

# What we do & Why it matters

## COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### **UNIT 7: HENRY, MERCER, ROCK ISLAND AND STARK COUNTIES**

#### **RUSSELL MEDLEY** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Russell Medley works to build community and organizational resiliency in Unit 7 by ensuring that counties, communities, and non-profit organizations have access to community and economic development resources, research and technical assistance. He delivers programs on strategic visioning and planning, leadership, local decision-making, disaster preparedness planning, and survey design services. He works directly with stakeholders to expand local knowledge of economic development, trends and best practices and to implement actions that meet local business needs, expand workforce attraction and retention efforts, and increase local sales tax revenues.

### **UNIT 10: HENDERSON, KNOX, MCDONOUGH AND WARREN COUNTIES**

#### **CARRIE MCKILLIP** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Carrie McKillip works with local organizations and agencies to build community capacity and resilience. McKillip's primary focus is addressing entrepreneurial development and disaster planning/management through workshops and participatory planning processes. She also works with youth development in programming to provide training in occupations predicted to be needed in the region in the next decade.

### **UNIT 11: FULTON, MASON, PEORIA AND TAZEWELL COUNTIES**

#### **KATHIE BROWN** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Kathie Brown works to build the capacity of local stakeholders to enhance their communities' quality of place. Programming focuses on engaging community leaders in learning about and understanding community issues and the economic, social, environmental and other impacts associated with community development. Brown often finds new opportunities for enriching the University of Illinois student and faculty experience through collaborative engagement with the community.

### **UNIT 14: ADAMS, BROWN, HANCOCK, PIKE AND SCHUYLER COUNTIES**

#### **SHELBY CROW** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Shelby Crow works with community leaders, high school students and citizens to increase their leadership capacity and awareness of community issues. Her programs help create stronger leaders and increased civic engagement in local government, community organizations and schools.

### **UNIT 15: CALHOUN, CASS, GREENE, MORGAN AND SCOTT COUNTIES**

#### **JENNIFER RUSSELL** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Jennifer Russell provides customer service training for businesses, agencies and school districts. This training helps develop customer service skills (dealing with conflict, attitude, appropriate body language and tone of voice) so that employees can positively impact customer satisfaction which leads to repeat business and increased profits.

### **UNIT 20: CLARK, CRAWFORD AND EDGAR COUNTIES**

#### **TIFFANY MACKE** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Tiffany Macke works with local government, community organizations and businesses to help enhance their community leadership development, participatory community planning, organizational development, and economic development.

### **UNIT 21: CLAY, EFFINGHAM, FAYETTE AND JASPER COUNTIES**

#### **KEN LARIMORE** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Ken Larimore leads a variety of programs on topics including local government education, enterprise zones, small business education and entrepreneurship. Larimore presently serves as a board member of the South Central Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission, the International Extension Committee, and the East Central Illinois Development Corporation.

## WHAT WE DO & WHY IT MATTERS, CONT'D

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### **UNIT 23: BOND, CLINTON, JEFFERSON, MARION, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES**

#### **PAM SCHALLHORN** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Pam Schallhorn provides research-based education, community planning and business advice. Her programs enable Illinois communities, non-profits, small businesses and local governments to build economic opportunities, enhance quality of life, and increase their funding and revenues.

### **UNIT 24: GALLATIN, HAMILTON, HARDIN, POPE, SALINE AND WHITE COUNTIES**

#### **RON DUNCAN** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Ron Duncan leads a wide variety of programming to meet the HR and management needs of small- to medium-sized businesses, including team development, problem solving, front line leadership and corporate communications. Ron also provides manufacturing training in DOE, Six-Sigma, TPM and 5-S.

#### **SUSAN ODUM** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Susan Odom provides rural residents with the knowledge needed to break the cycle of decline impacting many of Illinois' small, rural communities. Her programs teach small business management, entrepreneurship, and innovation — key drivers ensuring a financial future for rural Illinois.

### **UNIT 25: EDWARDS, LAWRENCE, RICHLAND, WABASH AND WAYNE COUNTIES**

#### **STEVE GRONER** (Extension Educator, Community and Economic Development)

Steve Groner serves communities first by listening and understanding their issues and interests, then using research and analysis to identify best practices and encourage discussions. Groner's approach helps identify, teach and lead to doable actions.

### **STATEWIDE**

#### **ZACH KENNEDY** (Extension Specialist, Community and Economic Development)

Zach Kennedy helps communities, organizations, and Extension colleagues engage in data-driven decision making and planning. He provides demographic, economic, and market information as well as spatial analyses that allows local leaders and organizations to better understand the contexts in which they operate. As a result, organizations and leaders can more effectively serve their clientele and improve quality of life for community residents.

#### **NANCY OUEDRAOGO** (Extension Specialist, Community and Economic Development)

Nancy Ouedraogo works in a statewide capacity to (1) provide research, technical assistance, and marketing, (2) team up with Extension professionals to develop programs in participatory planning, facilitative leadership, local government education, and workforce development and (3) maintain online community and economic development resources and tools. She facilitates strategic visioning and planning, delivers CED workforce programs, and supports community survey projects across the state. Ouedraogo leads a team of statewide colleagues and partners to deliver relevant content to local elected and appointed officials for UI Extension's Local Government Education webinars. Her work helps foster stronger and more knowledgeable community leaders and professionals and helps them address issues of poverty, unemployment, and rural decline.

#### **ANNE H. SILVIS** (Program Leader and Assistant Dean, Community and Economic Development)

Anne works with Extension educators and community leaders from across the state to help them build stronger decision systems, improve their leadership abilities, and facilitate community participation in the decisions and planning that improve the economic vitality and quality of life in rural and urban areas. Extension helps community members address critical issues through programs such as facilitation, conducting surveys, managing projects, good governance, and developing community support for business success, including entrepreneurship.