



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

## **Local Government Matters**

A Community and Economic Development Program of University of Illinois Extension

### **Local Government Information & Education Network (LGIEN)**

<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/lgien/>  
**Summer 2010**

#### **ILLINOIS COMMUNITIES RISING PLACE-BASED PATHWAYS TO FEDERAL RESOURCES**

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Illinois ResourceNet: *A Funding Access Initiative (IRN)* will convene its second annual full-day conference “**Illinois Communities Rising: Place-Based Pathways to Federal Resources**”, on **Thursday, September 16, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The conference will be held at the **UIC Forum located at 725 W Roosevelt Rd., Chicago, IL 60608**, on the corner of Halsted Street and Roosevelt Road.

After a successful conference in 2009, with more than 400 attendees, this year’s theme reflects IRN’s signature, place-based approach to capacity building in the federal grants arena. That approach holds that Illinois can best improve the flow of federal resources to organizations through continuous, cross-sector planning

and proposal building at the regional and community levels.

IRN’s has worked diligently with nonprofit organizations and local governments throughout the State of Illinois to submit 105 proposals for funding since its inception in 2008, and has helped to get \$6.1 million into the State in the form of awards to these groups. An additional, almost \$165 million is still pending award decisions.

In the course of two years, IRN has worked closely with experts from federal, state, and regional organizations who will be present at the conference for attendees to connect with on topics, such as successes and challenges that they have encountered in bridging planning and federal grants in place-based strategies.

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to engage trainers skilled in specific areas of grant development during the six breakout sessions.

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Topics for the sessions include:

### **Advantages of Continuous Proposal Building**

In this session participants will learn about new potential federal grant opportunities and the process of using one federal grant to lead to another in a process of continuous proposal development.

### **Developing a Proposal Building Team**

This workshop would help identify best practices in federal grant proposal project management including developing a work plan, and detail on a division of labor for your team including key roles, such as partnership broker, grant writer research/ demographics, budget development, program development, evaluation, and file management.

### **Data for Decision Maker: Using Census Data and Visualization to Tell a Story**

This session will explain how to access census information and use it to create maps and graphics to visualize the information being written about in proposal submissions.

### **Planning to Layer Federal Funding: Using Sustainable Practices to Apply for Funding**

This session will explain why comprehensive community planning should be an integral part of the federal funding process, and how to use a comprehensive plan and the sustainable practices built into a plan can help facilitate the continuous development of federal funding proposals.

### **Case Scenario: How Universities and Community Colleges Act as Moderators in the Federal Grant Process**

This session will focus on how an organization can develop a working relationship that shares ideas, staff and resources to foster effective strategic plans and grant management. Participants in this session will learn from a panel of grantees from community colleges and the University

relationship that shares ideas, staff and resources to foster effective strategic plans and grant management. Participants in this session will learn from a panel of grantees from community colleges and the University of Illinois at Chicago in Illinois about partnership and grant development.

### **Case Study: Finding Funding in Floods: Working with Local Communities to Develop Preventive Hazard Mitigation Plans**

In this session, a panel will discuss how local political officials, working mostly on a volunteer basis, have integrated grant development into their comprehensive plans to ensure funding for their proposed projects.

The conference trade fair proved to be one of the most sought out portions of last year's event. In response to our attendees multiple requests, we have extended the trade fair, at which federal and state agencies, intermediary organizations, and other groups with significant programs in capacity building presented at booths and interacted with participants.

After the conference, attendees will have access to a recording of the entire event. The conference fee of \$50 will cover entrance to all events, the resource packet, lunch, and refreshments. To register please visit Illinois ResourceNet's website, [www.illinoisresource.net](http://www.illinoisresource.net).

Illinois ResourceNet staff is able to provide more than 1,000 nonprofits and local government groups with timely information about IRN resources, services, free training sessions throughout the State of Illinois, and available grant opportunities through its eAccess Newsletter. Become a part of the network by subscribing to Illinois ResourceNet's eAccess Newsletter at [www.illinoisresource.net](http://www.illinoisresource.net).

The IRN technical assistance team from UIC and UIUC Extension works cohesively to provide high quality and up-to-date services relating to federal grants. Learn more about these services and register for the September 16<sup>th</sup> conference at [www.illinoisresource.net](http://www.illinoisresource.net).