



## Southern Rural Development Center Highlights

### **SRDC and Mississippi State University Partnership Continues**

The Southern Rural Development Center is pleased to announce that Mississippi State University will continue to host the Center. With the departure of long time director, Bo Beaulieu, the Board has elected to maintain the partnership between the SRDC and Mississippi State University. Mississippi State University will begin a national search for the position of SRDC Director in the coming weeks. The search will be chaired by Dr. Steve Turner, Head and Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics at Mississippi State University. Dr. Turner is an award winning professor and is nationally recognized for his work within the field of Agricultural Economics. In a recent note, MSU administrators Dr. Gary Jackson and Dr. George Hopper stated, "Mississippi State University has always, and continues to, value the special relationship between the University and the SRDC. As we move forward in this process, we are excited to continue working with our various partners in the support and promotion of the Center's vital work for our region and nation."

### **Stronger Economies Together (SET) to Launch Phase IV this Summer**

Stronger Economies Together (SET) celebrates its fourth year by expanding to new regions in 2013. Five states previously involved in SET (Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas) have been selected to expand to additional regions while two new states join the SET team (Nebraska and Illinois). These states are working over the summer months to share the opportunity with potential regions that may be interested in applying to become SET regions. These multi-county regions will launch into the SET planning process in the fall following a coaches' training workshop in mid-August.

### **Applications Being Accepted for *ReadyCommunity Coaching Workshop*:**

- Does your community have a viable emergency operations plan?
- Is there a mechanism to engage and involve a broad base of community agencies and individuals in preparing and responding to disasters?
- Do community members in your community know that for the first 72 hours after an emergency that the primary source of support will come from within the community?
- Want to learn how you can engage your community – both residents and businesses – in emergency planning?

The *ReadyCommunity* process has been developed to complement and add greater depth to FEMA's 2010 publication "Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans: Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101".

*ReadyCommunity* has been pilot tested in seven locations across the US. This fall, the SRDC is partnering with the University of Kentucky to train new teams to begin the *ReadyCommunity* process.

**Who Should Attend:** Four person teams from the participating states are recommended. At least one of these should be an Extension person that will be leading the initiative and one person should be the emergency manager from the proposed pilot site. Please see the application for a description of the remaining team members.

**Date of Training:** September 23rd-25th, 2013 (Monday-Wednesday) Begin Monday at 8am local time and end Wednesday by noon local time.

**Location:** To be determined once teams are selected; will be centrally located to the teams who will be attending.

**Cost:** \$100 per team member (\$400 for a four person team), plus the cost of transportation to and from the training. *Meals from Monday breakfast to Wednesday breakfast and hotel (check-in Sunday to check-out Wednesday) will be provided.*

**Deadline to Submit a Team Application: July 8, 2013.**

Applications can be found online at <http://cedik.ca.uky.edu/> or in the attached document. SRDC is pleased to partner with the University of Kentucky on this event.

[Click Here to Access the Application](#)

[http://srdc.msstate.edu/readycommunity/files/rc\\_national\\_training\\_application\\_form.pdf](http://srdc.msstate.edu/readycommunity/files/rc_national_training_application_form.pdf)