

2017

Rewriting the Rural Narrative



August 9

Bismarck Civic Center

- 8:30 a.m. **Resource Booths Open**
- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome**
Bill Davis, Acting State Director, USDA Rural Development
Lynette Flage, NDSU Extension Center for Community Vitality Director & Specialist
- 9:15 a.m. **North Dakota's Demographics: Helping You Write Your Narrative** — Kendra Dockter
- 10:15 a.m. Networking Break
- 10:30 a.m. **Ignites** — Andrea Bowman and Lynette Flage
- 10:45 a.m. **Ideas that Work! Panel** — Alan Klefstad, Tana Larsen, Jason Morsette and Patti Patrie
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 12:40 p.m. **Financing Food Enterprises** — Christine Sorenson
- 1:40 p.m. Networking Break
- 1:50 p.m. **Ignites** — Marie Hvidsten, Erik Holland and Jodi Bruns
- 2:15 p.m. **Livable Communities** — Emily Brown
- 2:50 p.m. **Closing comments and evaluation**

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Bill Davis, Acting State Director, USDA Rural Development
Bill Davis has been with USDA Rural Development for 19 years working to improve the economic vitality of North Dakota. Prior to joining the agency, he worked at all levels of government, as well as a private consultant in community planning and economic development. Bill is a native of Devils Lake, North Dakota and currently resides in Mandan. Contact Information: 701-530-2042 or bill.davis@nd.usda.gov

Lynette Flage, NDSU Extension Center for Community Vitality, Director and Specialist
Lynette Flage has served as the NDSU Extension Center for Community Vitality Director and state specialist since January 2015. The Center works to connect resources in community and leadership development to support North Dakota agriculture, communities and rural quality of life. Contact Information: 701-231-7782 or lynette.flage@ndsu.edu

Kendra Erickson-Dockter, Research Specialist and Project Lead for North Dakota Compass
Kendra Erickson-Dockter is the North Dakota Compass project director and a research specialist at the Center for Social Research located at North Dakota State University (NDSU). In her role, she leads the design and operation of the ND Compass project. Kendra earned her Bachelor's and Master's degree from the NDSU in Sociology, with an emphasis on Medical Sociology. Currently, she is completing a doctorate in Human Development, with an emphasis in Applied Gerontology, at NDSU. Contact information: 701-231-9496 or kendra.erickson@ndsu.edu

Christine Sorensen, Midwest Regional Community Economic Development Coordinator, USDA Rural Development
As the Midwest Regional Community Economic Development Coordinator, Christine's duties include community and staff capacity building, technical assistance and collaboration support within the rural communities. Currently, Christine is the vice-chair of the South Dakota Indian Business Alliance and provides technical support specifically for native homeownership, local foods and food sovereignty. Christine received her bachelors from South Dakota State University and is finishing her Masters in Rural Sociology. She has over 25 years of experience working in rural communities. Christine grew up on a farm and ranch along the Missouri River in South Dakota. Contact Information: 202-568-9832 or christine.sorensen@wdc.usda.gov

Emily Brown, Community Planning & Development Specialist, USDA Rural Development

Emily Brown is a Community Planning and Development Specialist with USDA Rural Development in North Dakota, where she supports rural and Tribal community economic development. She received a Master of Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon, and she also has a degree in Environmental Science from Willamette University. In addition to community development, Emily has a background in planning consulting, community organizing, and natural resource management. Contact Information: 701-530-2059 or emily.brown4@nd.usda.gov

Panelists

Alan Klefstad, Nelson County Commissioner, 701-262-4933 or aklefsta@gondtc.com

Tana Larsen, Economic Development and Marketing Director, Washburn Area Economic Development Association, 701-462-3801 or tlarsen@waedand.com

Jason Morsette, Special Projects, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nation Tourism, 701-627-2243 or jmorsette@mhanation.com

Patti Patrie, Bowdon Development Center, Inc., Bowdon Community Grocery and Bowdon Meat Processing Co-ops, 701-471-4748 or patrie@daktel.com

Ignite Presenters

Jodi Bruns, Area Extension Specialist, NDSU Extension Service, 701-349-3249, ext.127 or jodi.bruns@ndsu.edu

Marie Hvidsten, Rural Leadership Specialist, NDSU Extension Service, 701-231-5640 or marie.hvidsten@ndsu.edu

Andrea Bowman, Extension Program Coordinator, NDSU Extension Service, 701-523-6239 or andrea.bowman@ndsu.edu

Erik Holland, Curator of Education, State Historical Society of North Dakota, 701-328-2792 or eholland@nd.gov