

Community and Economic Development Programs
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Re-envisioning Cooperative Extension

Kentucky Cooperative Extension implemented administrative restructuring this year. The new structure includes an emphasis on county programs and advisory councils, increasing linkages between county agents and state specialists, and new district and regional alignments. Also included are three regional program coordinators who will facilitate program development and resources, and regional issues committees of specialists and agents, both of which will be additional support for community and economic development programs.

Two County CED Agents

Within the last year and a half, two counties (Pike and Boyd in Eastern Kentucky) have added County Community and Economic Development Agents. These are the first county CED agents that have ever been hired in Kentucky.

Extension Programs with other Colleges in the University

With new university and college administration in the past two years, a new emphasis has been placed on the entire university contributing to the state. This has led to other colleges outside the College of Agriculture collaborating with Cooperative Extension to provide outreach programs and support to Extension staff. We are working toward hiring a two County Fine Arts Extension Associate and three regional Extension Associates for Business and Engineering. Funding has delayed implementation of these positions, but they should be hired within the next year.

Other Programs

- Other ongoing program areas during the past year include:
- Business retention and expansion
 - Entrepreneurship and small business development
 - Analysis of demographic changes
 - Agricultural transitions
 - Asset-based community development approach