

WINTER 2022 THE CED TIMES



WELCOME TO THE CED TIMES

In this issue of our quarterly newsletter, we will discuss:

- **Featured resource and CED updates**.....Page 1
- **Featured program: Resilient Communities**.....Page 2
- **RSG! Agriculture: Supporting agriculture statewide**.....Page 2
- **Black farmers conference a success**.....Page 3
- **Office Hour Live!: Innovative program selected**.....Page 3
- **Your CED team hard at work**.....Page 4
- **Helping Ohioans flourish in uncertain times**.....Page 4

FEATURED RESOURCES

In this continuous series of CED Times, we introduce you to a few resources from around the state and beyond, from grant opportunities to community toolkits and more.

- **CED Office Hour Live!** Through virtual, live, open discussions with CED staff and topical experts, you will learn about resources related small and farm business success. Register [here](#).
- **Rural Playbook.** The White House released a Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Rural Playbook to help state, local, Tribal and territorial governments in rural areas access new infrastructure resources. Access the playbook [here](#).
- **Farmers.gov.** The USDA Farmers.gov website is an easy-to-use platform for discovering the right farm loan, disaster assistance or conservation tool (and more) for you. Learn more [here](#).



CENTRAL
STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension

CED UPDATES

Whether you are looking to build a business, farm, career, or community, we are here to help you find and follow your purpose. Check out some **videos** catching your CED team hard at work!

- **Career:** See how we are building a 21st century workforce. Click [HERE](#).
- **Farm:** See how we are building 21st century regional food systems. Click [HERE](#).
- **Business:** See how we are building 21st century agri & small businesses. Click [HERE](#).
- **Community:** See how we are building strong, resilient communities. Click [HERE](#).

FEATURED PROGRAM: RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Land-Grant Institutions fulfill their mission through academic, research, and extension work. Extension was designed to bring vital, practical information to agricultural producers, small business owners, consumers, families, and young people. **Community & Economic Development (CED)** is one of four extension areas within the 1890 Land-Grant programs of Central State University (CSU).

Resilient Communities is CED's most recent program offering. Resilient Communities is a year-long series of monthly workshops that integrate community planning practices. Participating communities (urban neighborhoods and rural towns) will assess their assets and needs, prioritize their best growth opportunities, identify potential resource partners, and implement community improvement projects.



New business opening in Beach City

The CED unit will be accepting two communities into the program in 2023. If you would like your neighborhood or rural town to be considered, email esmith2@CentralState.edu for an application form. Whether or not you participate in the program, you may find value in viewing the recordings of a recent webinar series organized by the CED staff. Click on the links provided if you want to learn from local experts about using [Entrepreneurship](#), [Tourism](#), [Community Engagement](#), or [Downtown Development](#) strategies.



RSG! AGRICULTURE -- SUPPORTING URBAN AGRICULTURE STATEWIDE

RSG! Agriculture is one of the signature programs of the CED unit at CSU Extension. Included in the program is a series of workshops that cover everything from local marketing and farm business planning to financial and farm records management and farm business resource development.

In 2022, the **CED team** was honored to present the series in full, or in part, to numerous farmers through partnership with such organizations as those listed below:

- Agraria Center for Regenerative Agriculture (Yellow Springs)
- Little Africa Collaborative (Cleveland)
- Lincoln Heights Grows (Cincinnati)
- ANR Fasttrack beginning farmer sites in Toledo, Trotwood, Dayton, and Cleveland

Pictured above is a business planning workshop that was delivered on November 12th in Mansfield, Ohio at the annual meeting of the Ohio chapter of the Farmer Veteran Coalition. 77% of the participants found that the training was "outstanding" and the remaining 23% found it to be "very good." Meanwhile, as one of the Fasttrack program participants said following a business model canvas workshop, "Great training! I feel empowered to try a site myself next year!"

BLACK FARMERS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

From September 9-10, over 50 BIPOC farmers attended the third annual Black Farmers Conference, organized collaboratively between the Agraria Center for Regenerative Agriculture and Central State University Extension. Held on campus in Wilberforce, Ohio, and virtually, the theme of this year's conference was, "Roots, Food, and Storytelling".

CED staff were engaged to organize a session on "How Can I Finance My Farm?" Staff presented on



www.Farmers.gov, a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) website designed to help farmers find the information and resources they need to succeed. CED staff also invited two guest speakers to inform the audience about USDA's various loan, grant, and cost-share programs. We are grateful for the support of Kurt Leber, District Director with the USDA Farm Service Agency and William Cook, Urban Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.



CED OFFICE HOUR LIVE!: AN INNOVATIVE PROGRAM SELECTED FOR PRESENTATION

The CED Office Hour Live! program of CSU Extension was selected for a poster presentation at the all-Ohio Joint Extension conference in Columbus. An innovative program, CED Office Hour Live! connects people to topical experts through a virtual, live, interactive, weekly format. The show takes place online every Thursday from 2:00-3:00pm. The program is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Sign up [here](#).

Sample fall shows from the fall include "Let's Talk About Reducing Personal & Business Risk" and "Strategies to Take Your Business to the Next Level." Did you miss an episodes? Watch the YouTube recording [here](#).

You'll want to join in this January and February. To help you make, and stick with, your resolutions around health, finances, self-care, and more, the CED and Family & Consumer Science units are joining forces to help you with:

- Mental Fitness: the latest science on goal-setting, mindfulness and self-care (**Jan 19**)
- Financial Fitness: building a family budget and stretching your dollar in a time of inflation (**Jan 26**)
- Physical Fitness: the latest research on health, active living, nutritional intake, and more (**Feb 2**)

YOUR COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CED) TEAM HARD AT WORK



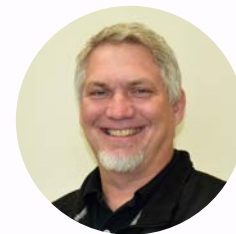
AMBROSE MOSES III, CED EDUCATOR, STATEWIDE

Ambrose holds a Juris Doctorate and a B.A. in Criminology from The Ohio State University. His current projects include developing and delivering business and agri-business planning, disaster management, and "Just a Paycheck Away" programming.

Contact: amoses@centralstate.edu

ERIC R. SMITH, CED EDUCATOR, NORTHWESTERN REGION

Eric holds a M.A. in Community Community Development from North Dakota State University and a B.A. from Taylor University. Eric's current projects include developing and delivering job readiness, civic leadership, and start-up programming for entrepreneurs and agripreneurs. **Contact:** esmith2@centralstate.edu



AMBER J. TWITTY, CED EDUCATOR, SOUTHERN REGION

Amber is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a focus in Business Finance from the Carl H. Lindner College of Business. Amber's current projects include professional and business development, record sealing clinics, entrepreneurship training for reentry, as well as small and farm business assistance. **Contact:** atwitty@centralstate.edu

HELPING OHIOANS FLOURISH IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

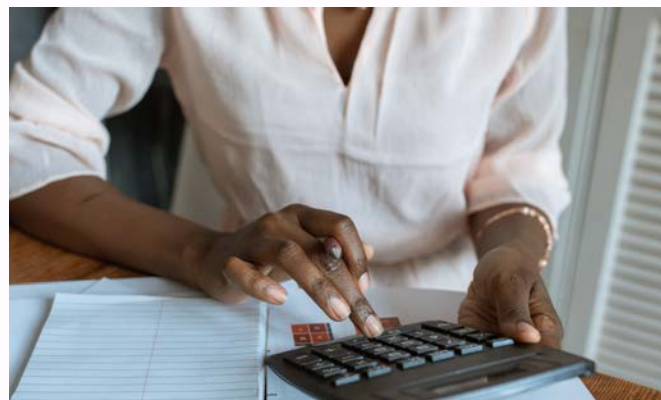
CED has a variety of programs to help your business, farm, community, or career flourish. Here is a sample of what we offer in-person or on-line.

Supporting Small and Farm Business Development

- Ready, Set, Grow! (small business development)
- RSG! Entrepreneur Toolkit (business model canvass)
- RSG! Agriculture (small farm development)
- PRiMR Disaster Preparation (for businesses)
- Build Your Brand (for farms and businesses)
- Entre to Entrepreneurship (for returning citizens)

Catalyzing Personal & Professional Development

- Just a Paycheck Away (for family stability)
- Online High School Equivalence (GED) preparation
- A Step Up (job readiness series)
- A Fresh Start (record sealing clinics)



Building Communities

- Resilient Communities (capacity building series for neighborhoods and rural towns)
- Build Your Brand (community asset mapping)

To learn more about CED programming, please visit our webpage at: [Extension - Central State University](#) or contact one of the CED Extension Educators directly