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.

Valley Foods Co-op
Lynch, Neb.

“Live Better in Nebraska”

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

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.

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

Sign up for our quarterly newsletter at ruralprosperityne.unl.edu

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