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GROW South Dakota receives a grant from NeighborWorks America to help increase support for community-building activities and organizations.

Sisseton, SD – Northeast South Dakota Community Action Program (dba GROW South Dakota) received a \$100,000 comprehensive community development grant from NeighborWorks America to help people experience better outcomes to advance communities through housing or economic development. GROW South Dakota successfully impacts rural communities through an inclusive comprehensive approach by working with residents to address community needs.

GROW South Dakota is a member of the national NeighborWorks network. The grant will be used to develop leaders, support community-building activities and organizations, and build partnerships. Support may include presentations on needs identified, resident leadership development, housing resources, peer-to-peer collaboration, and grant research and assistance.

"We are excited to expedite this opportunity as it will strengthen our South Dakota communities through a commitment to grow assets to meet the needs of our residents and communities," stated Lori Moen, GROW South Dakota Chief Operating Officer.

In its fiscal year 2022, NeighborWorks America awarded nearly \$1.7 million in grants to 26 NeighborWorks network organizations to incorporate a <u>comprehensive community</u> <u>development</u> approach into their work and help produce a meaningful change for their communities. Comprehensive community development is a resident-led approach focused on a place that aims to improve lives and strengthen communities.

"Communities are facing challenges, such as access to affordable housing, addressing health disparities or creating economic opportunity," said Paul Singh, NeighborWorks America's vice president of Community Initiatives, "and NeighborWorks America believes the best approach to help solve them is a comprehensive one. In order to be equitable and sustainable, residents and local stakeholders need to be the ones to drive

meaningful change in their neighborhoods and create vibrant local communities that offer people equitable opportunities to thrive."

For more information about Northeast South Dakota Community Action Program (dba GROW South Dakota), go to <a href="www.growsd.org">www.growsd.org</a>. For more information about NeighborWorks America go to NeighborWorks.org.

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