

Creative Thinking about Developing Rural Food Systems

May 8, 2014

In this webinar, we'll explore challenges and responses in building healthy, sustainable food systems in rural areas. We'll hear about the work of the Center of Rural Affairs to build up food independence on the Santee Sioux and Omaha Tribe reservations and the connections to cultural knowledge. And we'll discuss and brainstorm how communities can get started with tangible steps for making our community food systems stronger.

This Webinar is provided by the National Consumer Law Center and sponsored by the National Alliance for Rural Policy (NARP).



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Federal Rural Housing Programs Update

Mar 27, 2014

This webinar will include a brief overview of the housing programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to assist lower income rural homebuyers, homeowners, and renters. Presenters will cover the funding outlook for the year and other issues. Can USDA continue to serve the lowest income rural residents? Can affordable rural rental housing be preserved? What is the definition of rural for USDA housing programs? And why are these programs at the Department of Agriculture at all?

Sponsored by the National Alliance for Rural Policy (NARP) and the National Consumer Law Center.



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Disability and Rural Communities: Making a Difference in Small Towns

Nov 19, 2013

People with disabilities are a rich part of the rural fabric of America. Yet many people ask why a person or a family would remain in a rural community when faced with considerable hardships such as lack of Internet access and technology, lack of reliable transportation, and lack of needed supports and services. Why is rural America so important to those that live there anyway? Why not just move if things are so hard? Those are the easy questions to answer. A question that is not always so easy, however, is how people with disabilities can create or obtain services, as well as take part in their rural communities.

This webinar will focus on the importance of advocacy, inclusion, interdependence, resources (ex: technical, vocational, etc.), networking and community involvement, supportive relationships, leadership, and other relevant topics.

This Webinar is provided by the National Consumer Law Center and the National Alliance for Rural Policy (NARP).



Connecting Community Assets with Market Demand for Lasting Livelihoods

Jun 20, 2013

WealthWorks is an innovative approach to meeting the complex challenge of building wealth in areas of persistent poverty. WealthWorks is a bridge between community development and conventional economic development that creates and maintains inclusive non-exploitative demand-driven economic opportunities through investment in the assets of rural places to meet the needs of larger markets. The WealthWorks approach, developed in partnership with the Ford Foundation, intends to

improve the livelihoods of poor people by creating wealth that is owned, controlled, and reinvested in their places, so that they become valued partners in resilient regions. This webinar will share the approach and its main concepts, and how it has been used on the ground.

This webinar is provided by the National Consumer Law Center.

[Click Here for the Discovering Eight Forms of Community Wealth Handout](#)



Strengthening Rural Organizations through Grassroots Fundraising

May 16, 2013

The National Alliance for Rural Policy (NARP) presents the seventh in a series of Investments in Rural America webinars: Strengthening Rural Organizations through Grassroots Fundraising. Nonprofit organizations located in rural areas often have a difficult time raising money through traditional methods. While most grant-making foundations tend to concentrate on urban regions of the country, it is critical to identify and develop the resources that rural communities have in order to strengthen organizations that serve these communities.



Investments in Rural America: Create Jobs for USA Initiative

Apr 18, 2013

The National Alliance for Rural Policy (NARP) presents the sixth in a series of Investments in Rural America webinars: Create Jobs for USA Initiative - on Thursday, April 18, 2013 from 1:00 until 2:00 PM Eastern. Moderated by David R. Dangler, from the National Alliance for Rural Policy network, the webinar will feature OFNs Lina Page and Beth Lipson who will speak about a groundbreaking initiative, Create Jobs for USA, and how founding partners Opportunity Finance Network and Starbucks launched this cause marketing program that encourages donations from consumers and leading corporations to support the work of CDFIs across America, what it has accomplished to date, and examples of its impact in rural communities. The session will include ample time for listener participation.

This Webinar is provided by the National Consumer Law Center.



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Understanding How to Work With Community Foundations and the Role of Gift Planning

Oct 2, 2012

These are challenging times for philanthropy, and how non profits can attract, and retain donors. Market volatility, potential changes in estate tax and income tax rates, the general uncertainty of an election year, and the very slow recovery of the economy has kept many donors sitting on the sidelines. Meanwhile, need continues to outpace resources. Community Foundations offer an alternative to traditional giving that has been growing in popularity and impact. Over 800 community foundations now control over \$55B in assets. Much of their growth has been in the area of donor advised funds, and this type of gift structure is especially appealing to the baby boomer generation. An understanding of how non profits can better connect with their local community foundation, along with an awareness of how the boomer generation will shape philanthropy's future will be useful in helping non profits be successful in balancing need with resources.



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Sustainable Rural Development Funding: Lessons from the Field

The funding environment for rural development is changing dramatically and Don will share the Centers experience with robust and sustainable funding strategies. He will weave three stories from the field that illustrate a new framework for visioning, designing and executing capitalization game plans in support of regional rural development. Don will then summarize the key building blocks of robust and sustainable funding in the Post-Great Recession environment. There will be time allocated during the webinar for discussion and questions.



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Rethinking Investments in Rural Infrastructure and Access in a Changing World

Aug 1, 2012

This webinar will focus primarily on the need, funding and investment for telecommunications, including broadband infrastructure. Public advocates will identify issues underlying the need for telecommunications infrastructure to rural areas, and associated challenges to funding. Associated challenges include FCC policies and directives and will include a review of FCCs plans for extending broadband to rural areas. It will examine and critique the current dynamic of public funding that is allocated to telecommunications companies, rather than to smaller entities and community anchor institutions. It will also touch on the depletion of private Foundation resources, and describe the different ways that public investment in broadband infrastructure can be funded.



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Investments in Rural America: Impact Investors and Rural Readiness

May 21, 2012

This webinar discusses how impact investors view investments, innovative and supportive investments, and community development banks and funds.



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