

First Lake County USDA Housing Fair takes place at Beckstoffer Vineyards

LAKE COUNTY NEWS REPORTS

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KELSEYVILLE, Calif. – The first of several planned housing fairs in Lake County took place on May 25 at the Beckstoffer Vineyard offices in Kelseyville.

The housing fair targeted the agricultural workforce of Lake County and was organized by the Lake County Economic Development Corp. in collaboration with United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

The housing fair was sponsored in part by Beckstoffer Vineyards and Bella Vista Farms. Participating service providers included the Lake County Association of Realtors, Sterling Mortgage, Savings Bank of Mendocino County, Umpqua Bank, Skiles and Associates General Construction and Development and Dunshee Builders.

The purpose of the fair was to increase awareness of available USDA Rural Development home loan programs with the goal of expediting homeownership for the Lake County workforce.

Several targeted housing fairs will take place around Lake County with the next fair scheduled in July to address the ongoing rebuilding efforts in the Cobb and Middletown areas. Details of the Cobb area housing fair will be announced when finalized.

Future fairs are anticipated in the Clearlake and Upper Lake areas, with another agricultural workforce housing fair to be scheduled.

“Affordable housing is a vital component in our mission at USDA to improve rural prosperity, but we can’t do it alone,” said USDA Rural Development California State Director Kim Dolbow Vann. “Working together with our local partners and stakeholders in Lake County we are able to offer these comprehensive housing fairs, and make sure everyone is aware of the resources available to them.”

USDA Rural Development’s Single Family Housing loan programs help moderate to low-income individuals and households purchase homes, build equity, and increase their investment in the community.

Highlights of the programs include no down payment, no mortgage insurance, and interest rates as low as one percent for eligible buyers.

Loans are available to all individuals and households that meet criteria such as income levels, credit scores, and stable income. Residents may be assisted in purchasing an existing home or building a new one.

For more information on USDA Rural Development’s programs visit www.rd.usda.gov/ca.

Contact the Lake County Economic Development Corp. at 3895 Main Street, Kelseyville, 707-279-1540, Extension 101.