



March 2010

## Vanguard E-News Bulletin

### CDS Award Nominations Due Today!

Great organizations recognize, celebrate, and learn from their successes. CDS has many successful members and programs or activities that should be celebrated and documented so that other groups can learn from them. Recognizing these best practices or achievements makes everyone proud but also enhances the respect and status held by CDS as a whole.

The deadline for submissions is today - click here for more information. For additional information beyond the web site, contact Gisele Hamm, chair of the Awards Committee, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs.

### CDS Spotlights Members

As part of the CDS membership campaign, the Membership and Marketing Committee has initiated its Member Spotlight on the CDS website. Located under JOIN, this page puts the spotlight on CDS members, and their interests and areas of expertise in the community development profession.

Each month the CDS will spotlight new members, gathering the information from the [membership survey located here](#). If you have not already completed this survey, please do so, and maybe you will

**Dear Mallory,**

Spread the Word; New Orleans will be a Unique and Special Conference Experience!

Our conference program committee and our local host committee have put together a truly remarkable conference experience for you July 25-28 in New Orleans. This conference will be held in conjunction with the International Association of Community Development making for a very rich selection of sessions. Some highlights include:

**A. Habitat for Humanity** is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. There are no other conference related events scheduled for Saturday.

**B. Keynote Speakers.** The opening plenary session on Monday a.m. will feature Steven Picou and 3 IACD representatives to discuss approaches to recoveries from natural disasters.

**C. Session on Haiti Sunday afternoon.** Randy Adams is organizing a 2-hour session comparing the disaster recovery efforts in Haiti with previous recovery efforts such as Katrina etc. He is working with the CHF to have a representative present a video and other materials on Haiti based on their work. The Peace Corps Response unit will have several people working in Haiti who will be on the program. The program is from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

**D. Student Session;** An hour session will be held for students on Sunday afternoon to acquaint them with CDS and meet members with experience in community development efforts. The students will be offered the one-day rate (\$150) but they can stay Sunday and Monday to participate in the opening reception as well as the Monday programs. Plus, we will have 3 absolutely dynamite mobile learning sessions on Tuesday.

**Help us get the word out about this wonderful program by:**

- Putting the conference program URL under your email signature
- Taking conference information to all the meetings you attend
- Sending the conference information to your colleagues on the various lists you have access to
- Identifying a student or community member to come with you

be the next member in the spotlight!

[Click here to view the CDS Member Spotlight](#)

## Announcing.....

### Community Development Society Webinar Series

#### Initiating Innovation in the Face of Rapid Change

Three webinar programs on Initiating Innovation in the Face of Rapid Change will be offered this spring through the Community Development Society [www.comm-dev.org](http://www.comm-dev.org)

#### DATES:

##### Thursday, April 8 - Strategic Doing 365

Presented by Jack Ricchiuto, designer, author and Network Weaver [www.designinglife.com](http://www.designinglife.com)  
With the rapidly changing world we all live in, being able to constantly adjust your course and plan action is increasingly more important. Strategic Doing 365 helps you use strategic learning and doing to make being strategic a 365 days a year dynamic, collaborative, and agile process.

##### Thursday, May 13 - Breakthrough Solutions for Your Community

Presented by Mark Peterson, University of Arkansas Extension  
Thinking about progress innovatively, can help move your community to Breakthrough Solutions. Small distinctions can increase impacts by applying new approaches.

##### Thursday, June 3 - Innovative Collaboration with Elected Officials

Presented by Paul Lachapelle, Montana State University Extension and Dan Clark, Local Government Center-MSU  
Collaboration between local elected officials and community economic development professionals can mean the difference in projects advancing or not. Learn how to improve these key relationships.

**WEBINAR TIME:** 2:00-3:00 PM CST

**REGISTRATION:** [Register on-line here!](#)

**Member Registration** - \$29 / webinar / member

Registration will open this week!

**-Mary Emery, CDS President**

## Pre-Conference Workshops

Join the CDS and IACD Conference to partake in one of three pre-conference workshops that are offered on July 25 in New Orleans, LA, USA:

**Breakthrough Solutions - Building Vibrant Sustainable Communities & Regions in Challenging Times**, presented by: Mark Peterson & Ed Levy is a half day workshop. Breakthrough Solutions provides a fresh look at how to leverage and transform community assets, inspire awe, and even change the rules. Creating breakthroughs depends only on people's willingness to embrace breakthrough thinking and a breakthrough development process. Join the adventure as we create breakthrough solutions for a real community. Breakthrough Solutions - because life is too short for ordinary strategic planning.

**Preparedness & Community Resilience for Economic Recovery**, presented by Rhonda Phillips & Cliff Bragdon is a half day workshop.

Enhancing preparedness for natural and human-made disasters (whether environmental or economic) is of paramount concern to communities and regions. Community resilience is a key feature of preparedness and response, and is considered to be the ability of communities to recover and move forward sustainably. Economic resiliency is even more critical in the current climate and relies heavily on the strength of social networks in a community. Our workshop will provide an in-depth exploration of the characteristics, networks and activities needed at the community level to both prepare for and respond to disasters, incorporating principles of CDS Good Practice, and focusing on the economic dimensions of recovery. Drawing on case studies of resilient communities and illustrating with the use of a state-of-the art simulation and 3-D visualization software, we will present a framework to help communities identify and develop approaches to recovery as well as strengthen existing resources. The take-away from this workshop will be a deeper understanding of what is needed for preparedness and recovery activities for communities on a global basis.

**Building on Community for Economic and Disaster Recovery**, presented by Ted Smeaton & Jim Diers is a full day workshop. This interactive one day workshop will explore strength based approaches that have been used around the world to assist in economic and disaster recovery. Examples are as diverse as recovery after the Tsunami in Indonesia, civil unrest in East Timor, drought mitigation in Kenya, bushfires and floods in Australia, economic recovery in Columbia City in Seattle, Bulls in New Zealand, Lake Street in Minneapolis and Newcastle Australia. This will assist participants to explore these examples and relate them to their own experiences. Through a facilitated process, participants will be assisted to explore key similarities and differences in each approach. From this experience a practical model with six key steps will unfold. Participants will be assisted to explore how to implement strength based approaches in their own community as either government officials or practitioners. They will explore practical ways of understanding resilience of their community, the assets that exist to support resilience that

or SAVE \$ by registering for all 3 in the series \$79/member

**Non-Member Registration - \$59 /** webinar / non-member  
or SAVE \$ by registering for all 3 in the series \$159 / non-member (or join CDS to qualify for member rate savings!) [www.comm-dev.org](http://www.comm-dev.org)

**Student Registration - \$10 /** webinar / student (Student ID # required) or SAVE \$ by registering for all 3 in the series \$19/student (Student ID # required)

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builds participation, increased community problem solving, learning capacity and leadership development. We will also explore how communities using ABCD principles and processes to prevent economic crisis, and build resilience ahead of crisis. The workshop will also help participants to see how strength based approaches have been integrated into other more traditional approaches to economic and disaster recovery.

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## Role of Community in Economic & Disaster Recovery

*Written by Norm Walzer, CDS Program Chairperson*

Role of Community in Economic and Disaster Recovery Plans for the CDS/IACD conference in New Orleans are moving along well. The conference agenda has posted on the [CDS web page](#) has more than 40 sessions. Please check your session to make sure that it is still accurate. We will need moderators and if you are interested in helping, please let [Lori Landry](#) know. We have grouped the sessions by major theme to encourage participants to continue discussions around major issues of interest. The Wednesday lunch will have tables for people interested in specific topics/issues to congregate.

Sunday afternoon will have a session on responses in Haiti by several agencies. This program will be extremely timely and promises to be an excellent learning experience for those who attend. This event is part of the conference registration fee. There also will be several exciting Pre-conference sessions covering a variety of issues. See the conference programs on the CDS web site for more details.

Our co-hosts, the International Association for Community Developers (IACD), have played a major role in the conference planning and will bring a large number of members. They will add significantly to the richness of the discussions and the contacts that you will be able to make.

Review the conference agenda and make plans to come to New Orleans. It will be a very worthwhile event. We look forward to seeing you.

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## Sustainable Futures

*Written by Andrew Dane, CDS Board Member*

More and more communities around the U.S. are starting to take sustainability seriously. Local governments can and should play a key role providing leadership for sustainability efforts. But how exactly can they? A number of new resources have become available to assist communities with sustainability planning, including several published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In this article, I will summarize a recent EPA publication titled "Planning for a Sustainable Future: A Guide for Local Governments."

The guide includes chapters on the following topics: introduction to sustainability, getting started, areas of opportunity, and conclusion: moving beyond planning to action. In the

introduction, the authors present the familiar 3 E's of sustainability: equity, environment, and economy. The introduction emphasizes the importance of sustainability planning to address climate change. The authors go so far as to suggest doing a greenhouse gas emissions inventory for your community as a good first step in the planning process.

In "getting started", the authors recommend beginning the process with a strategic assessment of the community's strengths and weaknesses. They propose that you look at the following areas in particular: transportation, land use planning, open space protection, energy, air quality, and climate, water supply, storm water and wastewater, solid waste and recycling, and climate change. They also recommend an assessment of opportunities to identify potential options available.

The authors also emphasize working through existing resources and networks as you initiate your planning process. Building coalitions and engaging a wide range of players is seen as important as is providing education to other employees and the public. The next step, securing funding and reducing costs, identifies how you will pay for your sustainability planning and related projects. A number of resources are provided with URL links. Finally, the "getting started" chapter concludes with a simple planning framework based off of the Environmental Management System model: 1) plan, 2) do, 3) check, 4) act.

The "areas of opportunity" chapter provides a short overview of each sustainability area previously listed above. The first area described is "transportation." The section begins with a background description of the issue, followed by a list of best practices and solutions. A set of indicators is provided to help one think about how to measure progress in this area. The section ends with a case study on municipal biodiesel production in Gadsden, AL, and a list of recommended resources. The same format is followed for the other sustainability areas.

The last chapter of the guide is especially relevant to community developers. "Conclusion: moving beyond planning to action" emphasizes the importance of outreach and community education throughout the process of plan development through implementation. There is a very short discussion of the dynamics of organizational and community change which recognizes that change is hard and that the most important ingredient to success is engagement. The chapter ends with a series of short bulleted descriptions of how different communities around the U.S. drove support for sustainability plans through different actions and activities.

EPA's new publication "Planning for a Sustainable Future: A Guide for Local Governments" is a 66 page free download which provides a nice simple primer on sustainability planning. The resource, along with other useful resources for local sustainability planning, can be found on-line at [www.capacitycenter.org](http://www.capacitycenter.org)

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**Community Development  
Institute East**

The 2010 Community Development Institute East will be May 10-14 at the Bridgeport W.Va. Conference Center. The weeklong institute is designed to train community officials and volunteers in the techniques of modern leadership and management of community development efforts. It focuses on increasing a community's economic and social growth. The curriculum consists of three week-long sessions of increasing detail to be taken one-after-another in successive years which are designed to meet the increasing challenges faced by those working in community development.

CDI East approaches community development as both a process and a program. It seeks to develop an individual's ability to identify community problems; set goals; encourage liaison with outside agencies; stimulate community interaction; and bring groups together to support competitive economic development, human resource development and quality of life issues. It does this by expanding an individual's ability to identify community and economic problems, set goals, encourage liaisons with outside agencies, stimulate community interaction, and bring groups together to respond to a wide range of subjects.

The institute, founded in 2002, is holding its eighth session. It features a national-level curriculum endorsed by the Community Development Council ([www.cdccouncil.com](http://www.cdccouncil.com)). It is one of six institutes nationally, along with CDI Central (Arkansas), Texas CDI, Northwest CDI (Idaho), Midwest CDI (Illinois), and Alabama CDI. And it is associated with the Professional Community and Economic Developer certification.

Chesapeake Energy is the featured sponsor of CDI East. The institute is presented by the WVU Extension Service with the assistance of the WV Development Office. For more information, contact CDI East by email ( [CDIEast@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:CDIEast@mail.wvu.edu) ) or telephone (+1-304-293-6967) or visit the website: [cdi.ext.wvu.edu](http://cdi.ext.wvu.edu)

# Do you have something to share?

We welcome member input and articles for our Vanguard e-news bulletin. If you have something that you would like to get out to the entire membership, or if you have comments or suggestions, send them to [CDS@assnoffices.com](mailto:CDS@assnoffices.com) with subject e-news bulletin. We will do our best to accommodate your articles in a timely manner.

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