Transportation Improvement Program.
- Allocation Process Development
Worked with other ATP staff to develop a process by which part of the federal dollars would not be targeted to a specific entity but would be open for who could show the greatest need.
- Keep all levels of government informed
Prepared information to be given as testimony before the House Transportation Funding Task Force at the legislative mini-session held in Bemidji September 19-21.



Transportation Projects can't

- Technical assistance for Section 16 Applicants
Applications for 1997 Section 5310 are distributed. Assistance to applicants is being provided as requested. Keeping applicants informed regarding application status.
- MndOT/State required reports
F.Y. 1995 Annual Report to MNDOT submitted in July. Submitted semi annual and On site visual vehicle review and records reports to MNDOT. Final report was submitted in February for the Section 5310 Monitoring Program.
- Working with Arcview
Training set up with Spatial Solutions of St. Paul. Created map of proposed toll road through Northwest Region for Newsletter. Assembling GIS data for use with transportation applications as well as other RDC program applications.
- GIS data development
Exploring GIS data needs and availability. Worked with Land Management Information Center in St. Paul to design and purchase data for the Northwest Region. Acquired MNDOT Basemap data and exploring other data from county and state sources.
- GIS information
Prepared and distributed a survey to the other RDC Transportation Planners to identify haves, wants and needs related to operating a Geographic Information System. Gathering information and made recommendation on purchase of a plotter and accessories.

Transportation •

"Regional Development Commissions are valuable members of the state's transportation coalition, helping to identify and set priorities for investments in transportation. Their involvement has expanded and diversified the body of transportation thinkers in Minnesota." James N. Denn, Transportation Commissioner

Purpose: To insure and improve the safe and efficient movement of people and commodities in the region. Provide an ongoing regional forum addressing significant transportation issues and to facilitate local input to MNDOT plans and programs.

Funding Sources: \$38,812 from the MN Department of Transportation and \$6,959 from the RDC Tax Levy.

Service Priorities: Regional direction setting, highway planning, transit planning, legislative advocacy, project coordination with MndOT.

The NWRDC transportation planning work program addresses all modes of transportation (trails, rail, airports, bike, pedestrians, highway and transit) for townships, cities and counties in Region 1. The NWRDC Transportation Planner works closely with a Transportation Advisory Committee consisting of local government representatives in program development and planning. The Transportation Program is designed to coordinate the transportation planning process of townships, cities, counties, other local groups involved in regional transportation concerns and MNDOT. The second goal of the program is to identify and analyze short and long term transportation problems in NW Minnesota. The third goal of the program is to coordinate transportation planning with other program areas of the NWRDC.

Under a separate contract with MNDOT, the NWRDC transportation planner conducts a record audit and visual vehicle review of the Section 5310 program vehicles in Region 1. Section 5310 is a capital assistance program for the purchase of vehicles that organizations use to serve elderly and disabled persons. Current contract structure requires record audit and on-site visual vehicle review for half of the vehicles each year.

Enterprise Fund Annual Report •

Purpose: To strengthen and diversify the economy by providing a source of lower interest, gap financing to new and expanding businesses.

Program Funding Source: \$45,086 from interest and fees, RDC Tax Levy - \$2,582.

Loan Funding Source: Interest and Loan Paybacks - \$279,365 , Economic Development Administration - \$28,831 , RDC Tax Levy - \$14,414.

Service Priorities: The creation of jobs, especially for the long term underemployed or unemployed; projects which increase the local tax base; and priorities as identified in the Overall Economic Development Plan.

In 1985, the Northwest Regional Enterprise Fund, Inc. was established to operate a revolving loan fund in northwestern Minnesota. The goal of the Enterprise Fund is to strengthen and diversify the economy by providing a source of lower interest, gap financing to new and expanding businesses. Financing for this program originated through federal funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in the amount of \$1,275,000 and with local matching funds of \$392,000.

In fiscal year 1996, the Northwest Regional Development Commission examined the changing needs of the area expanded the focus of the Enterprise Fund to include the following:

- a. Emphasis on retaining viability of communities by providing financial support for essential services (e.g. the only hardware store, the only grocery store, the only cafe, etc.)
- b. Support of retail, commercial, or service businesses that can document local needs for their goods or services.
- c. Consideration of job retention along with job creation.
- d. Contact with financial institutions to help their business clients stabilize or grow by use of the Revolving Loan Fund.
- e. Establishment of a Small Revolving Loan Fund, to assist smaller projects.

The following businesses received approval for financing through the Enterprise Fund in fiscal year 1996:

Grygla Cooperative Company, Grygla	\$ 15,650
Wahl Brothers Racing, Inc., Greenbush	\$ 67,500
Suzanne's by Val, Hallock	\$ 30,000
Welltek Engineering, Inc., Grygla	\$ 75,000
Lee Nursery, Fertile	\$ 28,800
Phoenix Industries of Crookston, Ltd.	\$ 75,000
Warren Tire Service, Warren	\$ 21,660
RMS Plastic of Greenbush	\$ 63,000
Crookston Tire Service, Crookston	\$ 50,000
Fertile Building Center, Fertile	\$ 60,000
Dee, Inc., Crookston	\$ 75,000
Up North Sports, Roseau	\$ 30,000
Riverside Board and Lodge, McIntosh	\$ 61,600
TOTAL LOANS	\$653,210

To date, 51 business loans have been approved for financing in a total amount of \$2,809,737. The program has assisted 26 new businesses with start-up financing and 25 business expansions. Ninety percent of the active loans are current, twelve are fully repaid and four loans have been written off.

The Enterprise Fund's administration budget for the year is \$47,668.. The loan fees collected and one-half of the interest earned on the loans and on accounts is used for administrative costs. The other one-half of the interest payments, along with the principal repaid on loans, becomes available for relending.

Disaster Revolving Loan Fund

Purpose: The primary purpose of the DRLF is to assist businesses with financing for their working capital needs so that can survive the economic stresses brought on by the heavy rains and flooding of 1993.

Program Funding Source: Interest and Fees - \$13,352, RDC Tax Levy - \$256.

Loan Funding Source: EDA Grant \$232,715, State of MN - \$30,169, 5 Disaster Counties \$3,258, NWRDC \$6,050, NWMIF \$9,308, Loan Pay Backs - \$48,500.

Service Priorities: Business eligibility will be dependent upon economic viability prior to the disaster of 1993, with loans being made only to businesses that show profitability prior to July, 1993 - followed by a downturn in income or sales after that period.

Five counties in the northwestern Minnesota area were directly affected by both high water levels in rivers and streams and the flooding of crop lands by unprecedented water accumulation in fields and ditches during the summer of 1993. The counties of Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Polk, and Roseau were Presidentially declared disaster counties.

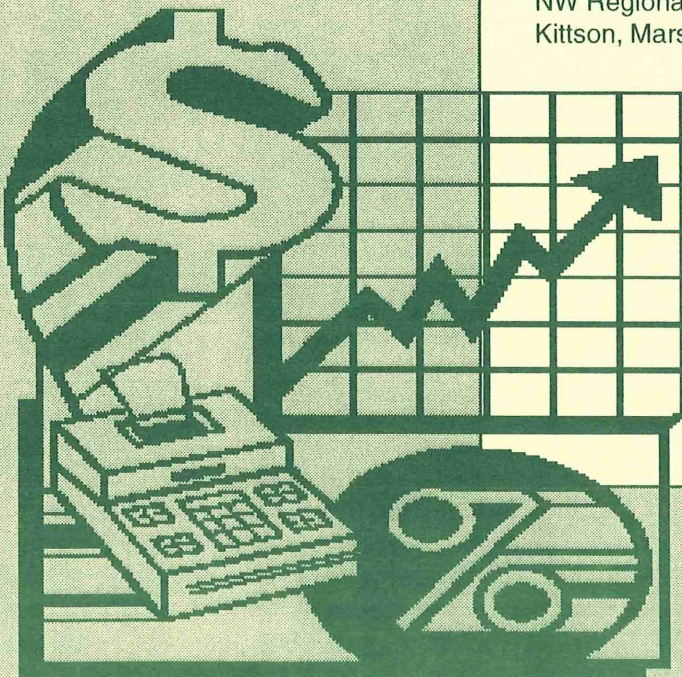
The Northwest Regional Development Commission (NWRDC) developed the Disaster Revolving Loan Fund to assist the businesses in overcoming the economic damage sustained during this period by providing short-term financing.

The Disaster Revolving Loan Fund originated through the following sources:

Federal Economic Development Administration	\$550,000
MN Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) as appropriated by the MN State Legislature	\$ 58,500
Northwest Minnesota Initiative Fund	\$ 22,400
NW Regional Development Commission	\$ 14,600
Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Polk, and Roseau Counties	\$ 7,000
TOTAL	\$652,500

(An additional \$6,500 was provided by DTED and \$8,800 by NWRDC for administrative support.)

In fiscal year 1995, nine businesses in eight communities received assistance through the Disaster Revolving Loan Fund. One more loan was made in fiscal year 1996 to Mid-Valley Grain Cooperative, Crookston, for \$150,000 for working capital.



Plans, Studies and Publications

Prepared by NWRDC

Area Plan on Aging - The Area Plan on Aging examines senior input and demographic data to establish priorities for the use of Title III Older Americans Act funds. Includes budget information, an Executive Summary and work activities.

Commission Chronicle - NWRDC Newsletter - Printed on a quarterly basis and distributed to government units, service agencies and interested persons. Contains current items of interest to local communities and Commission activities.

County Economic Summaries - Statistical facts about each of the seven counties in the Northwest Region. Includes population, employment, sales, income and housing data plus short comments on trends. Limited information on individual cities included.

Directory of Artists and Arts Organizations - The directory contains listings of regional artists and arts organizations.

Directory of Government Units and Service Agencies - The directory contains listings of service agencies and governmental offices from the township level through the legislative level.

Overall Economic Development Program - Background information and statistics about Northwest Minnesota are examined to produce economic development strategies and work activities for the upcoming year.

FY 1994 Annual Report - Information on the funding and work activities of the Commission over the past year. Published and distributed to local officials and legislators.

FY 1996 Work Program - Details the goals and objectives of the Commission in each of the program and planning areas.

Long Range Flood Disaster Plan for Region I - The purpose of the plan is to preserve the economic system in this area despite the set back caused by the flood of '93. Proposal is to help keep small farms intact, restore and create jobs, and stimulate the economy.

Senior News - Newsletter developed for the Senior Citizens and service providers of Region One.

Senior Service Directory - Resources for Region I seniors, consumers and professionals in the field of aging. It provides a brief description of programs, resources and agencies.

Northwest Minnesota Visitor and Recreation Guide - A comprehensive listing of attractions and facilities which offer opportunities and services to local and outside visitors to area communities.

IdeaNet: Turning Ideas into Jobs - A handbook to assist community leaders, economic developers, and anyone interested in creating jobs in Northwestern Minnesota through turning homegrown ideas into jobs.

Resources for Economic Development - Descriptions of agencies and both technical assistance and financial programs for economic development. Includes special sections on labor force and housing resources. Lists community revolving loan funds and economic development contacts.

Regional Arts Plans - Goals, strategies and work activities for State Arts Funds, McKnight Arts Funds and MN School for Arts Funds (Arts Mentoring) are included in these plans.

Revolving Loan Fund Plan - Describes the program elements and guidelines for the loan fund.

Transportation Plan - Examines all transportation systems in the Region and recommends approaches to meeting identified need.

Transit Needs Assessment - The purpose of the Transit Needs Assessment is to identify unmet transit needs in Region 1 and develop approaches to better meet those needs. There are separate documents for each county and one document summarizing the entire region.

Region 1 Transit Service Directory - This directory is the compilation of the results of a Transit Service Provider Survey which was conducted in conjunction with the Transit Needs Assessment. This document identifies service providers, types of service they provide, types of vehicles they operate, and potentials for coordination.

Disaster Revolving Loan Fund Plan - Describes the program elements and guidelines for the Disaster Revolving Loan Fund.

Committee Membership List

Aging Advisory Committee

Jenny Amon	Crookston
Bob Carlson	Thief River Falls
* Richard Dahlin	Ada
Ben Garcia	East Grand Forks
Marcella Gonsorowski	Newfolden
Harriet Heinen	Warroad
Jamie Hennen	Ada
Beverly Hewitt	Lancaster
Roy Jorgenson	Thief River Falls
Sue Klabo	Mentor
Charles Lindberg	Kennedy
Joan Miller	Roseau
Lloyd Nordling	Alvarado
Warren Olson	Halstad
Mildred Thorfinnson	Red Lake Falls

Regional Arts Council

Janet Haak Aarness	Thief River Falls
Linda Axvig	Red Lake Falls
Marlene Baatz	Nielsenville
George French	Crookston
Carol Hallan	Warroad
Betty Halvorson	Plummer
Rev. Louis Hermansen	Roseau
Patricia Jacklitch	East Grand Forks
Kimberley Johnson	Kennedy
Roy Jorgenson	Thief River Falls
Charlene Kuznia	Argyle
Gayle Moen	Shelly
* Ric Sorenson	Fosston
Bardulf Ueland	Halstad
Joyce Wikstrom	Karlstad

Transportation Advisory Committee

Milton Alm	Ada
Dr. Joe Bouvette	Hallock
George Broadwell	Thief River Falls
Glenn Darst	Greenbush
Lyle Eisert	Crookston
Marcella Gonsorowski	Newfolden
Donald Jensen	Goodridge
Charles Lindberg	Kennedy
Jeff Langan	Warren
* Bob Marvin	Warroad
Willard Purath	Red Lake Falls
Warren Strandell	East Grand Forks

Enterprise Fund Committee

* Randall Aarestad	Halstad
Bernie Anderson	Roseau
Susan Anderson	Greenbush
Michelle Benton	Thief River Falls
Brenda Berg	Greenbush
Allen Chesley	Crookston
Tim Fairchild	East Grand Forks
Cecil Fossell	Kennedy
Brent Guenther	Red Lake Falls
Ronald Laqua	Halstad
Steve Linder	Oklee
Duane Lyberg	Hallock
Jason McCollum	Warren
Calvin Melgard	Warren
Darrell Nelson	Crookston
Galen Nordine	Lancaster
Velma Oakland	Red Lake Falls
Wayne Oberg	East Grand Forks
DeWayne Ostena	McIntosh
Vanessa Page	Crookston
Jim Richter	East Grand Forks
Sandra Simonson	Oslo
Darlene Smith	Warroad
Delray Sparby	Thief River Falls
Oliver Swanson	Thief River Falls

Economic Development Planning Committee

Michelle Benton	Thief River Falls
Glenn Darst	Greenbush
Brent Guenther	Red Lake Falls
* Jim Richter	East Grand Forks
Sandra Simonson	Oslo
Cindy Spilde	Kennedy
Dennis Thorson	Twin Valley

Innovations Committee

Cecil Fossell	Kennedy
* Dr. Steve Levinson	Thief River Falls
Jim Richter	East Grand Forks
Deb Salberg	Oklee
Sandra Simonson	Oslo
David Tommerdahl	Hendrum
Karen Young	St. Hilaire
* Chair	

Kittson

Aging	Nutrition Site Assessment <i>Hallock</i>	Conducted the site assessment for the Hallock Senior Meals Nutrition site.	
Community Development	Brochure <i>Hallock</i>	Worked with the city of Hallock to create a promotional brochure that includes a complex map of the city and its businesses.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Hallock</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin to determining housing needs for the area labor force.	
Loan	Suzanne's by Val <i>Hallock</i>	Closed RLF loan for \$30,000.00.	
Aging	LSS Sr. Nutrition Program <i>Hallock</i>	Provided 4,948 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 60 persons in Hallock (Senior Center and Hallock West Side apartments) in 1995.	
Aging	RSVP Expansion <i>Hallock</i>	Director from the RSVP program and staff worked with the Kittson County Board of Commissioners to discuss the expansion of the program into Kittson County during 1996.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Council <i>Hallock</i>	Assisted Hallock Nutrition Site Council with developing ideas for fundraising to offset potential site deficits. Brainstormed ideas for increasing participation at meal site.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Halma</i>	Provided 744 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 13 persons in Halma in 1995.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Karlstad</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Economic Development	Community Rehab Fund <i>Karlstad</i>	ROHDA prepared a grant application requesting \$80,000 to provide gap financing in the purchase of single family homes. FUNDED at \$48,000.	
Loan	Hanson Oil Company <i>Karlstad</i>	Closed DRLF loan for \$30,000.00 for working capital.	
Arts	Arts Mentoring <i>Karlstad</i>	1995 Artist/Mentor Student Participants: Janessa Anderson, Hallock; Heather Rae Swanson, Karlstad. Mentor: Julie Nordine, Karlstad.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Karlstad</i>	Provided 4,868 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 119 persons in Karlstad in 1995.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Council <i>Karlstad</i>	Assisted the Karlstad Nutrition Site Council with developing ideas for fundraising to offset potential site deficits, and to discuss feasibility for on-site prepared meals.	
Arts	Kimberley Nelson <i>Kennedy</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Printing of promotional postcards. She would like to promote herself to schools as a possible artist residency.	\$435.00 Grant Award
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Kennedy</i>	Provided 2,710 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 25 persons in Kennedy in 1995.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Kennedy</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	

Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Lake Bronson</i>	Provided 4,100 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 101 persons in Lake Bronson in 1995	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Lancaster</i>	Provided 2,736 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 63 persons in Lancaster in 1995.	
Loan	Enterprise Fund Loans <i>Kittson County</i>	Three businesses received financing from the Enterprise Fund, totalling \$105,000. All three loans are active. Disaster Revolving Loan Funds were given to three businesses, totalling \$191,000.	
Aging	Sr. Transportation Program <i>Kittson County</i>	Funded grant to provide seniors with medical transportation services in 1996. \$4,180 in III-B funds. First quarter-provided 3,872 transportation miles to 20 persons by 7 volunteer drivers.	
Economic Development	Economic Summary <i>Kittson County</i>	Prepared summary of demographic and economic statistics for the county. Copies available upon request.	
Economic Development	Financing Strategies TA <i>Kittson County</i>	Assisted residents/businesses in locating/accessing financial resources for business start-ups and expansions.	

Marshall

Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Alvarado</i>	Provided 3,505 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 78 persons in Alvarado in 1995.	
Aging	Site Council <i>Alvarado</i>	Discussed 1995 Community Based Budgeting implementation with reps from Alvarado City Council, Nutrition Site Council and Senior Club. Discussed food service options for 1996 to offset potential deficits to Alvarado site.	
Aging	Advance Directives Workshop <i>Arglye</i>	Provided information on Advance Directives for Health Care to seniors at Living At Home/Block Nurse Program office in Argyle.	
Arts	Argyle Community Education <i>Argyle</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theater on August 16 - 17, 1996.	
Aging	Senior Meals <i>Gatzke</i>	Met with seniors from Gatzke and LSS Assistant Director to discuss the possibility of opening a rural congregate meal site in Gatzke.	
Economic Development	Loan Fund Assistance <i>Grygla</i>	Assist Grygla with administration of city loan fund and assisted applicants with putting together projects, including one new manufacturing expansion.	
Economic Development	Local Assessment <i>Grygla</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin to determine housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Loan	Grygla Cooperative Company <i>Grygla</i>	Closed RLF loan for \$15,650.00 in working capital.	
Loan	Welltek Engineering, Inc. <i>Grygla</i>	Closed RLF loan for \$75,000.00.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Grygla</i>	Provided 5,378 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 137 persons in Grygla in 1995.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Middle River</i>	Provided 4,040 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 164 persons in Middle River in 1995.	

Arts	Middle River Community Theatre <i>Middle River</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "Aladdin!" on June 23 - 25, 1996.	\$1,220.00 Grant Award
Arts	Middle River Community Theatre <i>Middle River</i>	Small Arts Grant: Production of "Lend Me a Tenor" on September 25 - 29, 1996.	\$500.00 Grant Award
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Newfolden</i>	Provided 4,907 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 129 persons in Newfolden in 1995.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Assessment <i>Newfolden</i>	Monitored nutrition site in Newfolden. They will be moving into new building at the end of October.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Oslo</i>	Provided 3,961 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 132 persons in Oslo in 1995.	
Aging	Community Based Budgeting <i>Oslo</i>	Met with Seniors from Oslo meal site and LSS Assistant Director to discuss concerns with the implementation of Community Based Budgeting in Oslo.	
Arts	Stephen Arts Council <i>Stephen</i>	Local Arts Agency Development Grant: Towards the purchase of a concert grand piano by March 15, 1996.	\$5,000.00 Grant Award
Arts	Stephen Arts Council <i>Stephen</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theater on May 27 - June 1, 1996.	\$500.00 Grant Award
Arts	Stephen Public Schools <i>Stephen</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of a paper-making residency with Kim Nelson in March, 1996. Withdrawn.	\$490.00 Grant Award
Arts	Stephen Public Schools <i>Stephen</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Sponsorship of a visual art residency with Jean Honl in May 1996.	\$850.00 Grant Award
Arts	Stephen Arts Council <i>Stephen</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Small Capital Grant: Purchase of light and sound equipment.	\$1,800.00 Grant Award
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Stephen</i>	Provided 6,350 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 107 persons in Stephen in 1995.	
Aging	County - Advocacy Training <i>Stephen</i>	Senior Advocacy Network Workshop was presented in Stephen. Thirty-four seniors were present to learn ways to communicate positively with our elected officials. This workshop presented in conjunction with OPTIONS and the Area Agency on Aging.	
Arts	Marshall County TA <i>Stephen</i>	Assistance with the Local Arts Agency Development Grant form.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Stephen</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Viking</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Loan	Warren Tire Service, Inc. <i>Warren</i>	Closed RLF Loan for \$21,660.00.	
Arts	Grant Writing Workshop <i>Warren</i>	Offered grant writing workshop to artists, arts organization members and anyone interested in applying for an arts grant.	

Arts	Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Comm. Ed. <i>Warren</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theater on August 9 - 10, 1996.	
Aging	Marshall County Homemakers <i>Warren</i>	Gave presentation to Marshall County Homemakers on the Area Agency on Aging, the Aging Network, and services available to seniors in Marshall County.	
Aging	Senior Center <i>Warren</i>	Gave presentation on the Area Agency on Aging to the Warren Seniors.	
Aging	Senior Club <i>Warren</i>	Provided information to members of Warren Senior Club on the differences between current Medicare and Medicaid programs and the proposed changes by the House and Senate.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Warren</i>	Provided 18,836 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 239 persons in Warren in 1995.	
Aging	Senior Day at Marshall County Fa <i>Warren</i>	Assisted with Senior Day Activities at the Marshall County Fair. Presented awards to Outstanding Seniors from Marshall County.	
Aging	Regional Coordinating Board <i>Warren</i>	Hosted the April meeting of the Regional Coordinating Board in NWRDC offices in Warren. Violence and prevention was the panel presentation.	
Transportation	Marshall County T.A. <i>Marshall County</i>	Assisted the cities of Warren and Argyle on successful Enhancement Applications. Provided Technical Assistance to Marshall County Group Homes of Argyle on their application for a vehicle to provide service to elderly and disabled persons.	
Loan	Enterprise Fund Loans <i>Marshall County</i>	Eleven businesses received financing from the Enterprise Fund, totalling \$510,210. Eight of the loans are active.	
Aging	Membership List for County Committee on Aging <i>Marshall County</i>	Provided assistance in updating list of committee members and providing copies of materials for annual Marshall County Committee on Aging Board Meeting.	
Economic Development	Financing Strategies TA <i>Marshall County</i>	Assisted residents of Marshall County in exploring funding resources and general business development.	
Economic Development	Economic Summary <i>Marshall County</i>	Prepared summary of demographic and economic statistics for the county. Copies available upon request.	

Norman

Arts	Artist Mentor Event <i>Ada</i>	Travis Lee performed a musical selection on the xylophone for the event. Travis studied the marimba's with Kenneth Thomas a music professor at Moorhead State University.	
Arts	Arts Mentoring <i>Ada</i>	1995 Artist/Mentor Student Participants: Travis Lee, Ada; Elizabeth Visser, Ada; Amanda Warner, Halstad.	
Arts	Artist Mentor Event <i>Ada</i>	Elizabeth Visser displayed her visual artwork at the event. Elizabeth studied with Ardi Whalen a portrait artist in Crookston.	
Aging	Senior Focus Week - Ada <i>Ada</i>	Provided information about Senior Focus Week and related events during a radio broadcast at Ada Radio Station.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Ada</i>	Provided 9,222 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 307 persons in Ada in 1995.	

Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Ada</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Gary</i>	Provided 2,374 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 89 persons in Gary in 1995.	
Economic Development	Rehabilitate Halstad Senior/LMI Duplexes <i>Halstad</i>	Coordinated preparation of grant/loan application to MHFA on behalf of the non-profit development corporation in Halstad to request funds to rehabilitate 6 duplexes (12 units) that are occupied by senior citizens and low income residents.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Halstad</i>	Provided 5,084 Congregate and Home Delivered Meals to 95 persons in Halstad in 1995.	
Economic Development	Economic Development Authority <i>Hendrum</i>	Met with new EDA board and followed-up on several potential projects	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Hendrum</i>	Provided 497 Home Delivered Meals to 7 persons in Hendrum in 1995.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Perley</i>	Provided 229 Home Delivered Meals to 6 persons in Perley in 1995.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Shelly</i>	Provided 3,979 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 154 persons in Shelly in 1995.	
Economic Development/ Aging	Potential Senior Housing Project <i>Twin Valley</i>	Worked with Aging Program and providers to discuss potential of townhouses adjacent to nursing home for the purposes of providing assisted living services to those residents.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Twin Valley</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Twin Valley</i>	Provided 7,162 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 192 persons in Twin Valley in 1995.	
Economic Development	Halstad, Hendrum, Perley, Shelly <i>Norman County</i>	Assisted Halstad, Hendrum, Perley, and Shelly with development of a shared resources program to address the cost of development issues including public utilities, police, housing and others.	
Loan	Enterprise Fund Loans <i>Norman County</i>	Four businesses received financing from the Enterprise Fund, totalling \$183,260. All four loans are active. Disaster Revolving Loan Funds were given to two businesses, totalling \$70,000.	
Economic Development	Economic Summary <i>Norman County</i>	Prepared summary of demographic and economic statistics for the county. Copies available upon request.	

Pennington

Arts	Sue Charles <i>Goodridge</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Purchasing a printer and writing materials.	\$500.00 Grant Award
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Goodridge</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Community Development	Snowmobile Meeting <i>St. Hilaire</i>	Informal meeting of all snowmobile clubs in NW Minnesota to hear what they are doing and what the RDC and the MN Office of Tourism can do for them.	

Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>St. Hilaire</i>	Provided 913 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 41 persons in St. Hilaire in 1995.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Council <i>St. Hilaire</i>	Answered questions from St. Hilaire Nutrition Site Council regarding Community Based Budgeting, anticipated budget for 1996, and increasing program attendance.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>St. Hilaire</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Economic Development	H-MURL Vacant Housing Rehabilitation <i>Thief River Falls</i>	RHODA Prepared grant application to MHFA on behalf of the City of Thief River Falls through Inter-County Community Action Agency to purchase and rehabilitate five vacant properties within the city and resell to "at-risk" homebuyers. FUNDED at \$147,000	
Transportation	Transit Program Improvement/Development <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Working with Tri-Valley to implement approaches to improvements of the public transit service they provide. A task force for Pennington County/Thief River Falls has been formed and met in November, January and March.	
Transportation	Airport Issues <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Provided input at TRF planning meeting regarding the TRF Airport Capital Improvement Program.	
Arts	NW MN Service Coop. <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant Sponsorship of the Young Authors Conference on March 7, 1996.	\$2,500.00 Grant Award
Arts	Summer's End Event <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Held end of study event for students and mentors on Saturday, September 16, 1995. 25 people attended the event.	
Arts	Arts Mentoring <i>Thief River Falls</i>	1995 Artist/Mentor Student Participants: Kristine Goddard, Thief River Falls; Ben Schmidts, Thief River Falls; Lisa Swanson, Thief River Falls. Mentors: Rob Burkel, Thief River Falls; Diane Johnson, Thief River Falls.	
Arts	Artist Mentor Event <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Kiki Goddard performed a theater piece with Darci Delage at the event. Kiki and Darci studied theater with Carol Kankel of Red Lake Falls.	
Arts	Artist Mentor Event <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Lisa Swanson performed a vocal number at the event. Lisa studied with Diane Johnson a vocal instructor in Thief River Falls.	
Arts	Artist Mentor Event <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Ben Schmidt performed a theater piece at the event. Ben studied theater with Rob Burkel of Thief River Falls.	
Aging	Northland Retired Teachers Association <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Gave presentation on the Area Agency on Aging, Aging Network, and services available for seniors in Region I. Provided additional information about the Senior Advocacy Network and changes to medicare proposed by the House and Senate.	
Aging	Senior Focus Week <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Provided information about Senior Focus Week and related events during radio broadcast at TRF radio station.	
Aging	Leisure Fellowship Meeting <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Provided information about Senior Linkage, Area Agency on Aging, and other services provided through the aging network to members of the Zion Leisure Fellowship group.	
Aging	Older Americans Month <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Discussed Older Americans Month and senior contributions to communities during a radio broadcast.	

Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Provided 27,923 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 819 persons in Thief River Falls in 1995. (4 Sites-Sr. Center, Riverside Terrace Apts., Skylight Apts, Gunderson Apts.)	
Aging	Senior Day at Pennington County Fair <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Provided information on Area Agency on Aging and services for seniors in Pennington County at Senior Day at the Pennington County Fair.	
Aging	Pennington County Transit Advisory Committee <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Provided information on Senior Transportation needs in Pennington county as part of the Transit Advisory Committee for Pennington County.	
Aging	Grandma's Pie Plate <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Facilitated the "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate" workshop in Thief River Falls. Eight seniors attended.	
Aging	Advocacy Training <i>Thief River Falls</i>	Senior Advocacy Network Workshop was held in Thief River Falls. Twelve seniors attended to learn ways to communicate positively with our elected officials. This was held in conjunction with OPTIONS and the Area Agency on Aging.	
Transportation	Pennington County T.A. <i>Pennington County</i>	Provided technical assistance to Thief River Falls D.A.C. during application for a vehicle to provide service for elderly and disabled clients. Provided input at committee meetings for TRF comprehensive plan.	
Loan	Enterprise Fund Loans <i>Pennington County</i>	Six businesses received financing from the Enterprise Fund, totalling \$244,600. Three loans are active.	
Community Development	Penn. Water 1995 Report and 1996 Grant Application <i>Pennington County</i>	Completed 1995 Natural Resources Block Grant Annual Report and 1996 Block Grant Application for Water Planning, Feedlot, Wetlands and Shoreland funding	
Community Development	Penn. Water Resources Advisory Committee <i>Pennington County</i>	Provide staff support to the PWRAC.	
Economic Development	Economic Summary <i>Pennington County</i>	Prepared summary of demographic and economic statistics for the county. Copies available upon request.	

Polk

Aging	Senior Meals Program <i>Beltrami</i>	Met with representatives from Beltrami Senior Group interested in starting a senior meals program in Beltrami. Provided program information and discussed process to initiate service.	
Economic Development	Community Rehab Fund and Partnership Afford House <i>Climax</i>	ROHDA prepared grant application requesting \$240,000 for new housing construction and gap financing. FUNDED at \$240,000.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Climax</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Aging	Advocacy Training <i>Crookston</i>	Senior Advocacy Network Workshop was held in Crookston. Nineteen seniors attended and learned ways to communicate positively with elected officials. This was held in conjunction with OPTIONS and the Area Agency on Aging.	

Economic Development	Crookston Business Incubator <i>Crookston</i>	Assisted with Valley Ventures Park Federal EDA funding.request Valley Ventures will house agricultural value added businesses during the initial stages of development. The project will also work in close contact with the AURI and UMC. Funded at \$360,000.	
Loan	Phoenix Industries of Crookston, Ltd. <i>Crookston</i>	Closed RLF loan for \$75,000.00.	
Loan	Crookston Tire Service, Inc. <i>Crookston</i>	Approved RLF Loan for \$50,000.00 Closing is pending.	
Loan	Dee, Inc. <i>Crookston</i>	Approved Standard RLF loan for \$75,000.00. Closing is pending Committee review is pending.	
Loan	Mid-Valley Grain Cooperative <i>Crookston</i>	Closed DRLF loan for \$150,000.00 for working capital.	
Arts	Crookston Community Theater <i>Crookston</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "The Odd Couple" on November 9-12, 1995.	\$1,200.00 Grant Award
Art	Crookston Public Schools <i>Crookston</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Sponsorship of an extended residency with Mary LaFrance from October 1995 - June 1996.	\$1,500.00 Grant Award
Arts	Impressions Dance Company <i>Crookston</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "Cinderella" on Noverneber 18-19, 1995.	\$1,370.00 Grant Award
Arts	Crookston Civic Music League <i>Crookston</i>	Small Arts Grant: Production of "The Creation" on March 24, 1996.	\$415.00 Grant Award
Arts	Crookston Community Theater <i>Crookston</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "Oklahoma" on June 6 - 10, 1996.	\$1,910.00 Grant Award
Arts	Crookston Community Theater <i>Crookston</i>	Small Arts Grant: Production of "Mystery of Edwin Drood" on September 5 - 8, 1996.	\$400.00 Grant Award
Arts	Arts Mentoring <i>Crookston</i>	1995 Artist/Mentor Student Participants: Heather Spielman, East Grand Forks; Kristi Larson, Crookston. Mentors: Myke Knutson, East Grand Forks; Gary Stegman, Crookston; Ardi Whalen, Crookston.	
Arts	Impressions Dance Company <i>Crookston</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Small Capital Grant: Purchase of twelve peasants costumes.	\$650.00 Grant Award
Arts	Crookston Community Theater <i>Crookston</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Small Capital Grant: Purchase of microphone equipment.	\$570.00 Grant Award
Aging	Senior Focus Week <i>Crookston</i>	Provided information about Senior Focus Week and related events during the broadcast of a radio talk show.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Crookston</i>	Provided 29,098 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 780 persons in Crookston in 1995. (3 sites-Sr. Center, Nimens Apts., Oak Court Apts.)	
Aging	Polk County Committee on Aging <i>Crookston</i>	Provided information about Fall Conference Planning Committee, the Minnesota Board on Aging's legislative agenda, and national legislation affecting seniors during the meeting of the Polk County Committee on Aging.	

Aging	Crookston TRIAD Program <i>Crookston</i>	Participated in meeting of agencies interested in the development of a TRIAD/SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) program in the Crookston area.	
Economic Development	Community Rehab Fund Application <i>East Grand Forks</i>	ROHDA worked with city to prepare a grant application requesting \$113,400 to acquire a dilapidated rental building containing 14 rental units.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Arts	N. Country Traditional Music and Dance Company <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of L'Ensemble Folklorique de la Riviere-Rouge on April 27, 1996.	\$500.00 Grant Award
Arts	Community Performing Arts Council <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "The Life & Times of Tin Pan Alley" on February 2 - 4, 1996.	\$1,270.00 Grant Award
Arts	Community Performing Arts Council <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Local Arts Agency Development Grant: NEA & State Funds Hiring of part-time staff from March, 1996 - March, 1997.	\$4,450.00 Grant Award
Arts	ISD #595 <i>East Grand Forks</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Artist Residency Grant: Residency with folk dancer Jeanne O'Neil.	\$1,000.00 Grant Award
Arts	Artist Mentor Event <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Heather Spielman performed a lyrical dance at the summer's end event. She studied dance with Jennifer Neuser of the North Dakota Ballet and Mary Noel of Impressions Dance Company, Crookston.	
Arts	Candace Boese <i>East Grand Forks</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Purchased visual art supplies.	\$500.00 Grant Award
Arts	Jeanne O'Neil <i>East Grand Forks</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Individual Artist Grant Attending private dance sessions on clogging and jigging.	\$500.00 Grant Award
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Provided 13,568 Congregate meals to 356 persons in East Grand Forks in 1995. (3 sites-Sr. Center, Sunshine Terrace Apts., Townsquare Apts.)	
Aging	Nutrition Site Council Meeting <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Met with East Grand Forks Nutrition Site Council to discuss ways to increase attendance at senior center meals program, and to develop a grant application for United Ways funding for 1997.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Council <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Provided information to East Grand Forks Nutrition Site Council on Community Based Budgeting, proposed site budget for 1996, and brainstormed ideas for fundraising.	
Arts	Polk County TA <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Assistance to the Community Performing Arts Council, EGF, with the Local Arts Agency Development form.	
Aging	Advocacy Training <i>East Grand Forks</i>	Senior Advocacy Network workshop was held in East Grand Forks in conjunction with OPTIONS. Attendees learned ways to communicate with elected officials in positive manner.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Erskine</i>	Provided 7,404 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 176 persons in Erskine in 1995.	

Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Erskine</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Loan	Lee Nursery, Inc. <i>Fertile</i>	Closed RLF loan for \$28,800.00.	
Loan	Fertile Building Center, Inc. <i>Fertile</i>	Closed RLF Loan for \$60,000.00.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Fertile</i>	Provided 1,706 Congregate meals to 89 persons in Fertile in 1995.	
Arts	Fertile Area Arts Council <i>Fertile</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theater on May 31 - June 1, 1996.	
Arts	Fertile-Beltrami Schools <i>Fertile</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Artist Residency Grant: Residency with folk dancer Jeanne O'Neil.	\$1,000.00 Grant Award
Economic Development	Multi-family project <i>Fisher</i>	ROHDA assisted in preparation of grant application requesting funding for the construction of townhouses.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Fosston</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Loan	Fosston Cooperative Elevator Association <i>Fosston</i>	Closed DRLF loan for \$150,000.00 for working capital.	
Arts	Arts In Education <i>Fosston</i>	Researched possible new approaches to arts in education issues. Offered a workshop especially for teachers and the schools to help them work with artists and develop their own artistic talents. Workshop will most likely be in Fosston.	
Arts	Fosston Community Education <i>Fosston</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theater on July 15 -20, 1996.	\$485.00 Grant Award
Arts	Fosston Library and Arts Center <i>Fosston</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of Lin and Leif Enger in October of 1995.	\$240.00 Grant Award
Arts	Fosston Library and Arts Center <i>Fosston</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "Nunsense II" on June 27 - 30, 1996.	\$1,155.00 Grant Award
Arts	Fosston Library and Arts Center <i>Fosston</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "Forever Plaid". Withdrawn.	\$1,230.00 Grant Award
Arts	East Polk Heritage Center <i>Fosston</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Research aboriginal booklet from April 1996 - April 1997.	\$2,500.00 Grant Award
Arts	Magelssen Elementary <i>Fosston</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Artist Residency Grant: Residency with folk dancer Jeanne O'Neil.	\$1,000.00 Grant Award
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Fosston</i>	Provided 3,658 Congregate meals to 124 persons in Fosston in 1995.	
Loan	Riverside Board and Lodging <i>McIntosh</i>	Approved RLF Standard Loan for \$61,600. Closing is pending.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>McIntosh</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	

Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>McIntosh</i>	Provided 7,508 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 129 persons in McIntosh in 1995.	
Aging	Community Based Budgeting <i>McIntosh</i>	Attended the meeting of the nutrition site council to brainstorm ideas for a more efficient operation of the McIntosh meal site. Meal site is currently operating at a deficit; recommendations were made to site council and city officials.	
Arts	Win-E-Mac Schools <i>McIntosh</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Artist Residency Grant: Residency with writer Jane Kurtz.	\$1,000.00 Grant Award
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Neilsville</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Winger</i>	Provided 3,482 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 140 persons in Winger in 1995.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Assessment <i>Winger</i>	Monitored Winger Senior Nutrition site. Presented information about the Area Agency on Aging.	
Loan	Enterprise Fund Loans <i>Polk County</i>	Eighteen businesses received financing from the Enterprise Fund, totalling \$1,011,775. Eleven loans are active. Disaster Revolving Loan Funds were given to two businesses, totalling \$300,000.	
Economic Development	Economic Summary <i>Polk County</i>	Prepared summary of demographic and economic statistics for the county. Copies available upon request.	

Red Lake

38

Economic Development	Rehabilitate Brooks Senior/LMI Duplexes <i>Brooks</i>	RHODA coordinated preparation of a grant/loan application to MHFA on behalf of the non-profit development corporation in Brooks to request funding to rehabilitate 7 duplexes (14 units) that are occupied by senior citizens (approx 20% of Brook's housing stock).	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Brooks</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Arts	Artist Mentor Event <i>Brooks</i>	Darci Delage performed a theater piece with Kiki Goddard at the event. Darci and Kiki studied theater with Carol Kankel of Red Lake Falls.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Assessment <i>Oklee</i>	Monitored and did a Nutrition Site Assessment in Oklee. Presented information on AAA and area resources.	
Arts	Oklee Community Education <i>Oklee</i>	Small Arts Grant: Sponsorship of Prairie Fire Theater on July 28 - August 3, 1996.	\$500.00 Grant Award
Arts	Oklee CAPP <i>Oklee</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Sponsorship of Sonia Sletto on January 22-26, 1996.	\$600.00 Grant Award
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Oklee</i>	Provided 5,402 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 193 persons in Oklee in 1995.	
Aging	Community Based Budgeting <i>Oklee</i>	Attended the meeting of the nutrition site council to brainstorm ideas for more efficient operations of the meal site. Meal site is currently operating at a deficit; changes were recommended to members of site council and city office.	

Aging	Red Lake County Committee on Aging <i>Oklee</i>	Provided information on the Minnesota Board on Aging's Legislative Agenda, Fall Conference Planning Committee, and the progress of national legislation affecting seniors at the Red Lake County Committee on Aging Meeting.	
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Plummer</i>	Provided 1,369 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 86 persons in Plummer in 1995.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Assessment <i>Plummer</i>	Monitored Plummer Nutrition site. Presented information on the Area Agency on Aging and other resources.	
Aging	Advocacy Training <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	Senior Advocacy Network Workshop was held in Red Lake Falls. Six seniors attended to learn ways to communicate positively with our elected officials. This workshop was presented in conjunction with OPTIONS and the Area Agency on Aging.	
Loan	Tailoredwear, Inc. <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	Closed RLF loan for \$16,500.00.	
Arts	Two Rivers Area Theatre <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of a One Act Festival on February 24 - 25, 1996.	\$1,150.00 Grant Award
Arts	Arts Mentoring <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	1995 Artist/Mentor Student Participants: Darci Delage, Brooks. Mentor: Carol Kankel, Red Lake Falls.	
Arts	Assoc. of the French of the North <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Small Capital Grant: Purchase of a tent canvas for their summer production.	\$1,150.00 Grant Award
Arts	Assoc. of the French of the North <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Sponsorship of North American French Music on August 24 - 25, 1996.	\$2,350.00 Grant Award
Arts	City of Red Lake Falls <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Sponsorship of Opera on the Farm on June 15, 1996.	\$1,900.00 Grant Award
Arts	St. Joseph's Grade School <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Artist Residency Grant: Residency with folk dancer Jeanne O'Neil.	\$1,000.00 Grant Award
Arts	Lafayette High School <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Artist Residency Grant: Residency with writer Jane Kurtz.	\$1,000.00 Grant Award
Aging	LSS Senior Nutrition Program <i>Red Lake Falls</i>	Provided 10,182 Congregate and Home Delivered meals to 293 persons in Red Lake Falls in 1995.	
Economic Development	Housing <i>Red Lake County</i>	Assisted in technical aspects of McKnight Foundation project.	
Economic Development	Economic Summary <i>Red Lake County</i>	Prepared summary of demographic and economic statistics for the county. Copies available upon request.	
Economic Development	Financing Strategies <i>Red Lake County</i>	Assisted resident/businesses in business development and in locating/ accessing financial resources for business start-ups and expansions.	
Economic Development	Red Lake County Planning <i>Red Lake County</i>	Assisted in a county wide planning process sponsored by the University of Minnesota to promote economic development thru the use of resources of the University and other agencies.	
Loan	Enterprise Fund Loans <i>Red Lake County</i>	Three businesses received financing from the Enterprise Fund, totalling \$110,715. Two loans are active.	

Arts	Red Lake County TA <i>Red Lake County</i>	Grants Writing Workshop on September 16, 1995.	
Aging	Nutrition Site Council <i>Red Lake County</i>	Attended the annual meeting of the Nutrition Project Council in Red Lake Falls. Provided information on the Senior Advocacy Network to members and encouraged individuals to participate.	
Roseau			
Arts	Badger School <i>Badger</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Sponsorship of Arts Around the World from Sept. - Dec. 1996.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Badger</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Community Development	Brochure <i>Greenbush</i>	Work with the city of Greenbush to update their city brochure.	
Loan	Wahl Brothers Racing, Inc. <i>Greenbush</i>	Approved RLF application for \$67,500.00. Closing is pending.	
Loan	RMS Plastic Products of Greenbush, Inc. <i>Greenbush</i>	Approved RLF application for \$63,000. Closing is pending.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Greenbush</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Loan	Up North Sports <i>Roseau</i>	Approved RLF Application for \$30,000. Closing is pending.	
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Roseau</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Arts	Arts Mentoring <i>Roseau</i>	1995 Artist/Mentor Student Participants: Jill Erickson, Roseau. Mentor: Bonnie Wensloff, Roseau.	
Arts	Roseau Community School <i>Roseau</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Artist Residency Grant: Residency with writer Constance Wells.	\$1,000.00 Grant Award
Aging	Advocacy Training <i>Roseau</i>	Senior Advocacy Network Workshop was held in Roseau. Twenty-five seniors attended to learn ways to communicate positively with our elected officials. This workshop was presented in conjunction with OPTIONS and the Area Agency on Aging.	
Aging	RSVP Program Expansion <i>Roseau</i>	Director from RSVP program and staff met with the Roseau County Board of Commissioners to discuss the expansion of the program into Roseau County for 1996.	
Aging	County Committee on Aging <i>Roseau</i>	Attended the Roseau County Committee on Aging meeting to provide information about the Senior Advocacy Network and to recruit volunteers. RSVP Program Expansion into Roseau County was explained and contact people were identified.	
Aging	Grandma's Pie Plate <i>Roseau</i>	Facilitated "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate" workshop in Roseau. 13 seniors attended.	
Arts	Warroad Summer Theater <i>Warroad</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "Cinderella" on July 30 - August 4, & August 7-11, 1996.	\$2,210.00 Grant Award

Arts	Warroad Summer Theater <i>Warroad</i>	Local Regional Arts Development Grant: Production of "Breakfast with Les and Bess" on March 20 - 24, 1996	\$1,150.00 Grant Award
Arts	Warroad Summer Theater <i>Warroad</i>	NWRDC/McKnight Small Capital Grant: Purchase of lighting equipment.	\$655.00 Grant Award
Economic Development	Local Assessments <i>Warroad</i>	Met with community through ROHDA project to begin the process of determining housing needs relative to area labor force.	
Transportation	Roseau County T.A. <i>Roseau County</i>	Talked with the city of Badger regarding the feasibility of Enhancement funding for a local project.	
Loan	Enterprise Fund Loans <i>Roseau County</i>	Two businesses received financing from the Enterprise Fund, totalling \$122,077. Disaster Revolving Loan Funds were given to three businesses, totalling \$140,000.	
Aging	Healthy Lifestyles - Roseau Co. Home Health Care <i>Roseau County</i>	Funded grant to provide health promotion/disease prevention program in Roseau county. \$1,278 in III-F funds. First quarter-class schedule developed and speakers contacted. Class begins in March.	
Aging	Senior Medical Travel <i>Roseau County</i>	Funded grant to provide medical transportation for seniors in Roseau county. \$7,384 in III-B funds. First quarter-12,614 transportation miles provided in 211 trips. 77 participants served.	
Aging	Home Health Care Housekeeping <i>Roseau County</i>	Funded grant to provide housekeeping services for seniors in Roseau County. \$5,225 in III-B funds. First quarter-provided 141.25 units of service to 22 clients.	
Economic Development	Economic Summary <i>Roseau County</i>	Prepared summary of demographic and economic statistics for the county. Copies available upon request.	
Economic Development	Community Rehab Fund <i>Roseau County</i>	ROHDA prepared application requesting \$300,000 to establish a "construction writedown" program, establish a "gap financing" fund and acquire and clear 3 vacant dilapidated residential properties for the communities of Greenbush, Badger, Roseau and Warroad.	
Economic Development	Financing Strategies <i>Roseau County</i>	Assisted resident/businesses in locating/accessing financial resources for business start-ups and expansion.	

Multi County

Aging	Northwest Sentencing to Service Program <i>Kittson Marshall Pennington</i>	Funded grant to provide heavy chore services to seniors in Pennington, Kittson and Marshall counties. \$9,000 in III-B funds. First quarter-served 46 persons with chore services (shoveling snow, general repair jobs, general housekeeping chore services)	
Aging	Foster Grandparent Program Expansion <i>Kittson Marshall Red Lake Roseau</i>	Funded grant to expand program in Kittson, Roseau, Marshall and Red Lake Counties. \$10,000 in III-B funds. First quarter-Visits made to develop sites. Agreements signed with RLF and Oklee schools. Recruitment ongoing.	
Aging	Frail Elderly Assistance Project <i>Kittson Marshall Roseau</i>	Funded grant to provide home modifications for frail elderly in Roseau, Kittson and E. Marshall counties. \$5,292 in III-D funds. First quarter-nine applications taken. Work begins in second quarter. Continue to take applications.	
Economic Development	Kittson/Roseau Flood Project <i>Kittson Roseau</i>	Acted as fiscal agent for Kittson and Roseau County flood grants. Conducted all drawdowns, disbursements, etc. for \$402,500.00 Grant.	

Aging	Retired and Senior Volunter Program Expansion <i>Kittson Roseau</i>	Funded grant to expand the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program in Kittson and Roseau counties. \$8,425 in III-B funds. First quarter-contact made, 1 volunteer station developed. Six volunteers recruited. Recruitment ongoing.	
Economic Development	Ada/Warren Flood Project <i>Marshall Norman</i>	Acted as the fiscal agent for the cities of Ada and Warren flood grant. Conducted all drawdowns, disbursements, etc. for \$108,680 grant.	
Economic Development	Marshall and Pennington Land Use Planning <i>Marshall Pennington</i>	Assist in the development of a land use planning process that can be used in Marshall and Pennington Counties.	
Aging	Valley Housekeeping Services <i>Norman Pennington Polk</i>	Funded grant to provide housekeeping services to seniors in Polk, Pennington, and Norman counties. \$28,500 in III-B funds. First quarter-provided 7003.5 hours of service to 362 persons in 3,110 visits.	
Aging	Senior Legal Services <i>Regional</i>	Funded grant to Northwest Minnesota Legal Service for provision of legal services and education to seniors in all seven counties. \$20,900 in III-B funds.	
Aging	Medical Forms Assistance Program <i>Regional</i>	Funded grant to provide volunteer based assistance to seniors with filling out medicare forms, insurance claim forms, \$6,700 in III-B funds to serve all seven counties.	
Aging	Senior Wellness Initiative <i>Regional</i>	Funded grant to Polk County Nursing Service to identify resources to assist groups to organize Senior Wellness Programs in all seven counties. \$2,888 in Title III-F funds.	