



## New Look, Cleaner Laundry

Bremond in Robertson County, is known as the Polish Capital of Texas. This small town is known for its great schools, thriving public library and the Pickle Run every June.

Bremond, population 929, has many family owned businesses. One of those is the Bremond Laundromat. It is the only laundromat in town and has been open for over 15 years. It now has a new look both inside and out.

In June 2016, Cynthia Wydermyre and her family purchased the laundromat. The building was old, needed paint and half the washing machines and dryers didn't work. Ms. Wydermyre applied for the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Energy Efficiency Grant.



*Fresh paint, new name and new laundry equipment invite patrons to the Bremond laundromat*

REAP program funds may be used for the purchase, installation and construction of energy efficiency improvements, such as: High efficiency heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems (HVAC); Lighting; Doors and windows; Replacement of energy-inefficient equipment. Funds are available in the form of loan guarantees on loans up to 75% of total eligible project costs; grants for up to 25% of total eligible project costs; or combined grant and loan guarantee funding up to 75% of total eligible project costs.

Ms. Wydermyre applied and received a grant for 25% of the total expenses to install 6 new High Efficiency dryers, 9 new washers, including one each 20 lb. and 40 lb. capacity machines., and LED lighting. The owner updated the bathroom to be fully accessible, added security cameras and painted the exterior of the building.

Ms. Wydermyre shared that as she was paying the property taxes, she was approached by a lady who asked her if she was the new owner of the laundromat. She replied yes and the lady said, "Thank you so much! I was afraid to go there because it was dark and the machines didn't work. Now I love going to do my laundry there. I feel safe and love the new washers." Ms. Wydermyre also shared that it feels good to be able to help a community by providing a place where folks can gather to do their laundry and feel comfortable at the same time.

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**Obligation Amount:** \$6,528.00 REAP Grant

**Date of Obligation:** October 2016

**Congressional District:** Representative Flores District 17; Senators Cornyn and Cruz

**Partners:** Applicant contribution

**Demographics:** Town of Bremond, Texas

**Impact:** Improvements and new laundry equipment to the only laundromat in Bremond. Local folks can now do their laundry without having to drive 30-45 minutes to a larger community. The REAP program made it possible to have a clean, safe and working laundromat and also reduce the energy costs to the owner with LED lights and High Efficiency equipment.

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