

ORDP

OHIO RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



STRATEGIC WORK PLAN

2006

adopted November 30, 2005

MISSION STATEMENT

The Partnership is an advocate for effective collaboration in rural development through private-public and intergovernmental cooperation to enhance the quality of life for rural Ohioans.

INTRODUCTION

The Ohio Rural Development Partnership (ORDP) is a statewide organization which brings together citizens, community based organizations, representatives of the private sector, and federal/state/local government officials to collectively address the needs of rural Ohio communities.

ORDP provides the forum for members of the agriculture industry, health care industry, educational institutions, economic and community development organizations, for-profit and non-profit corporations, and social service agencies to cross traditional boundaries, share information, and address the special needs and opportunities in rural Ohio.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

The strength of the Partnership is founded on the strength of its membership and committees. The Partnership database includes nearly 700 people who have indicated their concern for Ohio and their interest in Partnership efforts. Each member brings a unique perspective, background, knowledge, and skill base to the table.

STANDING COMMITTEES

In addition to the Executive Committee and the Steering Committee, the ORDP has four Standing Committees which are responsible for the overall management and direction of the Partnership efforts:

- Budget and Administration Committee
- Communications Committee
- Nominating & Membership Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee

ACTION COMMITTEES

Three Action Committees address specific areas of rural development. Each committee identifies significant issues of concern and develops strategies aimed at overcoming barriers and capitalizing on opportunities.

- Agriculture Committee
- Community and Economic Development Committee
- Health Committee (Ohio Rural Health Coalition)

ACTION PLAN STRUCTURE

ORDP's Action Plan has been organized into four sections. The first section addresses the administrative functions of the ORDP and focuses on those activities which will be carried out primarily by the Executive Director and the Executive Secretary (position currently vacant) with guidance provided by the Steering Committee.

The next three sections outline the goals, objectives, and action steps of the three Action Committees.

Any dates referred to in this plan which are outside of the period indicated by the Cooperative Agreement Package are provided only for the purpose of information and continuity.

CORE DESCRIPTION: Steering Committee

Problem Statement

As the governing body of the Ohio Rural Development Partnership, the members of the Steering Committee are responsible for determining the activities of the Ohio Rural Development Partnership. Ensuring the viability of the partnership includes increasing the awareness and visibility of Partnership efforts, supporting the Issue Committees, collaborating with Ohio's Small Communities Environmental Infrastructure Group and the Ohio Economic Development Association, and providing the necessary resources to support the administrative functions of the Executive Director and support staff.

STEERING COMMITTEE, Goal 1

Increase Visibility & Enhance Networking Opportunities

Increasing recognition of the Partnership, not only of the accomplishments, but also publicizing its role and how this network operates can mobilize to address issues in rural development should be expanded.

STEERING COMMITTEE, Goal 2

Support Action Committees

Three Action Committees address specific areas of rural development. Each committee identifies significant issues of concern and develops strategies aimed at overcoming barriers and capitalizing on opportunities.

- Agriculture
- Community & Economic Development
- Rural Health Care

STEERING COMMITTEE, Goal 3

Small Communities Environmental Infrastructure Group (SCEIG)

The ORDP has an on-going commitment to support and enhance the activities of the SCEIG which is an association of state, federal, local, and educational and service agencies that provide technical and financial assistance for environmental infrastructure projects.

STEERING COMMITTEE, Goal 4

Ohio Economic Development Association (OEDA)

The ORDP wishes to expand its support of the OEDA by being an active participant and collaborator.

STEERING COMMITTEE, Goal 5

Administrative

- Actively participate in and support the goals of the **National Partnership Office and Partners for Rural America**
- Support Executive Committee, Steering Committee and Standing Committees
 - Budget and Administration Committee
 - Communications Committee
 - Nominating & Membership Committee
 - Strategic Planning Committee
- Contribute to efforts of the **United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (USDA/RD)**
 - Regional Discussions providing awareness of general programs and opportunities to voice rural issues of each region
- Contribute to efforts of the **Ohio Department of Agriculture**
 - Southern Ohio Agriculture and Community Development Trust Fund
 - Family Farm Loan Guarantee Program
 - Ohio Water and Sewer Rotary Commission
 - Value-Added Agriculture Revolving Loan Fund
- Provide administrative functions for **Ohio Rural Partners**

Relevance to the 2002 Farm Security & Rural Investment Act SRDC Duties

Every activity of the ORDP Steering Committee meets one (or more) of the SRDC duties below, as delineated in 7 U.S.C. 2008m (Section 6021 of the 2002 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act):

- a. facilitate collaboration Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and the private and non-profit sectors in the planning and implementation of programs and policies that have an impact of rural areas of Ohio;
- b. monitor, report, and comment on policies and programs that address, or fail to address, the needs of the rural areas of Ohio; and
- c. facilitate the development of strategies to reduce or eliminate conflicting or duplicative administrative or regulatory requirements of Federal, State, local, and tribal governments.

Stakeholders to be Engaged

All member of Ohio Rural Development Partnership and those they serve in rural Ohio.

Potential Action for National Rural Development Coordinating Committee (NRDCC)

Continued support of Ohio Rural Development Partnership activities.

WORK PLAN
SUMMARY

OHIO RURAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

COMPONENT #1: **Agriculture Rural Summit Priority Planning**

Tours of Ohio Department of Agriculture & Ohio Department of Health facilities
Farm Science Review
Ohio Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

COMPONENT #2: **Access to Capital and Business Expansion in Rural Ohio Communities**

Business Financing & Assistance Advisory Group

COMPONENT #3: **Improve Access to Technology**

Technology Infrastructure Group

COMPONENT #4: **Access to Quality Health Care Services in Rural Ohio**

Ohio Rural Health Coalition

Statewide Rural Health Conference

COMPONENT #5: **Regional Discussions and Agricultural Rural Development Conference**

in cooperation with
United States Department of Agriculture and
Ohio Department of Agriculture

ANNUAL WORK PLAN for ORDP – AGRICULTURE

COMPONENT #1: Ohio Rural Summit Priority Planning

CORE DESCRIPTION

PROBLEM STATEMENT

As a result of the Ohio's first Rural Policy Summit that was held in December 2003, several issues relating to Ohio agriculture were identified. The priority issues included:

- *Markets, Economy, and Profitability*
- *Regulatory Burdens*
- *Land Use Planning*
- *Public Education*

The Agriculture Committee for ORDP will continue to address one or more of the concerns identified by participants at the agriculture breakout session.

GOAL(S) AND OBJECTIVES

1. *To focus attention and begin planning a response to one or more of the priority agriculture concerns identified by the participants at Ohio Rural Policy Summit.*
2. *Organize tour of Ohio Department of Agriculture and Ohio Department of Health facilities.*
3. *Invite members of the ORDP Full Partnership to attend the September 2006 Farm Science Review.*
4. *Participate in the Ohio Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.*

COMPONENT'S RELEVANCE TO STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL DUTIES Briefly describe how the Council will perform one or more of the following duties (defined in 7 U.S.C. 2008m):

- a. *FACILITATE COLLABORATION among Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and the private and nonprofit sectors in the planning and implementation of programs and policies that have an impact on rural areas of Ohio.*
- b. *MONITOR, REPORT, and COMMENT on policies and programs that address, or fail to address, the needs of the rural areas of Ohio.*

STAKEHOLDERS TO BE ENGAGED

USDA—Rural Development, Ohio Department of Agriculture, Ohio Department of Development, Appalachian Regional Commission, Governor's Office of Appalachia, local governments, non-profits, small businesses, agricultural associations, commodity associations, and development organizations.

POTENTIAL ACTION FOR NATIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NRDCC)

To be determined.

ANNUAL WORK PLAN for ORDP – COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMPONENT #2: Access to Capital and Business Expansion in Rural Ohio Communities

CORE DESCRIPTION

PROBLEM STATEMENT

In many rural areas of the state, awareness of and access to federal and state financing programs for small businesses is limited. Many community-based banks and lending institutions are not taking full advantage of state and federal programs like SBA, linked deposits, and revolving loan fund programs. In addition, many small and developing businesses are unaware of these programs for potential financing.

GOAL(S) AND OBJECTIVES

1. *Better understand the barriers community based banks and business have utilizing federal and state programs and develop ways to address, minimize, and/or eliminate these barriers.*
2. *Increase access to capital by small businesses in rural Ohio by increasing awareness and knowledge of the capital funding sources available and thereby increase utilization of these capital sources.*

COMPONENT'S RELEVANCE TO STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL DUTIES Briefly describe how the Council will perform one or more of the following duties (defined in 7 U.S.C. 2008m):

- a. *FACILITATE COLLABORATION among Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and the private and nonprofit sectors in the planning and implementation of programs and policies that have an impact on rural areas of Ohio.*
- b. *MONITOR, REPORT, and COMMENT on policies and programs that address, or fail to address, the needs of the rural areas of Ohio.*

STAKEHOLDERS TO BE ENGAGED

In planning and forming the Advisory Group, we will involve: Small Business Administration, USDA-RD, Ohio Bankers League, SCORE, Ohio Department of Development, Small Business Development Centers, regional loan funds, National Federation of Independent Businesses, the Governor's Office of Appalachia, and the ORDP Agriculture Committee. In conducting the economic development workshop, all relevant state and federal agencies will be involved.

POTENTIAL ACTION FOR NATIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NRDCC)

After the Committee has been formed for a year, ORDP will file a report focusing on summarizing some of the problems Ohio's small businesses have identified in accessing capital. This report may assist making changes in existing loan programs and how to promote them.

ANNUAL WORK PLAN for ORDP – COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMPONENT #2: Access to Capital and Business Expansion in Rural Ohio Communities

WORK PLAN TABLE

ACTIVITIES <i>What will the SRDC do to produce its Output(s)?</i>	ANTICIPATED OUTPUT(S) <i>What product(s) will the Council produce?</i>
<p>Activity Set 2.a</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. form a planning committee of key agencies and convene a meeting to initiate formation of BF&A AG. 2. decide on key parameters and criteria and determine membership of Business Financing & Assistance Advisory Group. 3. plan, organize, and conduct an initial meeting of the Business Financing & Assistance Advisory Group. 	<p>Output 2.a</p> <p>form a Business Financing and Assistance Advisory Group (BF&A AG) of agency representatives providing business assistance and financing.</p>
<p>Activity Set 2.b</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. develop and distribute a press release about the BF&A AG and its purpose. 2. conduct a session and distribute information about BF&A AG at a statewide economic development conference 3. contact rural Ohio SBDC staff and other local agencies working with small business to identify financing problems and get referrals from businesses seeking financing. 4. start promoting and conducting regular BF&A AG meetings. 	<p>Output 2.b</p> <p>publicize existence of the Business Financing & Assistance Group and conduct regular meetings of group to improve small business access to various financing sources by considering business referrals.</p>

<p>Activity Set 2.c</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. develop a conference agenda and target date and contact speakers for the major state and federal economic development programs. 2. contact and discuss the presentations with the specific agency contacts identified previously. 3. promote the conference to the ORDP membership and rural local officials. 4. conduct conference and administer conference evaluation form. 	<p>Output 2.c</p> <p>plan, promote, and conduct an economic development conference for rural Ohio communities that focuses on major federal and state economic development grant and loan programs.</p>
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<p>ANTICIPATED OUTCOME 2 <i>How will a key policy and/or program be improved?</i></p>	<p>PERFORMANCE MEASURE <i>How will the Council measure progress toward the outcome?</i></p>				
<p>Increase awareness of capital financing programs among small business and increase utilization of these programs through an increase in the number of loan referrals and applications.</p>	<p>Increased number of loan applications and approvals in federal and state loan programs.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="751 1392 1469 1507"> <tr> <td data-bbox="751 1392 1117 1434"><i>Baseline</i></td> <td data-bbox="1117 1392 1469 1434"><i>Benchmark</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="751 1434 1117 1507">Current number of loans.</td> <td data-bbox="1117 1434 1469 1507">Increase by ten percent.</td> </tr> </table>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	Current number of loans.	Increase by ten percent.
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ANNUAL WORK PLAN for ORDP – COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

COMPONENT #3: Improve Access to Technology

CORE DESCRIPTION

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Recent statewide and regional technology surveys in Ohio indicate that even though there have been improvements in broadband and technology services in rural Ohio access to these services is still much better, faster and reasonable in the metropolitan areas of the state. These technology services need to be improved as well as utilized more by rural Ohio's businesses, governments and schools in order to prosper in the information age.

GOAL(S) AND OBJECTIVES

1. *Provide information about the importance of broadband and technology infrastructure for development and provide information about various grant and loan sources that can be used to improve such infrastructure to rural Ohio stakeholders through the Technology Infrastructure Group.*

COMPONENT'S RELEVANCE TO STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL DUTIES Briefly describe how the Council will perform one or more of the following duties (defined in 7 U.S.C. 2008m):

- a. *FACILITATE COLLABORATION among Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and the private and nonprofit sectors in the planning and implementation of programs and policies that have an impact on rural areas of Ohio.*
- b. *MONITOR, REPORT, and COMMENT on policies and programs that address, or fail to address, the needs of the rural areas of Ohio.*

STAKEHOLDERS TO BE ENGAGED

USDA – Rural Development, Ohio University and Ohio State, other colleges and schools, Technology Infrastructure Group, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.U.C.O., cable companies, telephone companies, local government, Internet providers, foundations and other funding sources, and ORDP Health Committee.

POTENTIAL ACTION FOR NATIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NRDCC)

After the Committee has been formed for a year, ORDP will file a report focusing on summarizing some of the problems Ohio's small businesses have identified in accessing capital. This report may assist making changes in existing loan programs and how to promote them.

ANNUAL WORK PLAN for **ORDP – COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

COMPONENT #3: **Improve Access to Technology**

WORK PLAN TABLE

ACTIVITIES <i>What will the SRDC do to produce its Output(s)?</i>	ANTICIPATED OUTPUT(S) <i>What product(s) will the Council produce?</i>
<p>Activity Set 3.a</p> <p>1. inform rural communities about Technology Infrastructure Group (TIG) and its role of helping communities improve telecommunications services through a statewide mailing and conference.</p> <p>2. plan, promote, and conduct quarterly meeting of the TIG through a series of 4 regional USDA/RD outreach meetings.</p> <p>3. continue referring communities to TIG throughout the year.</p>	<p>Output 3.a</p> <p>Support and send community representatives to the Technology Infrastructure Group (TIG) for assistance in seeking broadband and improved telecommunications technology.</p> <p>Quarterly meetings convened by ORDP to assist local communities address their technology development needs.</p>

ANTICIPATED OUTCOME 3 <i>How will a key policy and/or program be improved?</i>	PERFORMANCE MEASURE <i>How will the Council measure progress toward the outcome?</i>					
<p>Improve access of a larger percentage of rural Ohioans to technology, videoconferencing, and broadband internet access services, including government, non-profit agencies, schools, and businesses.</p>	<p>Larger percentages of rural Ohio residents, agencies, and businesses have access to broadband internet services and larger numbers have received grants to improve technology.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="751 1478 1474 1911"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="751 1478 1117 1520"><i>Baseline</i></th> <th data-bbox="1117 1478 1474 1520"><i>Benchmark</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="751 1520 1117 1911"> <p>The percentage of rural residents and business which have broadband access as reflected in recent studies conducted by the OSU Super Computer Center.</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1117 1520 1474 1911"> <p>Increased numbers and percentages of persons, business, and agencies with broadband and video conference access; Increased number of applications from rural Ohio for federal telecommunications and technology grants in 2006.</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	<p>The percentage of rural residents and business which have broadband access as reflected in recent studies conducted by the OSU Super Computer Center.</p>	<p>Increased numbers and percentages of persons, business, and agencies with broadband and video conference access; Increased number of applications from rural Ohio for federal telecommunications and technology grants in 2006.</p>
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ANNUAL WORK PLAN for ORDP – RURAL HEALTH COALITION

COMPONENT #4: Access to Quality Health Care Services in Rural Ohio

CORE DESCRIPTION

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Lack of access to high quality and adequate health care services in rural communities continues to be a challenge. Many rural areas in the State of Ohio experience shortages of primary care, mental health, and dental providers.

GOAL(S) AND OBJECTIVES

1. *Educate state policy makers, rural community leaders, rural health care providers, and others on policies, program, and activities to strengthen the rural health care system.*
2. *Continue to grow and develop the Ohio Rural Health Coalition*

COMPONENT'S RELEVANCE TO STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL DUTIES Briefly describe how the Council will perform one or more of the following duties (defined in 7 U.S.C. 2008m):

- a. *FACILITATE COLLABORATION among Federal, State, local, and tribal governments and the private and nonprofit sectors in the planning and implementation of programs and policies that have an impact on rural areas of Ohio.*

STAKEHOLDERS TO BE ENGAGED

Rural public health and hospital personnel, rural physicians, and other health care providers, state and local government leaders, local community leaders and elected officials, organizations and trade associations with a health mission.

POTENTIAL ACTION FOR NATIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE (NRDCC)

NRDCC can use this effort as a model for dissemination to state rural development councils to encourage inclusion of rural health care issues and state offices of rural health in Council work.

ANNUAL WORK PLAN for **ORDP – RURAL HEALTH COALITION**

COMPONENT #4: **Access to Quality Health Care Services in Rural Ohio**

WORK PLAN TABLE

ACTIVITIES <i>What will the SRDC do to produce its Output(s)?</i>	ANTICIPATED OUTPUT(S) <i>What product(s) will the Council produce?</i>					
<p>Activity Set 4.a</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coalition Co-Chairs determine dates and locations of regional meetings 2. Meeting facilities confirmed and logistics handled. 3. Develop Registration materials and confirm speakers 	<p>Output 4.a</p> <p>Convene quarterly regional Coalition meetings to educate current members and increase participation.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="755 781 1474 1003"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="755 781 1118 821"><i>Baseline</i></th> <th data-bbox="1118 781 1474 821"><i>Benchmark</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="755 821 1118 1003">Quarterly regional meetings</td> <td data-bbox="1118 821 1474 1003">Quarterly regional meetings with addition of 3 new coalition members.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	Quarterly regional meetings	Quarterly regional meetings with addition of 3 new coalition members.
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ACTIVITIES <i>What will the SRDC do to produce its Output(s)?</i>	ANTICIPATED OUTPUT(S) <i>What product(s) will the Council produce?</i>					
<p>Activity Set 4.b</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coalition Co-Chairs update membership directory including email contacts 2. E-newsletter distribution schedule developed 3. information gathered and e-newsletter prepared 4. solicit Coalition members for input 	<p>Output 4.b</p> <p>Disseminate a bi-monthly e-Newsletter to Coalition members.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="755 1398 1474 1549"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="755 1398 1118 1438"><i>Baseline</i></th> <th data-bbox="1118 1398 1474 1438"><i>Benchmark</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="755 1438 1118 1549">Infrequent email communication</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1438 1474 1549">6 bi-monthly e-newsletters.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	Infrequent email communication	6 bi-monthly e-newsletters.
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<p>ANTICIPATED OUTCOME 4 <i>How will a key policy and/or program be improved?</i></p>	<p>PERFORMANCE MEASURE <i>How will the Council measure progress toward the outcome?</i></p>				
<p>Rural Health Coalition members have access to timely and relevant information about rural health programs and activities statewide and nationally.</p>	<p>Frequent and consistent communication with Coalition members on topics and issues.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="753 432 1471 579"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="753 432 1118 470"><i>Baseline</i></th> <th data-bbox="1118 432 1471 470"><i>Benchmark</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="753 470 1118 579">Quarterly regional meetings.</td> <td data-bbox="1118 470 1471 579">Bi-monthly communication of rural health information.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	Quarterly regional meetings.	Bi-monthly communication of rural health information.
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<p>ACTIVITIES <i>What will the SRDC do to produce its Output(s)?</i></p>	<p>ANTICIPATED OUTPUT(S) <i>What product(s) will the Council produce?</i></p>				
<p>Activity Set 4.c</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convene conference planning group 2. Confirm location and agenda 3. Mail registration materials 4. Finalize program and confirm speakers 5. Conduct conference 6. Evaluate conference 	<p>Output 4.c</p> <p>Plan and Conduct a statewide rural health conference that will focus on the release of recommendations from the Governor’s Appalachian Healthy Living Task Force.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="753 1104 1471 1289"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="753 1104 1118 1142"><i>Baseline</i></th> <th data-bbox="1118 1104 1471 1142"><i>Benchmark</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="753 1142 1118 1289">To be established.</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1142 1471 1289">Task Force report is released.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	To be established.	Task Force report is released.
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<p>ANTICIPATED OUTCOME 4 <i>How will a key policy and/or program be improved?</i></p>	<p>PERFORMANCE MEASURE <i>How will the Council measure progress toward the outcome?</i></p>				
<p>Policymakers, rural community leaders, and others will become informed about policies and programs designed to strengthen the rural health care system; and as a result, improvements to these programs will be made.</p>	<p>Planning, implementation, and evaluation of a statewide rural health conference.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="753 1675 1471 1860"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="753 1675 1118 1713"><i>Baseline</i></th> <th data-bbox="1118 1675 1471 1713"><i>Benchmark</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="753 1713 1118 1860">Past history of previous conferences.</td> <td data-bbox="1118 1713 1471 1860">Increase participation to 200 conferees.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Baseline</i>	<i>Benchmark</i>	Past history of previous conferences.	Increase participation to 200 conferees.
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Ohio Rural Development Partnership

RURAL POLICY SUMMIT

December 2003

“Building on Successes, Overcoming Challenges”

List of Priority Issues

AGRICULTURE

Markets, Economy, and Profitability

Regulatory Burden

Land Use Planning

Public Education

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rural Development Policy

Rural Leadership Capacity & Responsiveness

Higher Wage Jobs & Workforce Education and Training

HEALTH CARE

Rural Health Policy

Inequities in Funding

Barriers to Care

AGRICULTURE ISSUES

ORDP Rural Summit

December 10, 2003

Profitability of Agriculture:

- ✓ Low commodity prices and weather disasters have negatively impacted Ohio producers for several years.

Urban Development, Land Use:

- ✓ Prime agricultural land continues to disappear.
- ✓ The rural urban transition zone is less defined and more contentious.

Livestock Production Controversy:

- ✓ Livestock permitting/siting is becoming more contentious.
- ✓ Technology, economies of scale and low margins are driving livestock producers to grow.
- ✓ Rural residents and urban transplants are less accepting of livestock farms.
- ✓ Livestock production is still important to the agricultural and local economies.

Drainage:

- ✓ Non agricultural neighbors, environmental issues and public oversight/control has complicated drainage solutions and outdated some of the drainage laws.

Health Care:

- ✓ Agricultural producers and other self-employed persons have difficulty accessing affordable health care insurance.
- ✓ Quality of Emergency Medical Response is declining in some rural areas.

Wildlife Damage:

- ✓ Wildlife populations continue to escalate with fewer hunters/trappers and greater protections by wildlife agencies.
- ✓ Car/wildlife collisions continue to escalate resulting in millions of dollars in damages and ever-greater injuries and deaths.
- ✓ Neighbors and the public are challenging wildlife control methods.

Trespassing:

- ✓ ATV, snowmobile and other recreational vehicle operators often do not respect private property.
- ✓ Vandalism, littering and property owner liability issues are increasing.

Zoning:

- ✓ Lack of zoning in many rural areas.
- ✓ Zoning poorly enforced in some rural areas.

Regulatory Burden:

- ✓ Environmental, Labor, Health Department, zoning, bioterrorism, safety, transportation and other regulations and reporting requirements are overwhelming farmers and small businesses.
- ✓ Direct Marketers have recently been the target of numerous licensing, inspections, reporting and packaging requirements and product restrictions.

School Funding (K-12):

- ✓ Rural schools in general receive fewer dollars per student and local property owners have a high tax burden.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

ORDP Rural Summit

December 10, 2003

Rural Development Policy:

- ✓ Lack of statewide rural development policy, a plan, and a coordinating agency.

Equity Capital:

- ✓ Equity capital gap exists for small businesses and start-ups.

Entrepreneurship Assistance:

- ✓ Need for more coordinated and accessible entrepreneurship assistance.

Broadband/Technology:

- ✓ Need to improve access to broadband and other technology.

Response to Growth:

- ✓ Increasing unplanned growth and lack of local and regional comprehensive planning capacity.

Funding Project Planning:

- ✓ Many grant programs too limited in allowing funding for administration, preliminary planning, and engineering costs.

Groundwater Contamination & Wastewater treatment:

- ✓ Resources are limited to address wastewater treatment and groundwater contamination needs.

Workforce Training:

- ✓ Existing business dissatisfied with skills/education level of workforce.

Youth Retention:

- ✓ Rural communities need to retain our youth (stop “brain drain”).

Transportation/Infrastructure:

- ✓ Rural communities lack capacity to maintain/improve transportation infrastructure improvements on their own.

Leadership Capacity:

- ✓ Rural communities lack sufficient leadership and leadership development capacity.

Emergency Services & Emergency Preparedness:

- ✓ Rural communities have limited emergency services and emergency planning capacity.

Higher Wage Jobs:

- ✓ Rural communities need to attract higher paying service and industrial jobs.

HEALTH ISSUES

ORDP Rural Summit

December 10, 2003

Overall Rural Health Policy:

- ✓ Ohio does not have a statewide rural health policy.

Health Care and Local Economies:

- ✓ Economic development activities and opportunities often exclude or fail to recognize health care as a significant contributor to rural economies.

Broad Community Support of Rural Health Care:

- ✓ Rural health care planning and decisions often do not engage the broader community, resulting in lost local awareness and support.

Emergency Services and Transport:

- ✓ Non-emergent transportation not available in some areas, limited availability in others, resulting in inappropriate use of EMS, and overuse of volunteer EMS.
- ✓ Current and proposed trauma care systems negatively impact rural systems and access.
- ✓ Rural EMS is under-funded, under-staffed, under-equipped and under-trained.

Individual empowerment:

- ✓ Rural residents, especially those with chronic diseases and conditions, lack care options, resources and information to adequately care for their own health.
- ✓ Rural residents feel their needs are not heard or addressed by many providers.

Inadequate access to an array of health care services:

- ✓ There is a shortage of health care professionals in rural Ohio.

Rural Health network development:

- ✓ Scarce resources and market challenges increase the need for provider organizations to collaborate, instead of duplicate.

Aging Population:

- ✓ Rural health systems are seeing fewer children (less Medicaid) and more adults and elderly who are uninsured/underinsured.

APPENDIX (B):
Activities Calendar
(tentative)

2006

JAN	Steering Committee meeting
FEB	organize regional discussion workshops
MAR	Regional Discussion Workshops (with USDA & ODA)
APR	Regional Discussion Workshops (with USDA & ODA) Technology Infrastructure Group
MAR	Regional Discussion Workshops (with USDA & ODA)
APR	Business Financing & Assistance Advisory Group (initial meeting)
MAY	Steering Committee meeting
JUN	
JUL	Ohio Agricultural Rural Development Conference Summit
AUG	Steering Committee meeting
SEP	Statewide Rural Health Conference Farm Science Review
OCT	Agricultural Tour
NOV	
DEC	Ohio Farm Bureau