

Foundations of Practice

*Community Development
Core Competencies for
Extension Professionals in
the North Central Region*

Welcome to Session 1 of
Understanding Communities and
their Dynamics. We will begin
promptly at 1:30 p.m. CST



Overview

SLIDE

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The North Central CRD program leaders recognized the increasing need for Extension professionals to have basic knowledge and skills in the processes, tools and techniques of community development work. In 2003, they undertook action to develop a multi-state effort to meet these needs.

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Overview

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Working in collaboration with the other Regional Rural Development Centers and CSREES-USDA, a conceptual framework was developed, and a white paper was written and presented at the NACDEP conference in February 2004. This conceptual framework is titled *The Foundations of Practice*. The paper is available at:

<http://www.ncrcrd.iastate.edu/projects/corecomp/>



Components of *The Foundations of Practice*

SLIDE

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1. Understanding Communities and Their Dynamics
(Offered through distance education in spring and fall.)
2. Developing Successful Community Initiatives
(Train-the-trainers workshop, Nov. 1-3, 2006; trainings offered in states.)
3. Areas of Specialization and Emphasis

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Component 1

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Understanding Community and their Dynamics is a series of seven core competencies that focus on the ability to understand:

- Community of place.
- The dynamics and interdependencies of the various segments of the community.
- Basics elements of working successfully in community.

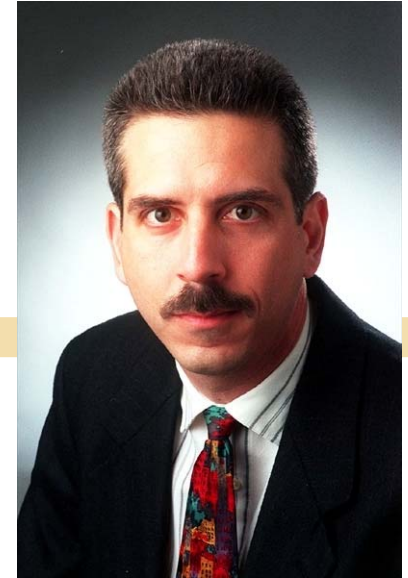
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Session 1



Steve Jeanetta

SLIDE

6

Introduction to the Series and Basic Understanding of Community

April 2

1:30 to 3 p.m. CST

The ability to more fully understand the complexity and dynamics of issues and situations in a community context is important to be able to develop effective programs.

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Session 2



Andy Lewis

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Community Demographics

April 9

1:30 to 3 p.m. CST

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The ability to understand demographic profile and trends in a community is essential to identifying issues and sustainable alternatives.



Session 3

SLIDE

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Community Economics

April 16

1:30 to 3:00 p.m. CST



Scott Loveridge

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The ability to understand a community's economic structure and various strategies to develop a vibrant economy is essential for Extension professionals.



Session 4



Janet Ayres

SLIDE

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Community Power Structure

April 23

10 to 11:30 a.m. CST

The ability to identify who the decision makers are in the community, the resources they affect, and the power structure is crucial in gaining access to a community, gaining trust and credibility, and being effective in educational programs.

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Session 5

SLIDE 10

Community Situational Analysis

April 30

1:30 to 3 p.m. CST



Anne Heinze Silvis

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The ability to analyze a particular issue or situation in a community from a historical, political, cultural and community context and determine Extension's role in the issue is an important competency of community development.



Session 6

SLIDE

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Community Sustainability

May 7

1:30 to 3 p.m. CST



Jerry Hembd

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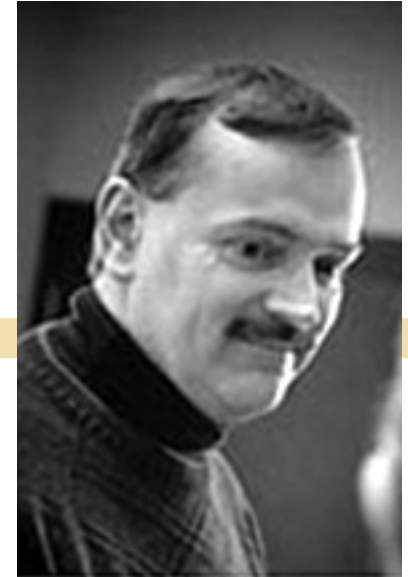
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The ability to understand the impact of decisions on the long-term sustainability of the environment is an important component of community development.



Session 7



Tim Borich

SLIDE **12**

Community Development Process

May 14

1:30 to 3 p.m. CST

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The ability to know how to organize and mobilize resources for action, as well as possible barriers, is necessary in developing programs that are meaningful and effective.



Certificate of Completion

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A *Certificate of Completion* will be given to those who successfully complete at least six of seven sessions.

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Archives

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Archives will be available after each session. The URL to each archive will be sent to all participants as soon as possible following each session.

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