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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fierros receives RCAP Outstanding Mentor Award

NEW PRAGUE, Minn., October 15, 2009 – Chris Fierros has received Rural Communities Assistance Partnership’s Outstanding Mentor Award. RCAP is the national organization for six partners, including Midwest Assistance Program, Inc. This is the first time RCAP has presented awards at the national level, and honorees were nominated by their colleagues.

Fierros was recognized for teaching, mentoring and helping MAP’s resource development advisors and staff, for making a difference in the program through her expert guidance and valuable knowledge, and for being a nurturing, fostering leader.

On accepting the award, Fierros said, “I have a great staff to work with, so teaching them has been easy.”

During her career with MAP, which began in 1997, Fierros has served as a resource development advisor, regional director for Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota and Missouri and director of programs. She currently is chief operating officer for the organization and is based in Savannah, Mo.

“RCAP is fortunate to have talented and highly committed staff like Chris working to improve living conditions in rural America,” said Robert Stewart, RCAP’s executive director. “These employees demonstrate an exceptional level of commitment to their work and to the communities they serve. The RCAP board of directors is elated to honor them and recognize their dedication to providing critically needed technical assistance and training to small and low-income communities.”

Midwest Assistance Program, Inc., is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping rural communities in a nine-state area improve their environment, quality of life and achieve self sustainability. MAP helps revitalize small communities by working with them to find solutions for their infrastructure, enterprise development, aging, technology or training issues. It’s a member of the Rural Community Assistance Partnership, a national, rural community development network. MAP is an equal-opportunity lender, provider and employer.