

**To:** CES all list

**Subject:** Transforming Communities and Building Community Capacity: An Introduction to Planning - Rescheduled for April 21-22 and repeated April 23-24, 2008

Dear Cooperative Extension Colleagues:

### **New Offering for Professional Development**

Program Announcement

#### **Transforming Communities and Building Community Capacity: An Introduction to Planning**

Because of the dangerous winter storm, the February 7-8, 2008 program was cancelled. The two day program had been rescheduled, and will now be conducted twice: on April 21-22 and again on April 23-24. You may register for either program. The deadline to register for either program is March 25, 2008. Program check-in on April 21 and April 23 is scheduled for 9:30a.m. and each program will begin at 10:00am.

Both programs will be held at the Radisson Hotel located at 517 Grand Canyon Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53719.

<http://www.radisson.com/madisonwi>

*(Note: The 2-day course is a pre-requisite for any UW-Extension colleague interested in participating in the 4-day Introduction to Strategic Planning professional development workshop. This 4 day course was scheduled to be held on April 22-25, but has now been postponed and will be rescheduled soon.)*

#### **PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Are community groups, local governmental units and community organizations in your county facing an increasing number of complex issues? Are you being asked to respond and assist them with these complex issues? Do they need a variety of more effective and efficient planning and decision making processes?

A new 2-day professional development opportunity titled *Transforming Communities and Building Community Capacity: An Introduction to Planning* has been developed by the Strategic Planning Team. The new course is designed to provide a more comprehensive context for strategic planning and other planning approaches, to assist in meeting the objectives of the UW-Extension-Cooperative Extension Transformational Education Initiative, and to respond to needs identified by past strategic planning course participants.

By participating in this workshop, you will (1) understand the context of transforming communities and building community capacity; (2) learn a model for conceptualizing community capacity; (3) learn a framework for purpose-based action; (4) learn how to help organizations and groups diagnose their needs and assess their readiness; (5) learn how to help communities meet their needs by designing courses of action; (6) learn about and assess their individual knowledge level and ability to play roles essential for building community capacity; (7) learn planning principles, strategic and systems planning approaches and processes, and how to apply them in community situations; (8) learn how to design and provide for purposeful citizen participation throughout a planning process; and (9) learn principles for creating change and strategies for managing change.

Time is short, so sign up now. Enrollment is limited to the first 50 registrants for each of the 2-day program presentations. All past strategic planning course participants are encouraged to register for this new course. Beginning in 2008 2- day course is a pre-requisite for any UW-Extension colleague interested in participating in the 4-day *Introduction to Strategic Planning* professional development workshop.

For more information, contact any of the strategic planning team members: David Hinds, Connie Abert, Jennifer Erickson, Steve Grabow, Mary Gruenewald, Mark Hilliker or Catherine Neiswender.

### **REGISTRATION**

Registration can be completed on line if you have a valid email address and are connected to the Internet. Point your Internet browser to: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/pdande/training/index.html> If it is difficult for you to register on the www, please call Liz DeVos at (608) 265-3232 to complete the process.

### **TRAVEL AND PROGRAM COSTS**

Cooperative Extension, Program Development and Evaluation Unit will cover program costs (instructional materials, resource persons, and instructional facilities, room and equipment). Participants are encouraged to secure support (from district or other sources) to cover lodging and meal expenses while attending the program in Madison. PD&E will cover these expenses for participants who are unable to secure other funding. In all cases, participants are responsible for their expenses traveling to and from the program (mileage, meals, etc.) Please let us know in advance if you are unable to cover your Madison expenses.

### **LODGING**

If your office location is 50 miles or more from Madison, you may reserve lodging at the Radisson Hotel (888) 201-1718. The reservation deadline is March 25, 2008. Check in time is 3:00 p.m.

### **CANCELLATION**

If you register for this workshop and later find you are unable to attend the session, please cancel as soon as possible. We may have a waiting list, and your timely cancellation may make it possible for one of your colleagues to attend the workshop. All cancellations should be directed to Liz DeVos (608) 265-3232 or email Liz at [liz.devos@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:liz.devos@ces.uwex.edu)