MONDAY, August 28

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM  Seminar Registration  Firehall Lounge

1:00 - 5:15 PM  Pre-Seminar Workshops

- **LIHTC Y15 Clinic** (1:00 - 3:30)  Lamar/Gibbon Room
  
  Sponsored by Walker & Dunlop, Inc.
  
  A session for CDCs with LIHTC projects approaching, or having reached, Year 15. National LISC Housing and National Equity Fund experts will present on topics including exit tax analysis, review of partnership agreement provisions, refinancing options and opportunities, and resyndication analysis. Participants will also have the opportunity to receive one-on-one technical assistance and project specific technical advice on issues, concerns and recapitalization options from the experts.

- **Fundamentals of Asset Management** (1:00 - 3:30)  Dunraven/Obsidian Room
  
  (By Invitation)  Sponsored by National Equity Fund, Inc. (NEF)
  
  This session is an in-person follow-up training for groups that participated in the NeighborWorks Fundamentals of Asset Management online training (AM121el). It provides the opportunity to review the online course and begin development of asset management plans, tools and dashboards for each group’s rental portfolio. Please contact your field Program Officer if you have questions regarding either the online or the in-person session.

- **LIHTC Y15: One-on-One Sessions** (3:30 - 5:15)  Lamar/Gibbon Room
MONDAY, August 28 (Cont.)

3:00 - 5:00  Rural LISC Advisory Committee Meeting (Members Only)  **Talus Room**

5:30 - 6:00  Program Officer Town Halls  **Dunraven/Obsidian, Lamar/Gibbon & Talus Rooms**
Look for an invitation and room assignment from your Program Officer and come prepared with your most pressing questions.

6:30 - 8:30  Welcome Reception and Dinner  **Missouri Ballroom, Conference Center**
Welcome: Sen. Steve Daines (video address)
Welcome Address: Maurice Jones, LISC President and CEO

Sponsored by CoBank and National Equity Fund, Inc. (NEF)
Remarks: Dave Dombirer, CoBank Vice President – Public/Private Partnerships; Mike Jacobs, NEF Senior Vice President and Head of the Originations Group

TUESDAY, August 29

8:00 - 11:15 AM  Seminar Registration  **Firehall Lounge**

6:45 - 7:45  Breakfast Buffet  **Missouri Ballroom, Conference Center**

7:45 - 8:00  Break

8:00 - 9:30  PLENARY: The WealthWorks Toolkit – A Strategy for Success in Economic and Community Development in Rural America  **Missouri Ballroom, Conference Center**

Sponsored by Woodforest National Bank
Remarks: Ross Folkenroth, Vice President, Community Development Relationship Manager

How do you drive inclusive economic development by connecting the assets in a community with real market demand? Learn from practitioners who are utilizing the WealthWorks Community Capitals Model to build wealth-creating value chains in rural places across the country. Apply the principles to your work or begin exploring a value chain idea that may work in your community and then tap into the national network of value chain coordinators for advice and support.
Moderator: Ines Polonius, Communities Unlimited, Inc.
Panelists: WealthWorks Staff & Model Practitioners

9:30 - 9:45  Break
TUESDAY, August 29 (Cont.)

**NOTE:** Concurrent Workshops are organized into three tracks: 1. Economic and Workforce Development; 2. Housing and Infrastructure; and 3. Health and Public Safety

9:45 - 11:15 Concurrent Workshops

1. **ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:** Creative Approaches to Addressing Poverty and Building Family Financial Stability  
   **Mammoth North**
   Community and economic development advocates need comprehensive approaches to addressing poverty, and practitioners need a diverse range of tools in their “toolbox” to connect individuals to the financial mainstream and opportunities to build savings, credit and assets. National leaders and local financial empowerment experts will share best practices for creating pathways out of poverty at a “macro” level, as well as specific programs and products designed to help community members meet their financial goals.
   
   Moderator: Lydia P. Jackson, Capital One
   Panelists: Brenda McDaniel, Kentucky Highlands Investment Corp.  
   Mary Patoka, CAP Services, Inc.  
   Elena Kaye-Schiess, NeighborWorks America

2. **HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE:** Virtually Connecting Rural America  
   **Mammoth South**
   The internet is the true connector for rural America yet many communities and regions do not have adequate access to this vital infrastructure. Some rural advocates are testing approaches to find new ways to bridge the final digital divide to spur successful economic and workforce development initiatives.
   
   Moderator: Lance George, Housing Assistance Council
   Panelists: Dee Davis, Center for Rural Strategies  
   David Fine, City of Bozeman  
   Sarah B. Tyree, CoBank

3. **HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY:** Rural Crime Reduction – Tools to Address the Hidden Reality  
   **Talus Room**
   Recent events and developments have, on the one hand, demonstrated the power and repressed energy of rural America in impacting political change. On the other hand, this “peeling back of the onion” has also exposed the significant challenges still confronting America’s rural residents, such as rising rates of crime and the resulting instability it causes. This session will share some ways that communities have successfully developed strategies to combat and to even prevent crime, including replicable “Tool Kits” that can be adapted to your localities.
   
   Moderator: Justin Archer Burch, Rural LISC
   Panelists: Jason Cooper, LISC  
   Jenna Meglen, Berea College  
   Mable Starks, MACE

11:15 - 11:30 Break
TUESDAY, August 29 (Cont.)

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM  KEYNOTE:  Anne Hazlett, Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development, USDA  
Introduction:  Suzanne Anarde, Rural LISC  
LUNCH PLENARY: Rural LISC’s Native American Initiative Launch – CDFIs in Native Country  
Missouri Ballroom, Conference Center  
A conversation among key participants involved in the world of Native CDFIs that will explore the environment and the unique challenges and successes facing CDFIs working in Indian Country; as well as delving into ideas of how Native and non-Native CDFIs can form effective coalitions for progress.  
Sponsored by NeighborWorks America  
Remarks: Elena Kaye-Schiess, NeighborWorks America Rural Specialist  
Moderator: Curt Heidt, Board of Directors, Community Housing Initiatives, Inc.; Rural LISC Advisory Committee  
Panelists: Susan Hammond, Four Directions Development Corp.  
Patrice Kunesh, Center for Indian Country Development, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis  
Elsie Meeks, Lakota Funds  
Vickie Oldman-John, Seven Sisters Community Development Group, LLC  

1:30 - 1:45  Break  
1:45 - 3:15  Concurrent Workshops  

1.  ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:  Creative Placemaking as a Rural Tool for Cohesive Economic Development  
Mammoth North  
This session will employ a ‘Narrative Stage’ format to explore a deeper dive into the results of the first two rounds of Rural LISC’s Creative Placemaking grants. The opportunity is a rich one—with more than 30 grantees who stepped into this idea of using arts and culture to build community or tackle a community development issue. Participants will be presented with the results of a process that ‘mined’ for examples of leadership development, community-led project design and engagement, partnerships and collaboration. In particular, we will shine new light on a handful of examples that demonstrate significant learning in the dynamics of place from the people on the ground doing the work, and couple that with why Rural LISC has adopted this method as a key strategy for community building, engagement and cohesive economic development.  
Moderator: Susan DuPlessis, South Carolina Arts Commission  
Panelists: Lorna Bourg, Southern Mutual Help Association, Inc.  
Micah Gursky, Tamaqua Area Community Partnership  
Steve Kirk, Rural Neighborhoods, Inc.  
Lori Moen, GROW South Dakota  
John Niederman, Pathfinder Services, Inc.
TUESDAY, August 29 (Cont.)

2. **HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE**: Constant Change – Its Impact on the Rural Housing Landscape  
   **Mammoth South**
   Programs and financing that support the development of affordable housing and infrastructure inevitably change over time. This session will reflect on the changes we have endured, with a focus on those that have allowed us to thrive. Panelists will share the latest perspectives on the how programs and resources are anticipated to change.  
   Moderator: Peter Carey, Board of Directors, Housing Assistance Council  
   Panelists: Corey Aber, Freddie Mac  
               Tim Carpenter, Fannie Mae  
               Janelle Gustafson, Acting Montana State Director, USDA Rural Development  
               Ralph Perrey, Tennessee Housing Development Agency

3. **HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY**: Addressing Food Deserts Where Our Food Grows – Rural Americans Are Surrounded by Farms, but Do Not Have Access to Fresh, Affordable and Healthy Food  
   **Talus Room**
   Food deserts remain a persistent problem in rural America. The paradox of our unhealthy food system is that many rural communities lack healthy food access, even though the food we eat is grown in rural places. This panel will: reflect on why we see rural areas within nutritional vacuums; provide case examples of what is working in the field to eliminate them; and outline resources that exist on the national stage that can help to close the nutrition gap in rural America.  
   Moderator: Andrew Dumont, Federal Reserve Board  
   Panelists: James M. Stark, Fayette County Community Action Agency, Inc.  
               Sarah B. Tyree, CoBank

3:15 - 3:30  
   Break

3:30 - 5:00  
   Concurrent Workshops

1. **ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**: Moving the Needle – Promising Models for Workforce and Economic Development  
   **Mammoth North**
   Even as the overall job market recovers from the recession, too many communities, families and individual workers have continued to face challenges finding steady, living-wage jobs, maintaining and advancing in employment, and accessing the supports needed to succeed economically over the long term. Panelists will discuss multi-faceted strategies and programs—including “two-generation” approaches, service integration, and contextualized learning—to connect rural residents to stable employment, financial capability and career pathways.  
   Moderator: Katrin Kärk, Rural LISC  
   Panelists: Fran Rosebush Baylor, Prosperity Now  
               Juanita Woods, NOVA Workforce Institute of Northeast Louisiana  
               Duane Yoder, Garrett County Community Action Committee
TUESDAY, August 29 (Cont.)

2. **HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE (and more!): Expanding Our Rural Toolkit – Rural LISC’s New Programs and Innovative Financing Tools**
   - **Mammoth South**
   Please join us for an informative session on Rural LISC’s new programs and financing tools and how these can be used in your communities. You will hear about LISC short and long term financing tools for economic development, community facilities, housing and small businesses. In addition, we will provide updates on new Rural LISC programmatic initiatives, and early stage repayable investment tools. This session will also provide an opportunity for us to hear from the network on other ways we could support your work and projects.
   - Moderator: Suzanne Anarde, Rural LISC
   - Panelists: Kristin Blum, Rural LISC
   - Bob Poznanski, LISC New Markets Support Company
   - Murat Unal, Rural LISC

3. **HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY: Opioid Impact and Solutions – Rural Perspective**
   - **Talus Room**
   This session will delve into the biggest public health crisis facing rural America – the opioid epidemic. Nationwide, public health officials call this the biggest public health crisis of our time, with 45 percent of opioid-related deaths taking place in rural areas. The cost of the crisis is expected to exceed $55 billion annually. Rural LISC is tackling this challenge head on with the ACT (Addiction Care and Treatment) for Rural America Initiative. This session will provide attendees with an overview of ACT for Rural America and how substance abuse facilities in rural areas can begin to turn the tide on addiction.
   - Moderator: Africa Wayne, LISC
   - Panelists: Dreama Gentry, Berea College
   - Randy Runyon, Ohio Association of Community Health Clinics
   - Martha Wooten, ReVISION Partners

5:00 - 6:00
   - **Break**

6:00 - 8:15
   - **DINNER PLENARY: Anchor Institutions and Emerging Non-Traditional Partners**
   Anchor Institutions and emerging non-traditional partners — those sizable entities with physical, cultural and economic ties to a community — are an under-tapped resource that can play pivotal roles in community development. This session will explore different types of Anchor Institutions and how communities across rural America are engaging with Anchors to drive sustainable change that creates greater prosperity and opportunity. These effective partnerships are built on a foundation of shared value — the common ground where the interests of the Anchors and the interests of the community intersect. We’ll talk about what motivates Anchor Institutions to go beyond traditional transactional partnerships and develop deeper
TUESDAY, August 29 (Cont.)

commitments and relationships with community, how to identify and engage Anchor partners, and how a shared value framework can produce meaningful results for communities.  

Missouri Ballroom, Conference Center  

Sponsored by Fannie Mae and Prosperity Now

Remarks: Tim Carpenter, Director of Gulf Coast at Fannie Mae; Fran Rosebush Baylor, Director of Field Engagement at Prosperity Now

Moderator: Ellen Watters, Ellen Watters Consulting, Inc.
Panelists: Dave Dornbirer, CoBank
Pam Johnson, Fahe
Ralph Johnson, Montana State University School of Architecture

WEDNESDAY, August 30

7:00 - 8:30 AM  Breakfast Buffet  
Missouri Ballroom, Conference Center

7:30 - 8:30  ACT (Addiction, Care and Treatment) for Rural America  
Breakfast Cohort Meeting (Interested Partners)  
Dunraven/Obsidian

8:30 - 10:00  PLENARY: Policy Update: Legislative Opportunities and Challenges Facing Rural America  
Missouri Ballroom, Conference Center

As Congress pushes forward on the FY 2018 appropriations process, come learn what’s ahead for issues facing rural America, including tax reform, the Housing Credit, rural housing programs and the Affordable Care Act. This policy plenary will cover these topics and more, as well as advocacy actions that you can to take to ensure that your voices are heard. Speakers will address the unique perspective that rural organizations offer, and the road blocks and prospects for significant federal policy changes.

Sponsored by Housing Assistance Council
Remarks: Lance George, HAC Research Director

Moderator: Suzanne Anarde, Rural LISC
Panelists: Lance George, Housing Assistance Council
Mike Jacobs, National Equity Fund, Inc.
Matt Josephs, LISC Policy
Martha Wooten, ReVISION Partners

10:00 - 10:15  Remarks: Eileen Stenerson, Senior Vice President, Wells Fargo, Sponsor of the Closing Dinner Event at the Broken Hart Ranch

10:15 - 10:30  Tour Logistics

10:30 - 11:00  Pick Up Box Lunch in the Huntley Lodge Foyer; Board Buses Outside Huntley Lodge For HRDC IX Tour
WEDNESDAY, August 30 (Cont.)

5:30 - 9:00 PM  CLOSING DINNER EVENT: The Broken Hart Ranch
Sponsored by Wells Fargo Housing Foundation
Remarks: Martin Sundquist, Senior Vice President, Executive Director, Wells Fargo Housing Foundation

THURSDAY, August 31

Travel Day