



2018 Breakthrough Solutions Conference

Strengthening the Opportunity Pipeline in Your Community/Region

University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture
Cooperative Extension Service
2301 S. University, Little Rock
www.uaex.edu

Thursday, June 7, 2018

9 a.m. Welcome – Dr. Rick Cartwright, Associate Vice President – Extension

9:10 a.m. Keynote Presentation: Great Places Create Great Opportunities – Liesl Voges, Community Development Manager at the Iowa Arts Council and Director of the Iowa Great Places Program



10:10 a.m. Stand up and stretch break

10:15 a.m. Strengthening Your Opportunity Pipeline Through Breakthrough Solutions – Mark Peterson, Professor of Community and Economic Development, University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service

10:55 a.m. Briefing on the Change Lab – Dr. Roby Robertson, Professor Emeritus, University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Public Affairs

11:05 a.m. Breakthrough Solutions Change Lab – Small group discussions on key issues facing your community

11:50 a.m. Lunch

12:35 p.m. Return to the Auditorium

12:45 p.m. Presentation of SOAR Awards

Arkansas Community Development Society announcement

1 p.m. Ignite Session – Timothy Lee, Technology Specialist, Arkansas Small Business Technology and Development Center

1) Creating Opportunities for People and Communities – the Southern Bancorp Story - Dr. Karama Neal, Southern Bancorp, Little Rock

2) Trust and Collaboration – Two Keys to Engaging Faith-Based Organizations in Your Community – Erin Brogdon, Executive Director, City Connections, Little Rock

3) Murder at the Pie Auction – The Cleveland County Community Theater Story– Stacy Walz, Executive Director and Founder, Cleveland County Community Theater, Rison

4) Divorcing Wal-Mart and Taking Back Custody of Our Community – Sherry Johnston, Scott County ARCO, Waldron

5) WYC Fostering Hope for Foster Children - Charity Keener, Danville

1:45 p.m. Successful Communities Create Their Own Opportunities – Rex Nelson, Senior Editor, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

2:05 p.m. Adjourn to Breakout Sessions

2:15 p.m. Round I Breakout Sessions

1) Sustaining the Development Process, Tracking Impact, and Telling Your Story – Tonya Baumgartner, Paris Area Kickstart and Layne Ragsdale, Harrison CORE; Discussion Leader: Amy Whitehead, University of Central Arkansas Center for Community and Economic Development

2) Developing Leaders, Transforming Communities Through Uncommon Communities – Jerry Smith, Conway County Leadership Program and Samantha Evans, Winthrop Rockefeller Institute

3) Unleashing the Power of Maps - New GIS Tools for Economic Development
– Shelby Johnson, Arkansas Geographic Information Office

4) Future Proofing – Creating Mechanisms for the Future of Your Community
– Rocky Nickles, Fairfield Bay Team 2035, and Chris East, Think Big Little Rock; Discussion Leader: Jeff Jones, Russellville

3 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. Round II Breakout Sessions

1) Engaging Your Community, Lighting the Fires of Community Revitalization
– Ray Benson and Andrew Fleeman, Moving Manila Forward, Terrie James, Hope Downtown Network

2) Social Entrepreneurship – Addressing Important Issues in Innovative Ways –
Andre Stephens, St. Francis County Community Development Corporation and Austin Samuelson, Tacos4Life INVITED; Discussion Leader; Kirk Leach, University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Public Affairs

3) How Work Will be Redefined in the Coming Economy and How Can We Prepare Our Workforce – Bill Stovall, Arkansas Community Colleges and Geania Dickey, Expect More Arkansas; Discussion Leader: Randy Zook, Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

4) Creating a High Quality of Place for Visitors and Locals – Trails, Technologies, and Third Places – Brant Collins, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism

4:00 p.m. Return to auditorium

Door Prizes

People's Choice Award for top Ignite presentation

Wrap up and adjourn