Workforce Issues: Collaborating to Build Extension’s Capacity

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Today we will talk about...

• How did we start on workforce development?
• Who is currently involved?
• What are the approaches used in Extension workforce development?
• Who are the key audiences?
• What are the future opportunities?

Background

• Rural Futures Institute Grant 2014-2016
• Two Regions (SD and NE)
• Community-based research (Skills Gap)

Moving Ahead from Rural Futures Work

• What are other states doing in Workforce Development?
• Application for NCRCRD Small Grant (2016-2017)
• Meet up at NACDEP in Burlington, VT (2016)
• CDS in Minneapolis, MN (2016)
• Informal networks

Participating States

• South Dakota
• Nebraska
• Purdue
• Virginia
• Missouri
• Oklahoma
• Illinois
• Wisconsin
• Ohio
• Washington
• Montana
• Indiana
• Minnesota
• Arkansas
• Iowa
• Georgia
• Colorado
• New Hampshire
• Mississippi
• New York
• Pennsylvania
First steps of the WDEW

- Asking the question... What is Extension Doing in Workforce Development
- Developing the Survey
- Deploying the Survey
  - Program Leaders Group
  - Team Members
  - Word of Mouth
  - Cross Disciplines

Workforce Development Resources in Extension Entry Form (If you share multiple programs only enter one program per form)

https://goo.gl/forms/8ZKURR9f5e4B0ZZ2

Off the Grid Workshop

- NACDEP 2017 in Big Sky, MT
  - Pre Conference workshop

Work of the WDEW at NACDEP 2017

- Looked at Survey Results to Develop Themes
  - Youth/Young adults
  - Adults/aging workforce
  - Community/local government leaders
  - Justice Involved
  - Immigrant Populations
  - Veterans

Work of the WDEW at NACDEP 2017

- WDEW developed momentum through shared experience
  - Systems Approach – Missouri Pipeline Model
  - Community Approach – Skills Gap/Community Conversation
  - Technical Skill/Professional Development

Post NACDEP 2017

- Summary of work requested by Mark Skidmore and Rachel Welborn for meeting with Department of Labor
- Shared with NIFA, Brent Elrod for inclusion in Task Force report
Federal Reserve

- Federal Reserve invitation for case study to be release in November 2018 in the book: "Investing in America's Workforce: Improving Outcomes for Workers and Employers".

NACDEP Cleveland (2018) Workshop Accepted

- Concurrent Session Block II Monday 10:45-12:15 in Holden Room
- Connect, Educate, Create Workshop
  - Youth/young adults
  - Adults/aging workforce
  - Community/local government leaders
  - Justice involved
  - Immigrant populations
  - Veterans (Added with encouragement from Brent Elrod)
- A webinar on each topic area is being planned

Veterans in the Workforce

- Funding Opportunity according to Brent Elrod, NIFA Rep.
- Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Competitive Grants Program – Currently Closed-Possible renewal (FY18)

Next for the WDEW

- Seeking to expand to work through regional centers
- Webinars on topic areas Fall of 2018
- Survey Link: https://goo.gl/forms/8ZiKUR96Pe6KnpGU2

Next for the WDEW

- More states hiring people with workforce development experience
  - Nebraska Extension
  - Missouri
  - Purdue
- Connecting to national workforce development organizations
  - National Association for Workforce Improvement
  - National Council for Workforce Education
- Where should we connect??

Thank You

- Thank you to all the extension professionals that have contributed to the Workforce Development in Extension Workgroup (WDEW)
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