

NACDEP 2024 Pre- and Post-Conference Workshops Overview (registration is required)

Pre-Conference Option

1. Community Development 101

Date: June 17, 2024

Time: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm CST

Overview: Community Development 101 is a comprehensive pre-conference workshop tailored for extension professionals and those working in community development. This workshop provides a solid foundation in the field, encompassing essential topics such as the core principles of community development, practical strategies for community engagement and mobilization, techniques for conducting community needs and assets assessments, and methodologies for designing and executing impactful community development initiatives.

Post-Conference Options

1. Future Opportunities for Rural Workforce and Rural Development (FORWARD)

Date: June 20, 2024

Time: 12:15 pm – 3:00 pm CST

Overview: Workforce development (WFD) is a top NIFA issue, yet the WFD landscape often has a limited Extension presence. Despite existing rural WFD ecosystems and the increased funding opportunities, workforce shortages and access to family-wage career pathways remains an issue. The FORWARD curriculum was developed to help public and land-grant universities' programs assist in improving their WFD ecosystem and strengthen career pathways for low-income workers and learners. It equips Extension professionals to be WFD partners while building the community's WFD capacity, thus making it easier for labor force participants to find training and job opportunities.

2. Workforce Development 101 (WD101) for Extension Professionals

Date: June 20, 2024

Time: 12:15 pm – 3:00 pm CST

Overview: Workforce development is a critical topic in our communities and an essential component of community development. Using an asset-based community development lens, the post conference will provide an opportunity for Extension professionals to build an understanding of workforce development, its application, and the ways Extension professionals can both lead and support workforce development partnerships in local communities. The post conference will utilize the FORWARD workforce development curriculum as an outline for core topics in the WD101 session. Additionally, Extension agents who have implemented workforce development in their communities will be a part of the session to share stories of implementation.