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USDA Grants Available to Help Small Businesses

(KTNC) - The U-S Department of Agriculture is announcing grants this week that aim to help small businesses in rural areas create jobs and spark economic growth. U-S Ag Secretary Tom Vilsack says the 54 awards are coming under the Rural Business Enterprise Grants program and they're going to outlets in Nebraska and 20 other states. (play audio :18 “market opportunities.”)

Among the Nebraska recipients is the Lyons-based Center for Rural Affairs, which is getting a grant to help with training and technical assistance for small businesses. Vilsack says the grants will have wide-ranging impact. (play audio :21 “added farming.”)

The grant to the Center for Rural Affairs is for 99-thousand dollars. Vilsack says small businesses are the backbone of the economy in small towns and rural communities.

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