

Scope of Work: Community Vitality



Program Evaluation Topic:
Community Vitality Program

Description of Program:

The mission and role of the South Dakota State University (SDSU) Extension office was expanded in 2004 by then Governor Rounds to include the new core program area of community development. The name of the program changed from community development to community vitality in 2017. The community vitality program identifies and builds on the skills, assets, and opportunities available to and inherent within those communities, with the goal of strengthening community sustainability and vibrancy. The program provides research-based knowledge and skills in the processes, tools, and techniques within four core areas:

- Leadership Development and Coaching
- Community Visioning, Strategic Planning, and Capacity Building
- Civic Engagement Training
- Entrepreneurship

Scope of Work:

Question 1: Do other states have a community vitality program and does the program operate within the mission of a land-grant university?

Objective: To determine if other regional states operate a similar community vitality program.

Task #1 Research other regional state operations of a community vitality program.

Task #2 Identify and compare the differences and/or similarities (goals, mission, activities, objectives, funding, etc.) of other state community vitality programs.

Objective: To determine if the community vitality program adheres to the federal guidelines within the cooperative extension service of a land-grant university.

Task #1 Research federal laws and guidelines pertaining to cooperative extension, land-grant universities, and the community vitality program.

Task #2 Examine how the community vitality program is operating in comparison to the federal laws and guidelines.

Question 2: How is the community vitality program measuring program outcomes and utilizing those results?

Objective: To determine the success of activities, programs, and services provided by the community vitality program by analyzing the goals and outcome measures.

Task #1 Identify the goals and outcomes measures of the community vitality program.

Task #2 Analyze the goals and outcome measures corresponding to each activity, program, or service.

Task #3 Determine the performance of the activities, programs, and services within the community vitality program.

Task #4 Analyze how the program utilizes outcome measurements to improve results.

Question 3:

Is the community vitality program performing activities, programs, and services which are similar or duplicative of other programs?

Objective: To determine if the community vitality program performs activities, programs, and services which are similar or duplicative of other state agencies, non-profits, or other entities operating in South Dakota?

Task #1 Analyze the activities, programs, and services of the community vitality program.

Task #2 Analyze the activities, programs, and services of other state agencies, non-profits, or other entities.

Task #3 Determine if the community vitality program is providing similar or duplicating activities, programs, and services as other entities.

Objective: To determine if the community vitality program costs are similar to those of other entities.

Task #1 Identify and analyze the budget, expenditures, and staffing of the activities, programs, and services within the community vitality program.

Task #2 Identify and analyze the budget, expenditures, and staffing of the activities, programs, and services of similar entities to the community vitality program.

Task #3 Compare the costs of similar activities, programs, and services performed by the community vitality program to other entities.