



625 W Pacific # 6
 Blackfoot, Idaho 83221
 (208) 782-3665
 www.idaholead.org

September 2009 Newsletter

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15 though October 15



According to the United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Hispanic population growth has helped to stem decades of smalltown population decline in some states; demographically and economically revitalizing many rural communities.

FINANCIAL LITERACY



The Ashton Food Bank invited LEAD to conduct a financial literacy class on family budgeting and smart consumerism. Ashton is a rural farming community in the upper eastern corner of Idaho near Yellowstone National Park. The food bank serves many Latino families employed in farming who experience long periods of unemployment during the harsh winter months. According to data from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Ashton has experienced continual economic hardship for over 30 years.

SMALL BUSINESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

LEAD also returned to Hailey and continued providing small business training to small businesses. Specific training and technical assistance was provided on creating legal documents in two party agreements for asset based transactions. Many participants expressed interest in different means of saving to meet long-term needs for retirement as well as covering education costs for their children.

LEAD is currently assisting four Latino independent business owners in Aberdeen and American Falls comply with business IRS regulations by establishing appropriate business accounting procedures. Seven individuals in Idaho Falls were provided information and counseling on initiating business plans as a precursor to investing in their business idea.

LEAD is partnering with La Posada in Twin Falls to develop financial literacy curriculum in the area of tax preparation for families and small businesses .

DIRECTOR AND BOARD ACTIVITIES



The National Association of Latino Asset Builders provided scholarships for LEAD to attend their annual conference held in Los Angeles California; *Creando Bienes, Construyendo Un Nuevo Futuro: Lead the Economic Recovery in Your Community*. Speakers included Tammy Treviño, USDA Administrator for the Rural Housing Service; Arturo Vargas, Executive Director, National Association of Latino Elected Officials; Adolfo Carrion, Director of the White House Office of Urban Affairs, and several other Latino elected officials. Staff and Board members received training in local and national asset building collaboratives, opening access to capital and financial services for Latino and immigrant communities, and comprehensive community development—linkages among housing, education, health, transportation, and workforce. The overall message from the conference is working to create self sustaining communities. Pictured are Tammy Treviño, USDA Administrator for the Rural Housing Service and Sonia Martinez, Partners for Prosperity.



Director: Jayson Meline



Sonia Martinez: Development, Partners for Prosperity



Tammy Trevino, USDA Administrator for the Rural Housing Service, Sonia Martinez, Partners for Prosperity

Executive Director: Jayson Meline Program Development: Sonia Martinez, Partners for Prosperity

Director: Jayson Meline Development: Sonia Martinez, Partners for Prosperity