



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Imperial Valley Community Prosperity Virtual Summit

Collaborative Partnership Opportunities
with local, county, state, and regional stakeholders

Thursday, September 24, 2020

- 9:00 A.M. Welcome and About the Host
by Dr. Todd Finnell (Imperial County Superintendent of Schools, ICOE)
- 9:10 A.M. Greetings and Remarks
by Mike Beatty (Director, USDA-OPPE)
- Snapshots by California State Food and Agriculture Council – SFAC
- Kim Dolbow Vann (California State Director, USDA-RD)
 - Carlos Suarez (California State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS)
 - Connie Conway (California State Executive Director, USDA-FSA)
- 9:45 A.M. USDA-FNS Farm to School Grant Program
by Kelly Blondin (Senior Program Specialist, Western Region)
- 10:00 A.M. USDA-AMS Farmers Market Promotion Program
by Dewell Paez-Delgado (Team Lead, Grants Management)
- 10:15 A.M. Pick-Up Distributor through USDA's Farmers to Families Food Box Program
Imperial Valley Food Bank
by Sara Griffen (Executive Director)
- 10:25 A.M. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources
Imperial County Cooperative Extension & FARM SMART
by Dr. Yu Meng (Youth, Family, and Community Advisor)
- 10:35 A.M. Federal Agencies: SBA/EDA/HUD Programs, Services, and Resources
- U.S. Small Business Administration
by Jamye Pritchett Solorzano (Economic Development Specialist/Administrative Officer, District Office, SBA)
 - U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration
by Wilfred Marshall (Economic Development Representative, Regional Office, EDA)
 - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
by Collin Evenson (Program Analyst | Community Liaison, Field Office, HUD)
- 10:55 A.M. Collaborative Partnership Thinking & Community Prosperity
- SDSU-Imperial Valley
by Dr. Mark Wheeler (Associate Dean of Academic Affairs)
- Imperial Valley College
by Dr. Lennor Johnson (Vice President of Student Services & Equity)
- 11:15 A.M. Imperial County Workforce and Economic Development
by Priscilla Avendano López (Director)
- Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program
by Yessenia Partida (Strong Workforce Program Manager)
- 11:35 A.M. Overview of K-12, 2-Year, and 4-Year USDA-NIFA Pipeline Grants
by Dr. Irma Lawrence (National Program Leader, USDA-NIFA)

- USDA-NIFA Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Fields Grants Program (WAMS)
- USDA-NIFA HSI Education Grants Program
- USDA-NIFA Secondary Education, Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Agriculture in the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants Program (SPECAC)
- USDA-NIFA Higher Education Challenge Grants Program (HEC)
- USDA-NIFA Food and Agriculture Service Learning Grants Program
- USDA-NIFA Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Grants Program (MSP)

11:50 A.M. Collaborative Partnership Opportunities and Next Steps

12:00 P.M. Closing and Adjourn

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USDA's Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE) develops and maintains partnerships focused on solutions to challenges facing rural and underserved communities in the United States, and connects those communities to the education, tools, and resources available to them through U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) programs and initiatives.

The Community Prosperity Training Summit is an event designed to foster hope and opportunity, asset building, and wealth creation in communities with a bottom-up locally driven effort that leverage best practices, models, existing resources, programs and initiatives to empower and assist communities in addressing specific needs and capacity-building opportunities. The summit will convene local, state, federal, Hispanic Serving Institutions, land-grant colleges and universities, non-profit organizations, faith-based leaders, veterans, youth organizations, and other strategic partners to:

- Assist communities in the development of local prosperity councils, create wealth and build assets
- Illustrate successful practices for developing key partnerships
- Connect attendees to USDA and other relevant federal programs
- Model success for communities and future generations of communities

This convening event aligns with the framework of the Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Report:

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/rural-prosperity-report.pdf>