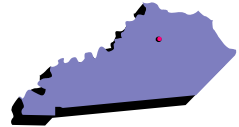


**Southern Region Program Leadership Network
Community Development Committee
2008 State Report
Kentucky**



University of Kentucky

1. Report Submitted by (please provide full contact information):

Steve Isaacs
Assistant Director, Community and Economic Development
303 CE Barnhart Building
Lexington, KY 40546
859-257-7255
sisaacs@uky.edu

2. Program Description and Staffing Plan:

Community and Economic Development is considered a responsibility of all agents at the county level across Ag, FCS, and 4-H program areas. Kentucky has approximately 410 agents in county positions. Three agent positions have exclusive CED responsibilities. Two are Fine Arts agents and one is CED. Agents are supported by 10-12 specialists and associates in the departments of Community and Leadership Development and Ag Economics as well as specialists from Kentucky State University. One 0.75 FTE administrative position serves as state program leader.

3. Program Highlights for 2007:

- Second Fine Arts agent added in Greenup County, March 2007
- CED agent position filled in Boyd County, October 2007
- MarketmakerKY.com is a web-based directory of 3-400 food producers, 116 farmers markets, and over 13,000 food businesses. Nationally Marketmaker recorded 1.8 million hits in 2007. Marketmaker was awarded a Commonwealth Collaborative \$10,000 grant from UK President Lee Todd's office.
- A multi-agency group has been formed to catalog the range of entrepreneurship support resources available and to educate agents in their use.
- In Dec 2007 a Kentucky delegation delivered a seminar and site visit to CRSEES and the NEA in Washington to discuss the Extension Fine Arts program. In May a group of administrators from the University of Missouri visited Kentucky to learn about the Fine Arts program
- The Nonprofit Leadership Initiative held their fifth annual Leadership Forum in Nov 2007. The Nonprofit Network has over 300 member organizations in KY.
- Evelyn Knight, Director of the Appalachian Center, and Alison Davis, Economic Development specialist in Ag Econ convened a couple of campus-wide discussions among faculty and staff who work in community or economic development issues.
- Kris Ricketts joined the faculty of Community and Leadership Development in January as a new Extension specialist in community leadership.

- Melony Furby has been employed as the “circuit rider” for the Kentucky Entrepreneurial Coaches Institute.

4. Plans/New Directions for 2008:

- Moneywise will be a web-based repository of resources to help agents and clientele address the demands of rising prices and a weak economy. Materials and links will be organized under topical rather than program areas. Examples will include Creditwise, Energywise, Foodwise, Familywise, etc.
- Kentucky’s third Fine Arts Extension Agent will be hired in Muhlenberg County in western Kentucky. This agent will be funded by monies raised from private sources.
- Efforts are underway to raise a \$2 million endowment to support future classes of the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program. Eight classes have been graduated. The most recent in March 2008.