

Stronger Economies Together

Strategies for Building New Economic Opportunities



Action Teams and Ripple Effects

Small Business Team

(merging entrepreneur support, business retention and expansion)

- Engaged in writing the job description for the RMAP technical assistance position
- Writing and creating the concept of the TEDD Hot Spot, applying for a USDA-RBEG grant. This concept is already gaining traction with the business community

Funds available to support this work:

- \$100,000 USDA Rural Microenterprise Assistance Program, technical assistance for business retention, expansion and start-ups
- \$6.5 mil Revolving loan funds, including USDA-IRP, RMAP, EDA, CDBG
- \$56,000 WSDA: "Enhancing Specialty Crop Producer Profitability" supporting value-added agriculture (Stevens County portion)
- \$12,500 WSU CAHNRS Internal Grant: "Ready, Set, Launch a Business" retention, expansion and start-ups (Stevens County portion)

Community Partners:

- Chewelah Business Development Center
- Colville Horizons: Entrepreneur Resource Conference
- SCORE volunteer with TEDD

Tourism Team

- Developing a regional website in partnership with Kettle Falls Horizons and NEWSTART
- Establishing and completing their 501 (c) 3 nonprofit corporation
- TEDD is going to fund a 1/2-time support position

Community Partners:

- NEWSTART - Northeast Washington Regional Tourism
- Kettle Falls Horizons (Community Action Group)

Value-added Agriculture Team

- Choosing to meet monthly at the WSU Extension office to discuss issues and opportunities
- Specialty Crop Grant steering committee established
- A team of berry producers (strawberries, blueberries, blackberries and raspberries) are exploring the idea of establishing a cooperative
- A group from the Chewelah Farmers Market is exploring USDA and WSDA funding for a flash-freeze/processing facility
- WSU Stevens County Extension to hire a part-time ag educator to focus on expanding economic development opportunities, monitor communication and streamline coordination.

Funds available to support this work:

- \$100,000 USDA Rural Microenterprise Assistance Program, technical assistance for business retention, expansion and start-ups
- \$400,000 Revolving loan fund, including farm and ranch businesses
- \$56,000 WSDA: "Enhancing Specialty Crop Producer Profitability" supporting value-added agriculture (Stevens County portion)
- \$12,500 WSU CAHNRS Internal Grant: "Ready, Set, Launch a Business" retention, expansion and start-ups (Stevens County portion)

Community Partners:

- Community Agriculture Development Center
- Farmers Markets (4)

Broadband Team

- Local Tech Planning Team to 1) promote and support five community forums to determine gaps in access and, 2) explore an early digital literacy program with Head Start families
- Tech Expo set for May 10 to help businesses identify upcoming challenges and opportunities in adoption
- They will help Springdale Computer Center is working to establish a nonprofit to manage this valuable resource for the residents (pop. 285) with an additional goal of increasing usage of the center.

Funds available to support this work:

- \$48,224 WA State Dept. of Commerce Broadband Grant for Local Technology Planning for Broadband Infrastructure