Rural LISC Annual Seminar XXVIII
Co-hosted by RUPCO, Inc.

JUNE 4-7, 2019

Resorts World Catskills • Resorts World Drive • Monticello, New York
Website: https://rwcatskills.com/ Phone: 833-586-9358

A G E N D A

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

1:00 - 4:30 PM  Pre-Seminar Workshop: Disaster Recovery and Resiliency  Epicenter E
This hands-on training session will kick off a one-year Rural LISC curriculum in disaster recovery and resiliency. The goal is to put into place practices and programs that will prepare you for the next disaster and the role you will have in your community’s recovery. Participants will receive a workbook ahead of time, and will be responsible for completing the first section before the session begins. Following this in-person session, there will be two online sessions, one in-person optional.
conference in Texas co-hosted with the One Star Foundation and then a half-day concluding session at the 2020 Seminar. In this session:

- Welcome Remarks: Suzanne Anarde, Rural LISC
  David Dangler, NeighborWorks America
- Workbook Introduction and Disaster 101: Defining disasters, resilience and roles, and mapping your vulnerability – Anna R. Hurt, Disaster Recovery and Resiliency Program Officer, Rural LISC
- Understanding Insurance – Cherita Perry, National Equity Fund
- Navigating FEMA as a CDC – Shannon McLachlan, FEMA Community Planning and Capacity Building (CPCB) Support Function
- Disaster Preparedness – Kate McCarthy, Fannie Mae

Sponsored by NeighborWorks America

12:00 - 6:00 PM Seminar Registration  
Epicenter Pre-Function Area

3:00 - 5:00 PM Rural LISC Advisory Committee Meeting (Members Only)  
Epicenter B

6:00 - 8:30 PM Welcome Reception and Dinner  
Epicenter F, G, H

Remarks by Jaime Schmeiser, President & CEO, Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Remarks by Jacques Logan, Vice President, Manager – Special Servicing, National Equity Fund, Inc.

Remarks by Maurice Jones, President & CEO, LISC

Sponsored by National Equity Fund, Inc.
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

6:00 - 8:00 AM  Breakfast Buffet  Epicenter F, G, H

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  Seminar Registration  Epicenter Pre-Function Area

8:00 - 9:30 AM  Plenary: Catalyzing Opportunity – A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Inclusive Economic Development

Rural LISC is using a multi-disciplinary economic development framework to expand the ability of people, places and businesses to prosper equitably. This work focuses on strategies to develop talent, businesses and districts. Fellow Rural LISC partner organizations will share how they are taking a multifaceted approach to improving the economic outcomes in their communities.

Remarks:  Lance George, Housing Assistance Council  Thomas McGrath, Community Preservation Corporation  Kevin O’Connor, RUPCO, Inc.

Moderator:  Guy Kempe, RUPCO, Inc.

Speakers:  Will Coppage, Washington County Economic Alliance  Dennis West, Northern Initiatives  Juanita Woods, NOVA Workforce Institute of Northeast Louisiana

Remarks:  Karla Thompson, Freddie Mac

Sponsored by Community Preservation Corporation, Housing Assistance Council and RUPCO, Inc.

9:35 - 10:00 AM  Break – Stop by the Photo Booth Today until 5:00 PM!!!

Photo Booth Sponsored by Freddie Mac

10:00 - 11:30 AM  Concurrent Workshops  Epicenter E

1. Community Safety

How does community safety intersect with your work as a community development corporation? Learn how community safety is essential to community building, workforce development, housing and economic success. Using the case example of Greenville, Mississippi, this panel will explore ways Rural LISC partners can spur community and economic development through the LISC Safety Program and learn what tools are available to operationalize programming in your own community.

Moderator:  Justin Archer Burch, Rural LISC

Speakers:  Will Coppage, Washington County Economic Alliance  Mona Mangat, LISC

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @LISCRural & #CatalyzingOpportunities. Visit us on the web at www.lisc.org/rural.
WEEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 (CONT.)

2. Asset Management/Property Management LIHTC Y15 Training  
Epicenter A
Rental Housing Asset Management and Year-15 LIHTC Analysis: Join two National Equity Fund (NEF) staff as they explore how owners of affordable rental housing can best preserve and sustain community assets and effectively manage their portfolios. Learn how owners evaluate the merits of: sitting tight and for how long; limited partner exits; when an owner should contemplate the withdrawal of capital; recapitalization or not; resyndication and how, and under what conditions, the sale and transfer of a property should be contemplated.

Moderator: Greg Sparks, Rural LISC
Speakers: Kristie Blankenship, Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership
Jacques Logan, National Equity Fund
Robert Snow, National Equity Fund

3. Fighting Isolation and Striving for Inclusion Among LGBTQ Populations in Rural America  
Epicenter B
In this session, speakers will hear about the unique needs of LGBTQ communities in rural America, especially in the areas of health and housing, and learn about ways to increase access to crucial services and resources. We’ll look at several pieces of research that examine needs and trends in rural America and at large, along with specific examples of outreach and action in rural areas. The session will conclude with a participant brainstorm session on how to move the needle of inclusion through community development work.

Moderator: Michael Levine, LISC (Retired)
Speakers: Logan Casey, Movement Advancement Project
Dr. Miria Kano, Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of New Mexico
Roberto Jiménez, Mutual Housing of California

4. Rising to the Challenge: Innovative Wealth- and Skill-building Strategies for Rural Communities  
Epicenter D
Between now and 2024, the U.S. economy will generate 16 million “middle-skills” job openings: three million from newly created jobs and 13 million from retirements. Fourteen percent of these jobs pay more than $80,000 annually, 40 percent pay more than $55,000 annually, and the remaining jobs typically pay more than the average median income. The promise of rural middle-skills jobs can be realized if local leaders, businesses and economic development professionals work together to deliberately ensure all rural residents have access to quality jobs, industry-recognized credentials, stable housing, good credit, and other fundamental “building blocks” for prosperity. Discussion leaders will share credentialing, affordable housing and service integration strategies that can help rural residents build wealth; during the second half of the session, the presenters
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 (CONT.)

will facilitate small-group, interactive peer-sharing discussions on workshop participants’ challenges and solutions in financial capability/service integration, engaging youth in workforce training, and affordable housing as a financial stability strategy.

Discussion Leaders: Kate Davidoff, Prosperity Now
Katrin Kärk, LISC
Angelica Richards, Washington County Economic Alliance

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM  Break
12:00 - 12:45 PM  LUNCH
12:45 - 2:00 PM  PLENARY: Census 2020 – With citizenship questions and a new reliance on technology, is rural America in jeopardy of being undercounted ... AGAIN?   Epicenter F, G, H

In this plenary we will discuss the historical reality of undercounting in rural America and its impacts long term, as well as discuss the rising concerns about the addition of controversial questions and technology that will likely have a direct impact on some of the nation’s most poverty stricken communities. How has undercounting impacted rural communities and what can we do to ensure we are not excluded in 2020?

Moderator: Mark Kudlowitz, LISC
Speakers: Sally Cross, Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley
Lance George, Housing Assistance Council
Gladys Washington, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation
Remarks: Kate McCarthy, Fannie Mae

Sponsored by Fannie Mae

2:00 - 2:15 PM  Break
2:15 - 3:45 PM  Concurrent Workshops

1. Rural LISC Programs and Innovative Financing Tools  Epicenter E
Please join us for an informative session on Rural LISC’s programs and financing tools, and how these can be used in your communities. You will hear about LISC short- and long-term financing tools, including grant, loan and equity investments for economic development, community facilities, housing and small businesses. We will review grants management and compliance as well as LISC’s loan funding process and restrictions. 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 you on other ways we can support your work and projects.

Speakers: Michael Carroll, Rural LISC
Murat Unal, Rural LISC
Rachel Webster, LISC Grants and Contracts

2. Rural Rubinger Fellows – Addressing Rural Challenges  Epicenter A
LISC’s Rubinger Community Fellowship invests in exceptionally talented leaders with entrepreneurial spirit and deep ties to their communities. Each of LISC’s Fellows has shown a unique commitment to the community development field.
Of the nine 2019 Fellows, three serve America’s rural areas, and of the ten 2018 Fellows, two serve rural America. In this session, we will give an overview of the Fellowship program and introduce four of the five rural-based Fellows, who will share the projects they are undertaking with their Fellowship investment.

NOTE: Michael Rubinger will be present and will close the session with a few remarks.

Moderator: Imani Darden, LISC
Speakers: Brian Guyer, Human Resource Development Council of District IX
          Lahela Williams, Hawaiian Community Assets
          Juanita Woods, NOVA Workforce Institute of Northeast Louisiana
          Javier Zapata-Rodriguez, PathStone Corporation, Puerto Rico

3. Financial Capability Tools You Can Use: A Resource-sharing and Listening Session with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

   Through measurement tools like the Financial Well-Being Scale; research that shines a light on important topics like “credit invisibles;” and educational initiatives including “Your Money,” “Your Goals” and “Start Small, Save Up,” the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau strives to educate and empower individuals. It provides information and resources to help people build and maintain good credit, safely save their money, manage debt and reach the financial goals they set for themselves. In this session, staff from the Office of Community Affairs will share the Bureau’s comprehensive suite of resources, tailored to a wide range of practitioners and populations, and designed to help nonprofits engage their community members on financial education and financial capability issues. Workshop speakers will also facilitate an interactive “listening session” around the needs of rural-serving community-based organizations and economically vulnerable rural consumers.

   Speakers: Terri Molyneaux, Office of Community Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
             Jill Wheeler, Office of Community Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
             Listening Session Facilitator: Katrin Kärk, LISC

4. NIMBY – Still a Problem in Rural Community Development

   The development of rural affordable housing and community facilities is still threatened by the Not in My Back Yard (NIMBY) syndrome. Beyond multifamily housing, projects for seniors, farmworkers, treatment centers, etc., are being threatened more and more, even in communities where CDCs have been invited to help meet a community need. Hear experiences from CDCs that have battled NIMBY and review strategies to gain community acceptance for your projects.

   Moderator: Andy Saavedra, Rural LISC
   Speaker: Amy Casciani, PathStone
             Kevin O’Connor, RUPCO, Inc.
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5 (CONT.)

3:45 - 4:15 PM  Break

4:15 - 5:45 PM  Program Officer Town Halls
- Murat Unal, Greg Sparks, Michael Carroll  Epicenter A
- Julia Malinowski, Justin Archer Burch  Epicenter B
- Bob Reeder, Andy Saavedra, Anna Hurt  Epicenter D

6:15 – 7:30 PM  Women’s Convening  Cellaio Restaurant, Patio
Wine and conversation for women in CDFIs and nonprofits: an opportunity for women in the industry to network and discuss launching a rural chapter of the CDFI Women’s Network.

Enjoy Dinner on Your Own.

A List of Restaurants in the Hotel and in nearby Monticello is available on the Hello Crowd App.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

6:00 - 8:00 AM  Breakfast Buffet  Epicenter F, G, H

8:00 - 9:30 AM  PLENARY: The Digital Divide and Rural Innovation
New rural partnerships are blazing a pathway forward in meeting challenges – and proposing solutions – to the growing divide between digital access in rural and urban communities.
Moderator: Sarah Tyree, CoBank
Speakers: Suzanne Anarde, Rural LISC
Matt Dunne, Center on Rural Innovation (CORI)
Nathan Ohle, Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP)
Arthur Scott, National Association of Counties (NACo)
Remarks: Sarah Tyree, CoBank, for the Sponsor
Sponsored by CoBank

9:30 - 9:45 AM  Break
THURSDAY, JUNE 6 (Cont.)

9:45 - 11:15 AM  Concurrent Workshops

1. How Can Opportunity Zones Drive Capital and Investment into Rural Neighborhoods?
   
   The new Opportunity Zone program allows for investors to reinvest unrealized capital gains into funds to support community, business, real estate and economic development activities in low-income communities – but what does it mean for rural America? Will rural areas be as attractive for investment? How is the program working so far, and how can it work best in rural areas? Talk to experts with experience on both economic and housing development Opportunity Zone deals.

   Moderator: George Ashton, LISC Strategic Investments
   Speakers: Kevin Boes, National Equity Fund
             Karen Przypyszny, National Equity Fund

2. A Rural Response to the Opioid Crisis – Lessons from the Field

   Panelists will share the programs and initiatives they have undertaken in their rural communities to help respond to the opioid epidemic. These include updates from: Alaska, where Rural Alaska Community Action Program is using the Housing First model; Pennsylvania, where the newly opened Hope & Coffee Café is breaking misconceptions and providing outreach; and Eastern Kentucky, where Fahe is developing long-term substance abuse treatment strategies known as a “recovery ecosystem” that stimulates workforce re-entry and is improving economic development in Appalachia.

   Moderator: Patrick Anderson, Rural Alaska Community Action Program
   Speakers: Micah Gursky, Tamaqua Area Community Partnership
             Pam Johnson, Fahe

3. You Can’t Get There from Here…or Can You? Creative Strategies for Rural Transportation Access

   Rural residents who lack access to transportation can find themselves blocked from some of the most fundamental resources needed to live productive, fulfilling lives: education, stable employment, medical care, affordable healthy foods, and much more. Geographic dispersion and lower population density make it difficult to operate the types of robust, multi-modal public transit systems found in major metropolitan areas – yet the need for transportation solutions in rural America is great. In this session, a leading national expert in rural transportation will highlight technical assistance resources for transportation planning and engage the audience in an interactive discussion on strategies to increase transportation connections to jobs, healthcare and retail.

   Speaker: Robin Phillips, National RTAP (Rural Transit Assistance Program)
4. **Generational Engagement in Rural America**

“Behind every broke Millennial is a Baby Boomer who makes six figures but can’t open a PDF.” Come explore the generational gaps in rural America and have a fun, light-hearted discussion on how your organization can better attract and meet the needs of Millennials and Generation Z as they continue to grow as a larger percentage of the workforce in rural America. Rural LISC Millennial Justin Archer Burch will lead this entertaining discussion and will draw on examples from the field with California Coalition for Rural Housing on how you can create the leaders of tomorrow.

**Moderator:** Justin Archer Burch, Rural LISC  
**Speakers:** Gisela Salgado, California Coalition for Rural Housing

11:15 AM  
**Please get your Box Lunch and go to the Casino Entrance to Board Buses for RUPCO Tour.**  
**Epicenter Pre-Function Area**  

**NOTE:** Buses will load at the Casino Entrance at 11:30 AM – Please be on time.

11:30 AM - 5:30 PM  
**RUPCO Tour**

5:30 - 8:30 PM  
**Closing Dinner Event**  
Bethel Woods Cultural Center, site of the historic Woodstock Music Festival, celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. [Website](#)  
Remarks: Eileen Stenerson, Well Fargo  
Sponsored by Wells Fargo

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**FRIDAY, JUNE 7**

Travel Day – See you June 2-5, 2020 in Washington, D.C.!