



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

Spring 2016

Issue 20

Editor

Craig A. Talmage

Managing

Joyce Hoelting

Editorial Assistant

Aleem Mohammad

Designer

Maaz Mohammad

EDITORIAL

Revitalizing Practice: Introduction to a Refreshed Community Development Practice

Craig A. Talmage, Ph.D.
Visiting Assistant Professor
Entrepreneurial Studies
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Geneva, New York

The journal, *CD Practice*, began in 1994 with a mission to provide community development practitioners access to innovative approaches, techniques, and tools, which have demonstrated success in community development (and related fields). These various approaches, techniques, and tools developed and presented could be readily applied by the journal's readers. They also epitomized Community Development Society's "Principles of Good Practice." The journal was eventually made available on the Community Development Society's website (<http://comm-dev.org/>) and continues to be distributed to Community Development Society members and friends for free.

Over the past nineteen issues, we have broached and investigated a number of topics from gathering together around controversial issues (see Hustedde, 1994) to conducting virtual facilitated discussions (see Loveridge, Nawyn, & Szmecko, 2013). The journal has explored topics across both the private and public sectors. It has also ventured to provide insights that apply to both rural and urban practitioners.

Today, the journal has the opportunity to capture the attentions of even more practitioners across the globe. It can also be a place for researchers or bi-vocational individuals (for example, pracademics) to coalesce, share, and apply information not often found in traditional research journals. This intersection between research and practice is expressed in our twentieth issue of the journal, and this conversation must not cease in the future.

In order to reach a wider audience, the abbreviation of CD will be removed in future publications and the name will be expanded to its full form. This strategy makes it easier for readers to discover the journal through Internet searches. I believe that this strategy will help build the rapport of the journal and draw a broader readership.

I invite you to open this issue of the revitalized *Community Development Practice* and enjoy our four contributions. The contributions appear in the order they were submitted for review to the journal. They also provide a strong mix of quantitative and qualitative approaches for community development practice. Please share this new issue with your friends and colleagues.

The first article, "Are we using all the tools in our toolkits? Considering video recordings for community development," presents readers with a call to incorporate video recordings into the research and evaluation strategies. The article provides a theoretical and practical grounding for this tool that can capture community members' stories and experiences at a relatively low cost. Please note that this article was previously accepted under a previous editor of the journal.

The second article, "Uncovering hidden rental properties" walks readers through a procedure using Microsoft Excel (and potentially other spreadsheet programs) to better understand the tenure transition of properties. The procedure can help practitioners unearth and record rental properties in their local areas. The reader is also walked step-by-step through the process, so that he or she can start attaining the benefits of this procedure in his or her own community.

The third article, "Community-responsive behavioral health research: Translating data for public consumption and decision making," provides a new way of understanding data for those who work in behavioral health, specifically those who focus on mental health and substance abuse issues. The authors share the story of their national project team that collected and delivered data to local community teams and the lessons they learned from their different dialogues.

The fourth and final article, "Community coaching: Insight into an emerging practice," speaks to the challenges around

change in communities. The article describes the supporting role that community coaching plays in assisting that change. The authors share the experiences of and lessons learned from over twenty community development professionals across the United States. These lessons help practitioners and researchers better understand the emerging practice of community coaching.

Finally, it is again my pleasure to unveil the revitalized Community Development Practice to you. I would like to personally thank all previous CD Practice editors: Kenneth Pigg, David Darling, John Gruidl, Michael Dougherty, and Joyce Hoelting. Michael Dougherty and Joyce Hoelting still provide editorial and review support to the journal. I also would like to thank all those who have reviewed articles and provided feedback to increase the quality of our contributions. I apologize if I have missed anyone in these regards, but thank you to all the Community Development Society members and friends for your continuing research and practice.

If you are interested in reviewing future submissions or submitting an original manuscript, please contact me at Talmage@hws.edu. You can also contact me with general inquiries as well. Thank you and please enjoy this twentieth issue of Community Development Practice.

Cordially,



Craig Talmage
Community Development Practice Editor

References

- Hustedde, R. J. (1994). Community issues gathering: A tool for resolving controversy, *CD Practice*, 1, 1-7.
- Loveridge, S., Nawyn, S., & Szmecko, L. (2013). Conducting virtual facilitated discussions, *CD Practice*, 19, 1-9.