



## Items of Interest

### SRDC 2015 Annual Report Released: Cultivating Prosperity in Rural Communities

SRDC is constantly moving forward to create a better future for a better South. The 2015 SRDC Annual Report captures how to create communities by the variety of Extension and Research activities spearheaded by the Center over the past year in partnership with its land-grant university colleagues and key external collaborators. The report devotes special attention to SRDC projects that broaden the voices of the people who are working together to make life better for their communities and regions. Please take a look and explore the accomplishments and highlights in the 2015 SRDC Annual Report.

[LINK TO REPORT](#)

### SRDC Co-Sponsoring the 2016 NACDEP/ANREP Annual Conference: Registration Open

**June 26-29, 2016: Burlington, Vermont**

This year's 2016 joint conference theme, "Building a Path to Resiliency: Uniting Natural Resources & Community Development." For the first time, National Association of Community Development Extension Professional (NACDEP) and Association of Natural Resource Extensional Professionals (ANREP) are teaming up for a Joint Annual Conference June 26-29, 2016 at the Sheraton Hotel in beautiful and vibrant Burlington, Vermont. Between our memberships, we are anticipating over 350 attendees, providing an excellent opportunity to broaden your Extension Network, present and learn from your peers, and learn from an expanded topic menu. Our Burlington location features an impressive diversity of both established and new, innovative and best practice programs from community and economic development, forestry, water quality, housing, local food, social justice, place making, environmental education, arts and culture, sustainability, public and private initiatives – plus many more. Registration for the conference opens February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

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### Rural Child Poverty Center Awards

**USDA Announces Grants to Support Strategies to Reduce Child Food Insecurity in Rural Communities**

USDA Rural Child Poverty Nutrition Center at the University of Kentucky was awarded \$1.3 million in grants to help reduce child food insecurity in 17 rural communities. The funding, ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000, will help these rural communities

## Webinars:

### Southern CRD Webinar Series:

**Bricks to Clicks | Using Facebook to Market Your Business, Community or Local Government**

May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
10am CT/11am ET

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**Tourism in Extension: How we Assist Landowners, Communities and the Public at Large**

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016  
11am CT/12 pm ET

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**New Extension Program - Universal Design-Innovative**

July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
10am CT/11 pm ET

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### National CRD Webinar Series:

**The Importance of Collecting Impact Numbers to Promote Community Development Work**

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
10am CT/11am ET

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implement creative strategies to improve access to federal nutrition assistance for families and children.

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## Southern CRD Webinar Series Continues:

**Bricks to Clicks | Using Facebook to Market Your Business, Community or Local Government: Some Practical Tips and Lessons Learned from the Mississippi Bricks to Clicks Extension Program**

**May 10th, 2016 10:00am CT/11:00am ET**

Mississippi Bricks to Clicks (B2C) is an entrepreneurship program that trains business owners to understand the economics and management best practices when using social media and how the use of social media can translate into economic value. Facebook trainings are currently available and include the choice of three courses throughout Mississippi.

[LINK TO WEBINAR](#)

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## Grant Connections

### Farm Business Management and Benchmarking (FBMB) Competitive Grants Program

The Farm Business Management and Benchmarking (FBMB) Competitive Grants Program provides funds to (1) improve the farm management knowledge and skills of agricultural producers; and (2) establish and maintain a national, publicly available farm financial management database to support improved farm management.

Deadline for application is due April 11, 2016.

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## Archived Webinars:

### Southern CRD Webinar Series:

**March: You've got the Position, Now Make Sure You Have the Talent**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

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**February: Community Food Systems and Healthy Food Access Initiatives**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

**January: Disaster Planning for the Prairie View A&M University Region**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

**December: Developing and Implementing an Effective E-Commerce Program**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

**November: Getting Community Stakeholders to Identify Water Quality Issues and Priorities Using Liberating Structures Webinar:**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

**October: South Region CRD Webinar Series – Youth Engagement Leadership Program**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

## Rural Health & Safety Education Grant Opportunity

The RHSE program proposals are expected to be community-based, outreach education programs, such as those conducted through Human Science extension outreach, that provides individuals and families with: Information as to the value of good health at any age; Information to increase individual or family's motivation to take more responsibility for their own health; Information regarding rural environmental health issues that directly impact on human health; Information about and access to health promotion and educational activities; and Training for volunteers and health services providers concerning health promotion and health care services for individuals and families in cooperation with state, local and community partners. Deadline for application is June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

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## Conferences, Workshops, Trainings

### 2016 Extension Risk Management Education National Conference: Fort Worth, TX

**April 27–28, 2016**

The 2016 Extension Risk Management Education National Conference will bring together public and private sector educators, crop insurance agents, lenders, and other agricultural professionals to share ongoing and emerging successful risk management education efforts which target agricultural producers and their families. Conference participants will learn about what is working to help producers effectively manage the financial, production, marketing, legal and human risks associated with their agribusinesses.

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### Community Development Extension Institute: Jackson, WY

**May 22–24, 2016**

The Community Development Extension Institute (CDEI) is designed by Extension professionals for Extension and other agency personnel who find themselves working with communities. The Institute offers Basic and Advanced skill-building sessions, plus Best Practices sessions on community development programming. All sessions are led by experienced trainers and presenters.

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### 8<sup>th</sup> National Farm to Cafeteria Conference: Madison, WI

**June 2-4, 2016**

Cafeterias in schools and early care and education locations, colleges and universities, hospitals and other institutional settings serve tens of millions of Americans every day, placing the farm to cafeteria movement at the forefront of the fight to end obesity and strengthen local food systems. Join us for the 8th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference and see how you can change the culture of food and agricultural literacy across America.

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## Archived Webinars:

### National CRD Indicators Team Webinar Series:

**Shoestring Evaluation: New Hampshire's Experience Measuring CRED Impacts with Limited Resources and Expertise**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

**Evaluating for Public Value through Impact Narratives Webinar**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

### Other Great Webinars:

**Improving the Health and Safety of NC Farmworker: Connecting Community Resources**

[WEBINAR RECORDING](#)

**Florida's Urban Extension Strategic Plan**

[WEBINAR LINK](#)

## 2016 Joint NACDEP-ANREP Conference: Burlington, VT

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## 79th Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting: Toronto, Canada

**August 7-10, 2016**

2016 RSS Annual Meeting Call for Papers, Posters, and Organized Sessions. The theme of the 2016 conference is Understanding Rural Social Class in an Era of Global Challenge and will be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 7 - 10 August 2016. The call for papers deadline is Friday, February 5, 2016 11:59 pm (EST).

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## 2016 SR-PLN, AEA & ASRED Joint Meeting: Nashville, TN

**Creating New Harmonies: Addressing Regional Opportunities**

**August 22-26, 2016**

Registration for the conference is now open.

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## 15th Annual Cambio de Colores (Change of Colors) Conference: Nashville, TN

**August 25-26, 2016**

This conference focused on immigrant integration in new destination areas. It brings together folks from NGOs, service providers, educators, researchers, policymakers, students and others to discuss the research and best practices that are working to help strengthen our communities and empower our community members.

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This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.