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Matching Funds Awarded to Communities for Workforce Plans

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard has awarded nearly \$1 million in matching funds to help communities across the state take an active role in addressing their own workforce issues.

In September, the Governor challenged the business, education, government and other sectors to work together to submit plans for the South Dakota Workforce Development Council to consider. Sixteen applications were received.

“I wanted to hear community-specific ideas and innovative plans to meet communities’ workforce needs,” said Gov. Daugaard. “Applications addressed a variety of topics, such as housing, internships, certification and training programs and English as a Second Language classes.”

Communities receiving awards included:

- Aberdeen Development Corporation, \$60,000
- Associated General Contractors of South Dakota, \$50,000
- Belle Fourche Development Corporation, \$175,200
- Black Hills Community Economic Development, \$70,000
- Brookings Economic Development Corporation, \$174,750
- City of Pierre, \$20,480
- DeSmet Development Corporation, \$8,100
- Greater Huron Development Corporation, \$125,000
- Gregory Business and Industrial Development Corporation, \$7,000
- Mitchell Technical Institute and Mitchell School District, \$115,332
- Wagner Area Growth, Inc., \$22,239
- Watertown Development Company, \$50,000
- Yankton Area Progressive Growth, Inc., \$60,000
- Yankton Rural Area Health Education Center, \$50,000

The council evaluated the proposals on several criteria, including cross-sector involvement, sustainability in the community, consistency with statewide initiatives and quality of matching funding. The application narrative needed to detail the targeted workforce need and the proposed activity, as well as the cross-sector engagement each community used to develop the proposal.

The program is being administered by the Department of Labor and Regulation and the Governor’s Office of Economic Development. For more information and to view all submissions, visit www.SouthDakotaWINS.com.