



RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE
PORTLAND, MAINE
JUNE 8-9, 2009

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2009

4:30 – 7 p.m. **Arrival in Portland, Maine (depending on travel schedule)**
Welcoming Registration (Kiosk near elevators)

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2009

9:00 – Noon **Arrival in Portland, Maine (depending on travel schedule)**
Welcoming Registration (Kiosk near elevators)

1:00– 1:30 p.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks (Room: Connecticut/Rhode Island)**

Joy Tinker, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Host Region

Barbara VanBurgel, Director, Office of Integrated Access and Support, Maine

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Chief, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance- Technical Assistance Branch

1:30 – 2:45 p.m. **Participant and Content Faculty Introductions**
This session will allow each of the rural sites to provide a brief overview of their program and the economic development successes and challenges of their area. This will provide their peer Rural Communities Initiative sites with updates, initiatives, and lessons learned since the Rural Communities Academy in September 2008. This session will provide the content faculty with the context of the rural communities they will be sharing in dialogue with during the next session.

Facilitator:

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Chief, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance- Technical Assistance Branch

2:45 – 3:00 p.m. **Break**



MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2009 (CONTINUED)

3:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Economic Development for Rural Communities (Room: Connecticut/Rhode Island)

This session will allow each of the sites to outline specific emerging economic strengths and challenges in their local community and with the content faculty. Sites will highlight the key considerations of economic development, entrepreneurship, small business development, and workforce development. Content faculty will discuss and share applicable tasks and activities that have been used throughout the country to assist sites in designing preliminary plans.

Moderator:

Louisa Fuller, ICF International

Presenters:

Jim Richardson, Executive Director, National Rural Funders Collaborative, Texas

Deborah Markley, Managing Director and Director of Research, RUPRI, Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, Nebraska

Lionel J. (Bo) Beaulieu, Director, Southern Rural Development Center, Mississippi

4:45 – 5:45 p.m.

Strategic Thinking

This session will allow participants an opportunity to reflect on topics discussed on day one and allow teams to discuss specific economic development objectives, briefly meet with content faculty, and interact with peers. This session will also lay the foundation for the Strategic Planning session with the sites and content faculty on Day Two by applying information learned about each content faculty member during the introduction period and Day One presentations.

Facilitator:

Jeanette Hercik, ICF International



Tuesday, June 9, 2009

8:15 - 9:30 a.m.

Developing Local/Regional Economic Clusters

Regional groups of industries that share common markets, suppliers, or workforce skills can assist in stimulating economic development in rural areas. This session will provide participants strategies, tools, and resources for developing regional business, education, and economic clusters. Content faculty will outline key components of successful business clusters and participants will be able to ask questions as they continue to develop individual economic development plans.

Moderator:

Lisa Washington-Thomas, Chief, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance- Technical Assistance Branch

Presenters:

Sally Cutler, Executive Director, North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, Wisconsin

Jerry Conover, Director, Indiana Business Research Center

Christina Sklarz-Libby, Director, North Star Alliance Initiative, U.S. Department of Labor- WIRED Program

Susan Swanton, Executive Director, Maine Marine Trades Association, Co-Chair, Maine WIRED Program

9:30– 9:45 a.m.

Break

9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Partnering with Education and Economic Development Stakeholders

This session will outline strategies for engaging local educational and economic stakeholders such as community colleges, Chambers of Commerce, policymakers, and local government in working with TANF and other low-income individuals in rural communities. This session will allow participants to discuss strategies, tools, and resources needed to establish a working relationship with various stakeholders in their rural communities and regions.

Moderator:

Damon Waters, ICF International

Presenters:

Jennifer Hilmer Capece, Program Manager, American Association of Community Colleges Center for Workforce and Economic Development

Karen Elzey, Vice President and Executive Director, Institute for a Competitive Workforce, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Washington, District of Columbia

Diana Hinton-Noel, Director- Rural/Economic Development, National Conference of State Legislatures, Washington, District of Columbia



11:00 a.m. – 12:15
p.m.

Job Creation Strategies for Rural America

Many rural communities are using innovative job creation strategies to target their low-income populations. Job creation is an important component of any successful economic development program and this session will provide participants with the opportunity to learn more about successful job creation strategies for improving economic growth. Content faculty will outline key components of successful rural job creation programs and activities and participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, while developing action steps for improving job creation among their rural communities.

Moderator:

Jackie Schmidt, *ICF International*

Presenters:

Eva Greenwalt, *Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (CTED), Community Jobs Initiative, Washington*

Elizabeth Ehrlich, *New York City Parks Opportunity Program*

Denise Tolbert, *New York City Human Resources Administration*

12:15 p.m. – 1:30
p.m.

Lunch (on your own)

1:30 p.m. – 2:30
p.m.

Rural Economic Development Strategic Planning

Participants will have an opportunity to meet with content faculty and discuss issues/topics pertinent to economic development. Sites will have an opportunity to think through strategies for addressing economic development issues in their local communities and will have additional time to discuss potential activities with a chosen content faculty member. Sites will additionally be able to outline potential areas for additional technical assistance and identify additional resources to address specific topics/issues affecting rural communities.

Moderator:

Louisa Fuller, *ICF International*

2:30. – 2:45 p.m.

Break

2:45 p.m. – 3:45
p.m.

Rural Economic Development Strategic Planning (continued)

Moderator:

Damon Waters, *ICF International*



**3:45 p.m. – 5:00
p.m.**

Team Report Out

This session will allow the sites to briefly discuss proposed activities to improve economic development at their state. Also, sites—with the assistance of content faculty—will have an opportunity to reflect on what was learned over the course of the Roundtable and provide the TA team with recommendations and requests for future TA activities.

Moderator:

Jeanette Hercik, *ICF International*

5:00 p.m.

Close-Out

Lisa Washington-Thomas, *Chief, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance- Technical Assistance Branch*