

Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership

South Dakota

The mission statement of Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership (ICAP) is to empower people to live, not just survive.

One of the key programs that ICAP engages in is their Self Help Housing Rehabilitation Program, which started as a pilot program in 2004. Since then ICAP has been awarded six, two-year grants through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development. Since the program began, ICAP has served 143 families. ICAP's Self-Help program began when they identified the need for affordable housing in their community. In many of the smaller cities and rural areas within ICAP's service area, residents identified housing rehabilitation as a need. Oftentimes homeowners in these areas either cannot find contractors to work on their home or they cannot afford the cost of materials and labor. ICAP staff, in conjunction with USDA Rural Development created this Self-Help Housing Rehabilitation program to assist homeowners in their 14 county service area with their home repairs.

The USDA Rural Housing Programs are extremely valuable to ICAP. Without them, ICAP would not be able to offer this valuable program that has and continue to make such a difference for homeowners in rural South Dakota. The South Dakota USDA Rural Development staff are actively involved in offering programs that better the lives of those in the community. They are extremely supportive of ICAP's activities.

Eugene and Carolyn Reiner

One of the Self Help Housing Rehabilitation projects that ICAP considers a success story is that of Eugene and Carolyn Reiner, who just recently completed their project in Centerville, SD. Centerville is a rural South Dakota town with a population of 886. The Reiners exemplify the true value of the program.

The Reiner's home was in need of major repairs to its roof, windows, and siding. Holes in the roof lead to water damage and mold in the interior. Although Eugene is nearly legally blind, he and Carolyn, both in their mid-to-late 70s with physical limitations and no income earning capacity, had always taken care of home repairs on their own. The problems, however, required additional assistance to fix and to ensure that their home remained livable.

By utilizing a Self Help Housing Rehabilitation grant through USDA Rural Development, the Reiners were able to rehab their existing home with labor assistance provided by local civic group volunteers from within the Centerville community. ICAP's Housing Rehabilitation Representative provided the necessary supervision, training, and project oversight to make sure that construction was done safely. Additional funding from HOME Investment Partnership Program and HOF funds from the South Dakota Housing Development Authority were used to fund materials and an electrician to address electrical deficiencies. The total labor savings for this project was \$15,391.15. The total amount of funding used was \$12,869.04. Without the Self Help program, this project would've exceeded \$30,000.00 in total project costs.



CONTACT:

Cindy Dannenbring
(605) 256-6518
cdannenbring@interlakescap.com

ORGANIZATION FACTS:

Web: www.interlakescap.com
Year Founded: 1966
Location: Madison, SD
Footprint: State

By the Numbers:

(for 2004 to Feb. 2017)

- 143 households assisted through the Self-Help program
- \$353,977 in Self-Help grant funds secured for March 31, 2015 to March 31, 2017