### EXTENSION SNAPSHOT

## **I** ILLINOIS Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

#### What I Do and Why It Matters

This new Snapshot series serves as a way to re-introduce you to our unit staff. Each month a different staff member will be featured.

Kathie Brown provides expertise in work force development, community planning, local government and STEM education. Her involvement in CED work throughout the state benefits our communities as she excels at connecting people to resources, information, and each other.

# What I Do and Why It Matters



"I help local stakeholders build their capacity to improve their communities. My 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. I enjoy finding new opportunities for enriching the campus experience through collaborative engagement with the community."

### Kathleen Brown Community and Economic Development Educator brownlk@illinois.edu

Kathie has been the community and economic development educator serving Fulton, Mason, Peoria, and Tazewell Counties since 2011. She has worked for Illinois Extension since 1980.

#### EDUCATION

B.S. and M.S. degrees from Western Illinois University

#### JOB HISTORY

Extension Specialist, Community & Economic Development Macomb Center Extension Specialist, Solid Waste Management Community and Economic Development Team, Co-Chair and Evaluation Team Lead

#### HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

American Planning Association—Student Planning Award (2016 & 2009) National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals, Distinguished Service Award Excellence in Teamwork

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association for Community Leadership The Evaluators Institute American Planning Association

#### **EXTENSION FOCUS AREAS**

Work Force Development Community Planning



STEM Education Local Government Education

#### EXAMPLES OF KATHIE'S CURRENT PROJECTS

- Fulton County Health Careers Opportunity
- Rural Health Research Proposal project including SIU School of Medicine and College of ACES
- Working with companies in Havana and Morton to develop university connections that will assist with talent acquisition and product development
- West Main Corridor Study (Peoria)
- Hanna City and Dunlap community recreation plans

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