

2003 Annual Report Executive Summary

Clinch - Powell Enterprise Community

The Clinch-Powell Enterprise Community continues to surpass expectations as almost \$ 90 million for projects and works of improvement was brought into the region as a result of the EC status. Almost \$38 million of this was from USDA Rural Development. The EC was designated on January 13, 1999 and includes all or portions of Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock, Hawkins and Union counties in East Tennessee. Clinch-Powell refers to rivers running through the counties. The Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development Council serves as the lead entity and fiscal agent for the Enterprise Community: a board of twenty directors from the region governs the EC. "A community of opportunity where People and Business prosper."

Partners and agencies such as Clinch Powell Educational Cooperative, Douglas Cherokee Economic Authority, Utility Districts, School Systems, Volunteer Fire Departments and others are directly benefiting from the designation of the EC. Most importantly, the quality of life is improving with better water, housing, education, emergency services and a brighter economic future. Here is a brief summary of projects in 2003 listed by focus area made possible for partners with assistance from many public and private funding agencies and the Enterprise Community designation.

Sustainable Economic Development

Clinch-Powell Community Kitchen/ Appalachian Spring Cooperative – All Counties
Clinch-Powell Revolving Loan Fund through Rural Business Enterprise Grant of \$99,000 to CP RC&D –

All Counties: two loans made to start-up businesses (one: woman owned minority business):

Phipps Bend Small Business Park – Hawkins County

Holston Business Incubator-Hawkins County

Board Initiative: Allocation of \$90,000 for Arts/Crafts Incubator/shop

Board Initiative: Revolving Loan Fund \$80,000.00 for business expansion

Board Initiative: Allocation of \$2,500 for Ag Leadership Program

Clinch-Powell Industrial Recruiter:

- Represents the EC at various trade shows throughout the US
- Discusses EC Revolving Loan Fund and RBEG RLF with business owners

Tourism

Board Initiative: "Not Barn Yesterday Phase II: A Clothesline of Quilts in Appalachia" barn quilt block murals started in five counties. The EC matched an East TN Foundation/TAC grant in 2002 to create two full size barn murals in two counties. The Board has made an allocation of \$7,500.00 for phase II. The TN Arts Commission's Arts Build Communities Project awarded a grant for \$1,400.00 with \$1,400.00 EC cash match to Grainger County for 2004. Three other grants are pending for this project: NEA/Forestry Service for \$15,000.00 with \$3,750.00 in-kind match, East TN Foundation

for \$3,000.00 with \$3,000.00 EC cash match, and TN Arts Commission's Rural Arts Project for \$6,000 with \$6,000 EC cash match.

Education and Arts

21st Century Community Learning Center - Claiborne

Project SUCCESS (Alcohol and Drug Abuse) – All Counties

Appalachia CARES – All Counties

Board Initiative: \$75,000 allocation for a youth program i.e. Boys/Girls Clubs

Infrastructure

Water and Waste Grants and Loans – Hawkins, Hancock, Grainger

Tele-Democracy Video-Conferencing Network – All Counties

Scenic By-Ways Coalition- Claiborne, Grainger, Hancock

Basic Needs

Single Family Housing Grants and Loans – All Counties

HOME Team: Homebuyer Education Classes: Three people completed the classes and 25 people were seen for a total of 40 hours counseling.

Board Initiative: Allocation of \$81,104 revolving fund to build single-family homes (first home completed in Claiborne County and currently for sale)

Board Initiative: Allocation of \$71,000 to purchase a home to be used as a domestic violence shelter in a county without a shelter. We will partner with an existing service provider to accomplish this goal.

Quality Communities

Clinch-Powell Community Fund with the East Tennessee Foundation: \$5,000 initial investment in 2002.

Board Initiative: Allocation of \$3,000 for training, VISTA worker or advertising the fund Board.

Board

The EC Board of Directors includes three voting members from each EC counties and six other non-voting members including the County Executives and a representative of the Clinch-Powell RC&D Council.

The 2003-2004 Board of Directors is:

Claiborne – Tom Mottern, Joyce Hopson, Frances Rasnic, Bob Walker, Fred Parker, Carol Campbell, John Fultz

Grainger –Larry Fox, Dana Dalton

Hancock – Steve Hodges, Kim Belcher, Crit Rasnic, Melissa Wallen, Christy Livesay, Candy Lamb

Hawkins – Nancy Barker

Union – Jane Bowman, Grace Helton, Kathleen Graves

Clinch-Powell RC&D Liaison– Cherry Acuff