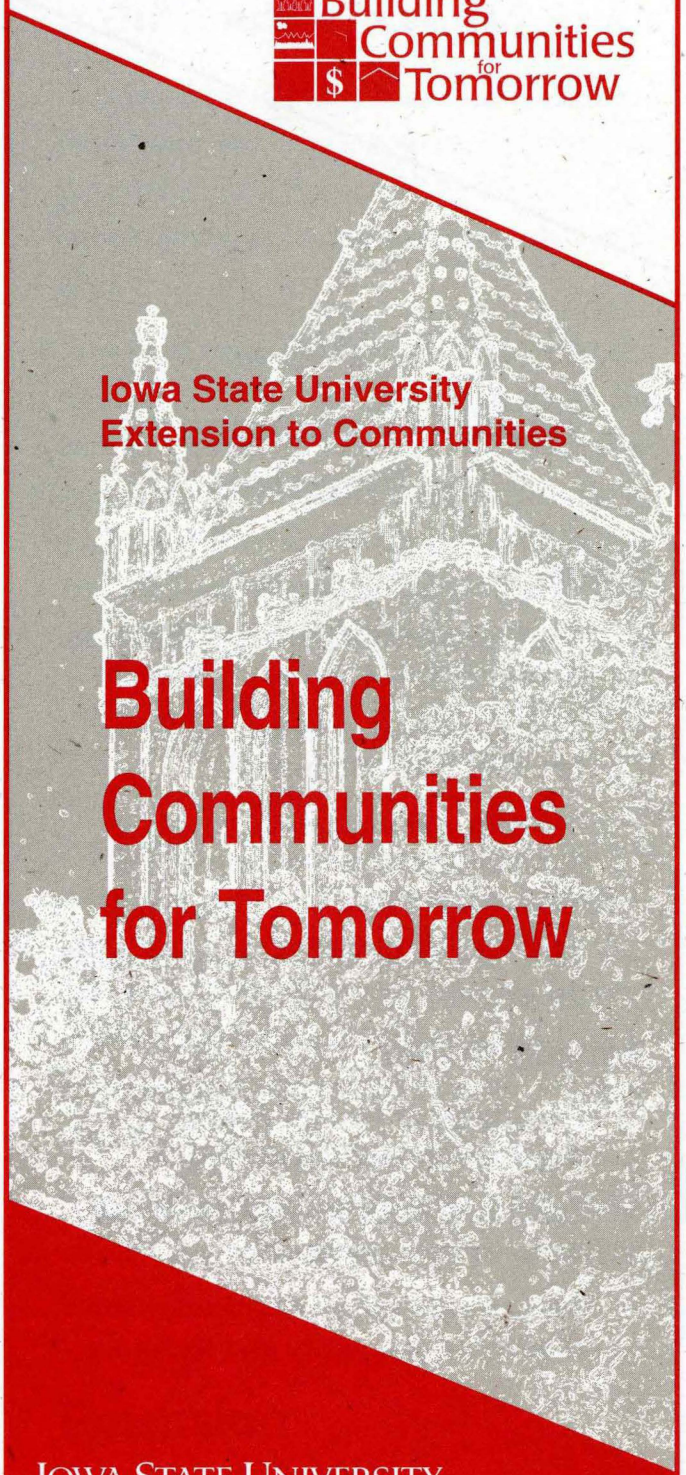
Building Communities for Tomorrow



Iowa State University
Extension to Communities

Building Communities for Tomorrow

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

What is . . .

Building Communities for Tomorrow

Goals:

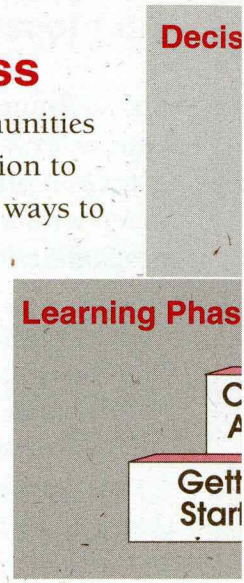
- Involve a diverse group of citizens in community development decisions
- Create a shared direction for the future of your community
- Develop and implement strategies that move your community in the desired direction
- Build the skills needed to accomplish the above

Benefits to you:

- Provide input into the future direction of your community
- Learn new skills for leadership and community involvement
- Interact with other people who care about the community and its future

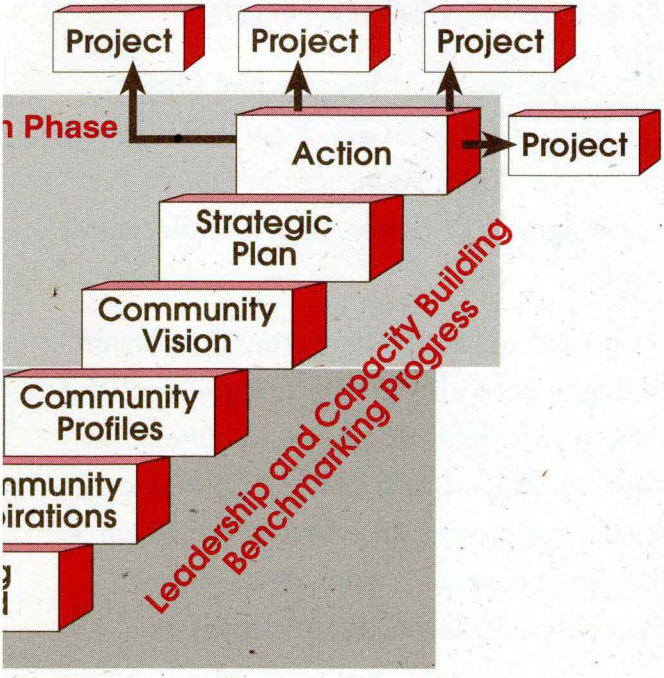
Building Communities for Tomorrow: Step Up to Success

Participants in Building Communities for Tomorrow give close attention to goals for their community and ways to achieve those goals through a six-step process that includes a Learning Phase to gather information about the community, and a Decision phase to determine projects that can have the greatest impact on the future well-being of the community.



We Can Help!

- Create a diverse and comprehensive community development process
- Build the skills of community leaders in accessing, collecting, and analyzing information
- Create a framework to evaluate community assets and areas of need
- Develop a community vision and a strategic plan
- Develop action plans and secure resources to complete community projects



Assistance available from Extension to Communities can lead you through the community development process from start to finish, or help with your specific needs at any step along the way.

Purposes of the program

- To teach leadership skills and concepts to a diverse audience
- To gather data on local leadership and serve as a think tank for innovative ideas
- To expand and diversify the leadership pool to get more people involved in community issues.

Making a Difference in Rudd

Liz Hand says her home town of Rudd, population 407, is in a position to thrive with the arrival of the Avenue of the Saints superhighway at its doorstep in north central Iowa.

"Towns of under 500 have a lot of problems trying to keep up with all the regulations and take advantage of all the opportunities," she said. The Rudd Building Communities for Tomorrow project, launched with the help of ISU Extension community development specialists, is meeting those challenges.

"They've helped us look ahead and envision what we can do." College of Design landscaping students have worked on beautifying the approach to the town from the new freeway, planning experts are helping Rudd set up its first zoning commission to deal with the development expected to come with the highway, and extension has helped the town apply for several grants to assist in the process.

"Everybody is getting involved. It has helped increase our pride in our community," Hand says.

Extension To Communities

The resources of Iowa State University are as close to you as your local extension office.

For additional information, please contact your nearest Iowa State University county extension office where you will be put in touch with a regional community development specialist.

State director of ISU Extension to Communities programming is

Paul Coates
288 College of Design
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa 50011-3091
Phone: (515) 294-8397
Fax: (515) 294-5156
E-mail: x1paulc@exnet.iastate.edu

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. . . and justice for all

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