



Some Past Participants and Recipients of Cooperative Extension Community Development Programs

- United Way
- Bureau of Land Management
- USDA Rural Development
- Citizen Advisory Boards (CABs)
- Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NABs)
- Early Head Start
- Care Chest
- Carson Access Television Foundation
- Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
- Nevada Commission of Economic Development
- Nevada Association of Counties (NACO)
- Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF)
- Job Opportunities in Nevada (JOIN)

and many more...



For more information regarding our Community Development Programs and how Cooperative Extension can assist your group, please contact:

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Cooperative Extension

Bringing the University to You

Factsheet #00-32

Community and Organizational Development



Purpose

To improve the long-term well-being of communities and the associations that strengthen them by providing research-based education and facilitation for community and non-profit groups.



Assessing the Need

All Cooperative Extension programs are based on identified community needs through an assessment process. In 1997-1998 a Community and Organizational Development needs assessment was conducted in the Western Area of Nevada¹ to identify potential programs and opportunities. The first phase of the assessment involved compiling existing documents such as quality of life reports, community surveys, and information on existing educational programs within the field of community and organizational development. The initial phase was completed in 1997.

Results from the first phase were organized into a mail survey as the second phase. The survey was mailed to key community leaders ($n=216$), including members of community groups, federal, state, and local agencies; tribes; city and county governmental officials; and private industry. Respondents ranked potential programming topics according to their perceived value in the community.

¹Western Area includes Washoe, Storey, and Douglas Counties and Carson City.



Reviewing Results

Topics listed below were ranked as having the most value and need as educational programs in Community and Organizational Development:

1. Strategic Planning/Visioning
2. Sustainable Community Development
3. Community Problem-Solving
4. Community Involvement
5. Community Collaboration
6. Consensus Building
7. Conflict Management
8. Leadership Development
9. Growth Issues
- 10a. Meeting Management*
- 10b. Negotiation*

*10a and 10b were tied in their overall ranking.



Meeting the Need

Based on the assessment results, a variety of programs were developed to meet the identified needs and opportunities in the community.

- Board Development
- Strategic Planning/Visioning
- Facilitation
- Conflict Management
- Public and Natural Resource Issues Education
- Meeting Management
- Goal Setting
- Action Planning
- Collaboration
- Consensus Building
- Leadership Development
- Interest-based Negotiation