Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Community Development Programming at Dane County Extension

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What is community development?

Community development is <u>collective action</u> taken by community members <u>to address common problems</u>, and, while doing so, to advance equity, sustainability, and the well-being of the community.

Extension's Community Development Institute

Extension's Community Development Institute – Program Areas

- Economic Development

- Organizational and Leadership Development

- Local Government Education

- Food Systems

Review of Extension Dane County Community Development Programming

- Process: provide a synopsis of Extension Community Development programming
- Intent: build support for increased staffing for community development initiatives

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Foundational to the work: Inclusive Community Engagement

Organizational & Leadership Development

- Strategic planning with non-profit organizations
- Facilitation and meeting planning
- Local nonprofit leader mentoring
- Nonprofit peer learning curriculum development and program delivery (2019-2021)
- Nonprofit Capacity Building Study (2019-2021)
- Nonprofit Connect – e-newsletter
- SW Madison "Love your Neighborhood" leadership series

Economic Development/Local Government

- Cross Plains Market Analysis Study (2017)
- EngageDane Public Engagement (2018-2019)
- Waunakee Housing Task Force (2018-2019)
- Mt. Horeb Housing Task Force (2020)
- Dane County Broadband Task Force (2021-2023)
- DeForest Housing Strategy (2024)
- Town of Oregon Visioning (2024)
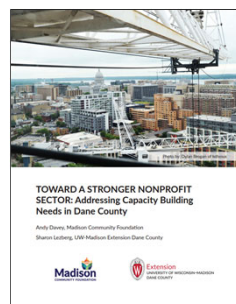
Climate Change and Sustainability

- Stoughton Sustainability Committee: Community Engagement to inform the Sustainability Plan for the City (2022-2023)
- Dane County Tree Canopy Collaborative: community engagement, outreach (2023-2024)
- Community Centered Solar Development (Portage County): Community engagement to inform Extension efforts (2023-2024)
- Community Engagement for Environmental Justice (current)
- Fitchburg community engagement on Sustainability plan (new)

How can we expand and enhance the work we do as Extension Educators?

Skill sets that Extension Educators bring to the table:
- Facilitation
- Strategic thinking and planning
- Coalition building
- Inclusive community engagement
- Community-based research

Opportunity: Nonprofit Capacity Building

Opportunity: Economic Development

- Broadband
- Housing
- Childcare
- Climate Resilience
- Energy (including solar)
- Transportation
- Place-making & Community Vitality

Opportunity: Local Government

- Assist with planning processes
- Community Engagement
- Access to resources, including grant information
- Grant writing assistance
- Building new leadership
- Emerging issues

Your thoughts?

1) Priority issues for constituents (what are you hearing?)

2) Emerging Issues for Dane County communities

3) How Extension can add value to Dane County Departments and Initiatives