



**RURAL PROSPERITY NEBRASKA**

**2nd Quarter 2022**

**BY THE NUMBERS**

In addition to grocery stores, the Nebraska Cooperative Development Center helps communities create co-ops in multiple fields, from healthcare to investment to co-ops in the Omaha tribe. The grocery numbers are:

**23** Years NCDC has been operating

**13** Thousand Nebraskans served

**9** Grocery co-ops opened

**3** Co-ops opening in 2022

Visit NCDCfor more information about co-op programs.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**APR 27-28**

Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference, Columbus

**MAY 4**

Home healthcare co-op webinar series begins.

**MAY 10-12**

AMPLIFY Engagement Conference, Lincoln

**MAY 24-25**

Rural Fellowship program begins across Nebraska

**JUN 23**

NACO Institute of Excellence begins, [nacone.org](http://nacone.org)

**FEATURED PROGRAM**

**ECAP**

Through a series of surveys, town meetings, and the creation and execution of locally-designed projects, the Entrepreneurial Communities Activation Process program helps rural Nebraska communities revitalize their towns through entrepreneurship and business development.



**VALLEY FOODS CO-OP  
LYNCH, NEB.**

According to the USDA, a "food desert" is any rural community more than 10 miles from its nearest food retailer. In early 2020, Lynch became a food desert when its only grocery store closed. In a community where the closest stoplight is 45 miles away, locals didn't want grocery shopping to become a road trip. So they decided to make some changes.

**"It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes a community to raise a grocery store."**



**MENTORING**

Professor Daniela Manhani Mattos mentors and advises students on their thesis work, which focuses on community improvement, development, and outreach.



**LEADERSHIP**

Leading Locally is a community-driven program that works with Nebraska residents to create an outline that matches their goals on leadership development.

**FEATURED PHOTOGRAPH**



At the Rural Prosperity Nebraska retreat, Extension educators and directors identified 172 different communities throughout the state where they have lived, worked, and served.

**HOW HAS RPN HELPED YOUR COMMUNITY?  
HOW CAN RPN HELP YOUR COMMUNITY?**

Contact our Communications Team [ruralprosperityne@unl.edu](mailto:ruralprosperityne@unl.edu)