



MCB Newsletter August 2023

Join us on August 16th, **at noon** for our next Lunch & Learn. Please use the link below to register.

[Zoom Link](#)

Our speaker this month is from the USDA. He will be discussing grant options and other resources from the USDA that may help with your communities needs.



**“Better Together” Fall Conference,
on October 23, 2023 at the Bradford
Research Center, Poehlmann Conference
Building, 4968 S. Rangeline Rd., Columbia,
MO 65201**

You can register now through this Eventbrite link:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/59th-annual-missouri-community-betterment-conference-tickets-690981011807?aff=oddtcreator>

Do you need lodging while in Columbia for the conference? We have a block of rooms reserved

at the Wingate by Wyndham hotel @ US 63 & Interstate 70. Ask for the MCB rate, only available through September 30. Use the link below...

[Wingate by Windham](#)

MCB Community Fair 2023

Has your community been working on a project that you would like to showcase? Do you have a project that isn't quite done yet, but would like to "crow" about? Do you have a project you would love some input on? Then you have come to the right place! MCB is once again featuring the Community Fair. Get your group together and plan your table or set up, for the upcoming Fair. Be ready to share your ideas and how your project came to be. This is an exciting celebration of community ideas, explanations and just general good fun for everyone who attends. Even if your project is not going to be featured in the judging process, we want to hear about it, so bring it on!

Community & Resource Fair Organizer:

Let Jeffrey Kormann know that you would like to include your community's project in the fair. You can contact Jeffrey at: 573-680-0682 or by email at: jeffreykormann76@gmail.com. Jeffrey will need to know who is participating in the fair in

order to have enough tables available for everyone.

See you all at the "Better Together"
Community & Resource Fair!
Diana Huckstep, 314-640-4420
Conference Chairperson

A few notes from our AWARDS Chairperson:



This year there are four communities participating with 16 projects. Houston, Salem, Lamar, and Versailles. There are two Youth groups, Lamar and Houston, with four projects. Judging reports will be due September 22, so trophies can be ordered. We also have Leadership nominations to decide on as well.

The MCB project books are ready to be judged on September 12, 13 or 14. In preparation of the Zoom judges visit, communities need to review the judging

score sheet so they will be ready to answer questions during your allotted two hour time frame. I will contact each team individually to schedule the visit.

Thank you to each that spent the hours necessary to make the project book a part of your historical records. Each community will need a representative at the conference in October when trophies will be awarded. If anyone would like to be a judge, please let me know. It will require only judging one community.

CONTACT ME:

Elaine Campbell decamcoinc@yahoo.com

GRANTS AVAILABLE

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Reminder: applications for the \$250 MCB grant are still open. Elaine has not received any applications yet and has extended the closing date. Check our website for the application.

MCB RESOURCE FAIR TAKING SHAPE!!

by Jeff Kormann

The 2023 Annual Conference will offer the opportunity for attendees to obtain information and discuss their community project ideas with representatives of several organizations which support the purpose and mission of the small and mid-sized communities in our state. As of June 30th, invitations to participate in the MCB Resource Fair were extended and several firm commitments have been received. Some of the agencies that are planning on attending our

Resource Fair are:

United States Department of Agriculture-Rural
Development
Department of Natural Resources-State Historic
Preservation
Midwest Assistance Program
Missouri Department of Economic Development-
Broadband Office
Missouri Arts Council



GREAT NEWS!

The revised MAP booklets will be printed and ready for the conference in October. Everyone who registers for the conference will receive a copy to take back to their community. The November Lunch and Learn will feature the highlights of this magnificent tool. Our goal in the updated version was to make it more user friendly. We think you will be pleased.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE:

<https://mocommunitybetterment.com/>

[New Website](#)

Thanks to one of Missouri's very own youth, from one of our MCB communities, Luke McCrea, for his work on this outstanding project! We hope our viewers find it as exciting as we do! Watch for more information to be added over the next few months, as it is under construction. Please check it out, and let us know what you think!



Are you interested in serving on our Youth Advisory Board? Or do you know a youth that should be? Use the link below to read about the position and complete the application.

[YAB Summary & Application](#)

Some requirements are to be 14-18 years old, a resident in a community that is a member of MCB, and be able to attend the Fall Conference in October.

The Better Together Silent Auction

Pictured below is an item that the Louisiana Community Betterment Association has donated for our Silent Auction on October 23rd at the Fall Conference. It has a retail value of \$140.00. If your community would also like to donate, please contact: [Kim Wright @ 660-853-8096](tel:660-853-8096).



Adopt-A-Rural Community Betterment Group

Underwrite a new community's participation fee for a year at one of the following levels:

\$100 (1-1,000 population)

\$250 (1,001-7,499 population)

\$400 (7,500+)

THANK YOU TO OUR NEWEST MCB DONORS:

CORPORATE Level:

Sydenstricker Nobbe Partners

Associated Electric

WE ALSO WANT TO THANK OUR 2022-23 SUPPORTER'S FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE BETTER TOGETHER FUND:

John Gulick, Delbert & Elaine Campbell,
Sarah Massengale, Jeffrey Korman,
Caledonia Community Foundation and
Associated Electric

Coming Soon...
MCB Better Together Fund

OUR GOAL

Making a difference for communities across Missouri today and **TOMORROW** by funding small community mini grants and administrative costs as well as investing for **TOMORROW!**

Look for an email with more information coming soon!

SCAN ME

You are invited to support the work of Missouri Community Betterment through a donation in support of the **MCB Better Together Fund**. **Up to 50% of donations made will be used for grants to local communities and ongoing administrative expenses, while at least 50% will be invested toward the long-term sustainability of the organization.** Your donation helps to support Missouri communities and celebrates the importance of the rural way of life for hundreds of small towns across the state of Missouri. The value of local history, traditions and small-town life make each Missouri community unique.

Missouri Community Betterment focuses on each rural community as a whole, providing education, information and assistance on everything from infrastructure to marketing and tourism.

Support our Better Together Fund today!

Please scan the QR Code above or use the link below.

[MCB Better Together Fund](#)

[Subscribe Here](#)

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to our
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Missouri Community Betterment appreciates all that each of you do for your community. We sincerely hope that you will be delighted, enlightened, and informed with all that we will offer at this year's Fall Conference.

Our Speaker's this year will be:

Laura Overholser: Missouri Arts Council
Trish Erzfeld: Tourism
Jacob Stotler: Missouri Preservation
and "Think First!" from the University of Missouri

We hope to see you there.

Did you know....

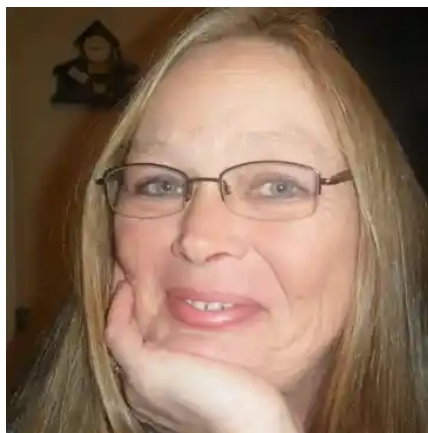
Elaine and Delbert Campbell had an exciting visit with Ms. Cricket Anderson and about twenty members from the Mt. View Community Betterment group recently. MCB goals and the MAP tool were both shared and reviewed. If your community would like to schedule a visit with one of our Board members, please email cecespinkmcb@gmail.com

FREE GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

Are you interested in a free, grant writing workshop? Heather Zoromski, the Executive Director of the DARR Foundation has a multi-segmented workshop available online.

[CHECK IT OUT!](#)

MEET OUR STAFF



This is our Executive Assistant, Cece Spink. She joined MCB in October of 2022. Currently, she is handling the newsletter, Lunch & Learn Marketing and our Facebook posts, etc. Contact her by email at cecespinkmcb@gmail.com if you have a question or comment on anything MCB related. She will do everything possible to meet your needs.

***Do you have a resource to share with
our MCB network?***

Email us at: mo.communitybetterment@gmail.com

Missouri Community Betterment | PO Box 842, Mexico, MO 65265

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