

## CENTER NEWS:



According to a recent study, 63% of all resolutions set by community development faculty and professionals are abandoned by January 15th. Even more alarming, 89% in the West appear to be so distracted by unseasonable weather that they never set any resolutions!\*

Don't fret, your western community development colleagues offer you hope and help!

In 2014, if you want to learn how to...

- >Feed your community
- >Work with Latino audiences
- >Help community leaders understand their economy
- >Evaluate programs with new techniques
- >Create a data profile for your community, county, or region
- >Facilitate a crowd in a conflict
- >Discover community assets
- >And more skills and best practices from your Western colleagues...

Then reset (or set) your resolution to take advantage of the \$199 Early Bird Registration fee (It expires at midnight on January 25) for the Western Rural Development Center's [Community Development Extension Institute](#).

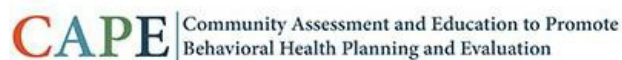
[Click here for all of the details!](#)

\*These statistics and facts are completely made up in the spirit of fun.

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION PILOT COMMUNITIES

### Call for Proposals

DEADLINE: JAN. 21, 2014



The Western Rural Development Center in collaboration with its sister centers is pleased to announce our Call for Proposals for the new project Community Assessment and Education to Promote Behavioral Health Planning and Evaluation (CAPE). Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and facilitated by the USDA, the purpose of CAPE is to explore ways in which communities currently gain information on behavioral health, to discover what datasets exist, and to work with pilot communities to enhance access to needed information.

This is a national program with funding open to 1862, 1890, and 1994 land-grant institutions, and if desired, their local partners. Land-grant branch campuses and Extension offices are included in the list of eligible entities. Proposals must be led by an employee of a land-grant institution. The lead institution may be located in the target community or can be outside the target community if strong linkages can be documented.

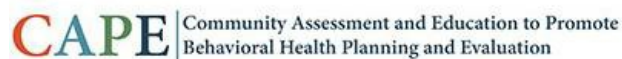
A webinar describing the project has been archived and may be viewed from the CAPE website at <http://healthbench.info/news.html>.

[Learn more.](#)

## REGIONAL COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS

### Call for Proposals

DEADLINE: JAN. 21, 2014



The CAPE Project is seeking four Regional Community Behavioral Health Specialists. The Regional Specialists will: develop strong working relationships with state agencies in their multi-state region; inventory and describe data resources; facilitate surveys of end-users of community behavioral health data; develop region-appropriate toolkits and curricula; assist in dissemination of materials including delivering training and evaluation; coordinate activities with USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, DHHS's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and University Extension services within the multi-state region.

Compensation is commensurate with prior training, experience, and salary history.

For more detailed information and to apply, view the [Call for Proposals](#).

[Learn more.](#)

## EXPLORING SCENARIO PLANNING GRANT

### Request for Proposals

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 15, 2014



Interested in using exploratory scenario planning to assist in a planning or community decision-making process? Apply today!

Western Lands and Communities (WLC), a joint program between the Sonoran Institute and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, is seeking communities interested in using exploratory scenario planning to assist in a planning or community decision-making process that engages multiple stakeholders. Topics could include issues such as water resources, energy, and climatic variability or changes, as well as how these issues may relate to land use planning or community futures.

To apply and for more information, please see the complete [Request for Proposals](#).

[Learn more about the Sonoran Institute.](#)

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

### Call for Submissions

DEADLINE JAN. 31, 2014



The 2014 Annual Meeting of the Community Development Society will focus on effective community development strategies, programs, and policies — fostered by CD practitioners, academics, elected officials, development organizations, organized citizens and motivated individuals — meant to inspire a Renaissance in communities around the world.

[Learn more.](#)

## WEBINAR - FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Agricultural Economics & Rural Communities (AERC) Foundational Program Area

JANUARY 22, 2014

11:00 am - 1:00 pm (MST)



#### FEATURING

Highlights of the AERC program area, eligibility requirements, and other aspects of the following five programs will be discussed along with questions and answers.

- Economics, Markets and Trade
- Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
- Entrepreneurship, Technology and Innovation
- Rural Communities and Regional Development
- Small and Medium Sized Farms

#### MODERATOR

Fen Hunt

#### PRESENTERS

Robbin Shoemaker, Jill Auburn, Denis Ebodaghe

#### TO PARTICIPATE

Join the webinar at the following link a few minutes before the starting time (# lines is limited; first come, first served):

#### WEBINAR Weblink

<http://nifa-connect.nifa.usda.gov/afri-aerc/>

#### AUDIO

Via your computer speakers/microphone, or via telephone: 888-844-9904 access code 6824450#

#### PLEASE NOTE (whether or not you join the webinar):

Letters of intent are required for these programs (a new requirement of AERC in 2014), due on February 19, and the application deadline for full proposals is April 28, 2014. You cannot submit a proposal if you do not first submit a letter of intent.

The 2014 AFRI Foundational Request for Applications can be found at [http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/14\\_afri\\_foundation\\_mod.pdf](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/pdfs/14_afri_foundation_mod.pdf)

For Grant-Writing Tips and Other AFRI Information, see: <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/afri/afri.html>

For more information on AERC including a link to abstracts of projects funded in the past (2011), see: <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/agricultureeconomicsandruralcommunitiesafri.cfm>

#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Robbin Shoemaker at 202-720-5468

[rshoemaker@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:rshoemaker@nifa.usda.gov)

## WEBINARS

### Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Agricultural Economics & Rural Communities (AERC) Foundational Program Area

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Wednesday, January 22, 2014

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (MST)

[Webinar Link.](#)



**Shifting Intermediaries: Tracing the Land Grant Role in Water Management in Nebraska**  
North Central Regional Center for Rural Development  
Wednesday, January 29, 2014  
11:00 AM (MST)  
[Details.](#)

## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, TRAININGS



### **Community Development Extension Institute**

Western Rural Development Center  
26-28 Feb. 2014  
Boise, ID  
[Details.](#)

### **Women in Agriculture Conference**

Washington State University  
March 15, 2014  
Washington, Oregon, Idaho  
[Details.](#)

### **Creating Rural Wealth and Enhancing Food Security for Rural America through Innovative Practices**

National Value Added Conference and What Works III Regional Conference  
National Press Club  
13-15 May 2013  
Baltimore, MD  
[Details.](#)

### **NACDEP 2014 - The Art of Reinvention**

National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals  
22-25 June 2014  
Grand Rapids, MI  
[Details.](#)

### **Community Development Society 2014 Conference**

20-23 July 2014  
Dubuque, IA  
[Details.](#)

### **Equity, Democracy, and the Commons: Counter-narratives for Rural Transformation**

Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting  
30 July - 3 August 2014  
New Orleans, LA  
[Details.](#)

### **California Naturalist State-Wide Conference**

17-19 October 2014  
Pacific Grove, CA  
[Details.](#)

## OUR ENERGY FUTURE

This past issue of *Rural Connections* looks at energy use in the U.S. and includes an introduction by DoE Senior Advisor LeAnn Oliver and an article by Utah Governor Gary Herbert.

[Read this issue.](#)



### **DID YOU MISS AN ISSUE?**

Past issues of *Rural Connections* are available on our website.

[Read past issues today!](#)

STAY CONNECTED

