

The Big Story } Two major regional Center projects wrapped up this year, culminating in early impacts and the promise of more to come.

Interstate Extension Collaboration Grants



First Impressions Program

- 1 mobile app developed
- 4 communities evaluated
- 1 journal article submitted
- 9 presentations, workshops & webinars delivered by team to new audiences nationwide



Emergency Economic Impact Analysis / Futures Workshop

- 35 teachers & students from 5 high schools attended workshop in VT
- 2 community workshops held in NH
- 3 engagements @ NACDEP: workshop, session & poster

Impact Indicators Learning Circle

A Center-led group exploring practical ways to collect credible data to evaluate the impact of regional CREC programs:



19 circle members engaged



5 programs analyzed in pilot effort



40 pages of findings developed into free learning resource



1 (ribbon-winning) poster Presented at NACDEP

Research Spotlight

Center Research on Effects of Extension Programs Captures National Attention

A Center study found that agricultural research and Cooperative Extension programs helped more than 137,000 farmers stay on the farm between 1984 and 2010. In addition to publication in *Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy*, we shared these findings via a press release, a policy brief, and an infographic.

The importance of these findings was widely recognized, as evidenced by the many news organizations that featured the work, including:



Center's Social Capital Work Fuels New Research

Our dataset on the stock of social capital in each US county continues to be the most-accessed content on our website. It has been cited more than 300 times*, and recently was featured in *The Wall Street Journal*.



*according to Google Scholar as of 2/2017



Under the skillful leadership of our special programs advisor, George Morse, each of these programs strengthens the Center's mission: *to enhance the capacity of Land Grant Universities to foster regional prosperity and rural development.*

Communicating with our stakeholders

Sharing scholarship through many channels.

Presentations

10

presentations
–made by–

4

Center staff members
–at–

8

different venues



Publications

7

peer-reviewed
journal articles
–and–

6

outreach documents
–including–
economic impact
analyses, press
releases, policy
briefs and posters



Newsletters & Website

5

newsletters
–featuring–

35

new content items
–reaching–

1k

subscribers
–and–

10k

website visitors



Social Media

200+

Facebook posts
–and–

60+

Tweets
–to–

350+

followers



Funding Snapshot

As a regional research hub, the Center leads or supports several funded projects.

We pursue funding opportunities in four focal areas:

Community Capacity Building



- Knowledge networks in Community Development
- Rural mental health issues
- Healthy rural populations

Regional Economic Development



- Rural innovation
- Entrepreneurship

Local and Regional Food Systems



- Regional food systems
- Agricultural entrepreneurship
- Agricultural policy

Balanced Use of Natural Resources

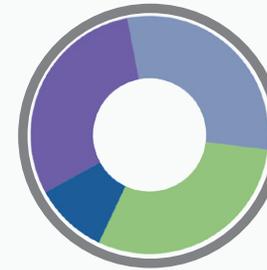


- Agricultural land-use issues
- Energy development
- Water resources

Our projects often span more than one focal area:

9 projects have resulted in
Community Capacity Building

3 projects are exploring
Balanced Use of Natural Resources



10 projects contribute to
Regional & Economic Development

9 projects are focusing on
Local & Regional Food Systems

In 2016, the Center managed 10 grants totalling \$7.5 million.

	Bringing Research and Communities Together to Advance a Regional Food Systems Project (USDA/NIFA)	\$43,606
	Linking Health Care Reform and Economic Development in the Agriculture Sector (VT)	\$6,866
	The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development - 2015 (USDA/NIFA)	\$237,284
	AMS Grant Writing Workshops and Technical Assistance (USDA AMS and NIFA)	\$900,000
	Enhancing the Viability of Underserved Small Farms and Rural Communities using Insights from Emerging Network Science: A Multi-Dimensional, Integrated Approach (TSU)	\$52,623
	Enhancing Food Security in the Northeast through Regional Food Systems (USDA NIFA)	\$4,999,985
	The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development - 2016 (USDA/NIFA)	\$237,680
	Assessing the Supplier Role of Selected Fresh Produce Value Chains in the United States (USDA ARS)	\$44,788
	AMS Local Food Resource Mapping Project (USDA AMS and NIFA)	\$800,000
	Drivers of Rural Innovation and Implications for Community and Regional Economic Development (USDA)	\$130,000