STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Recognizes Top National Lending Partners to Support Rural Homeownership

WASHINGTON, June 16, 2021 – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) today hosted the 2021 National Lender of the Year Awards Ceremony to recognize its top three national lending partners and their work to support rural homeownership in 2020. These three lenders helped **10,878** rural families and individuals buy homes nationwide last year through USDA Rural Development's <u>Single Family Housing</u> <u>Guaranteed Loan Program</u>.

The agency presented the awards virtually to:

- <u>Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation</u> based in Wisconsin, which partnered with USDA to help **4,629** families and individuals buy homes last year;
- <u>Movement Mortgage</u> based in South Carolina, which partnered with USDA to help **3,548** families and individuals buy homes last year; and
- <u>Caliber Home Loans Inc.</u> based in Texas, which partnered with USDA to help **2,721** families and individuals buy homes last year.

USDA is a proud partner to all lenders who work with the agency to support rural homeownership. Over the last 30 years, USDA has worked with nearly 4,000 private lenders nationwide to ensure the dream of homeownership is accessible to rural Americans across the country. These partnerships have helped nearly 2 million families and individuals finance homes in rural areas since the Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan program was created in 1991.

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