



MEDA NEWS FOR OCTOBER 2014

MEDA FALL CONFERENCE

“MEDA Fall Conference 2014: Harvesting Partnerships across Montana” will be held October 27th and 28th, in Helena, at the Great Northern Hotel Helena. Agenda topics include: A Briefing from the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, Getting the Most out of MEDA Online, Harvesting Federal Partnerships, Five Heads are Better than One, New Models and Business Success with Incumbent Worker Training, Tours, Candidate Forum, Montana’s Legislative Leadership Speaks, and Preparing for the 64th Montana Legislative Session. The latest agenda and registration is available on [MEDA’s website](#). Special thanks to the MEDA Fall Conference Agenda Committee: Chris Shove, Chair; Roger Hopkins, Craig Erickson, Angie Nelson, Luke Walawander, Mike Coryell and Tracy McIntyre.



Register before October 20th to save \$\$\$\$!

MAIN STREET MONTANA PROJECT KIN MEETINGS

The next stage of the Main Street Montana Project involves Key Industry Network (KIN) meetings. Below is a schedule for pending meetings; the public is invited to listen in.

Food & Agriculture KIN Meeting

Tuesday, October 7 – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Montana Department of Commerce, Second Floor Conference Room
301 S. Park Ave., Helena

Tourism KIN

Tuesday, October 14, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Department of Commerce, Second Floor Conference Room

Telecommunications & Interconnectivity KIN

Thursday, October 16 -- 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Location in Helena TBD

Innovation & Technology KIN

Wednesday, October 29, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Location TBD

“MEDA Rick Jones Memorial Scholarship” Fall Round [Now Open!](#)

For further information, including the lists of KIN memberships, check www.mainstreetmontanaproject.com

MEDA RESOURCE TEAM ASSESSMENTS UPDATE

Big Timber – October 7th and 8th

The flyers are up all over town, the local leadership is ready, and the team will be prepped on what to expect on Thursday, October 2nd, at 2:00pm. If you would like to listen in on the call and learn what a Resource Team is all about, please dial 712.432.0175 pin 217279 and join us. The Big Timber

Resource Team is: Gloria Hawkins, USDA/RD; Michael Dann, USDA/RD, Karyl Tobel, MDOC; Tara Mastel, Jefferson Local Development Corp.; Billie Lee, Lake County Community Development Corp.; and Stuart Leidner, Prospera Business Network. [Check out more information on our website.](#)

Malta/Phillips County – October 21st and 22nd

So far we have two team members for Malta’s Resource Team Assessment including Michael Dann, USDA/RD and Debra Demarias, MDOC. If you are interested in serving on this team please email [Gloria](#).

Celebrate Lockwood!

After a year of hard work, Lockwood is ready to celebrate progress the community has made since the MEDA Resource Team visit. Lockwood will hold its celebration the evening of October 14th. Along with brief update reports from each working group, display tables to showcase progress, refreshments and door prizes will be offered. Lockwood’s local leadership is pushing to have 350 people in attendance.

MEDA BOARD UPDATE

The next MEDA Board Meeting will be held Monday night, October 27th, during the MEDA Fall Conference. The board meeting will take place at the Silver Star, Governor’s Room, 833 Great Northern Blvd, Helena, MT, beginning at 6:30pm. Reservations are required.

MEDA WORKING GROUPS

MEDA Transportation Working Group –Kathie Bailey, Chair, facilitated a meeting on September 29th with Director Tooley and key Montana Department of Transportation staff to discuss economic development news, issues, and program updates. Minutes will be available and posted on the MEDA website.

MEDA Brownfields Working Group – Katharine Thompson led a meeting on September 9th with the MEDA Brownfields Working Group. MBAC provided an update on the “malfunction junction” Brownfields project and Chris Cerquone shared information regarding potential legislative changes for brownfield-type issues. This working group plans to gather during the MEDA conference if time allows.

MONTANA BEAR PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- **Lunch and Learn Webinars: The second Lunch and Learn Webinar will take place Wednesday, October 15th at Noon.** There were about 20 participants for the first webinar; feedback was very positive. These sessions will help users maximize the BEAR database and keep apprised of the continual updates that are being made to it. In addition, these lunch and learn sessions give ExecutivePulse staff the opportunity to listen and learn from you—what’s working and what’s not.

Date/All times at Noon	Webinar Info	Topic
Wednesday October 15 th Noon	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/727564525 Use your microphone and speakers (VoIP) Or, call in using your telephone. Dial +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 727-564-525 Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting Meeting ID: 727-564-525	Explore day-to-day use of the BEAR platform for economic, workforce and community development needs. This session with cover business retention functionality and much more.
Wednesday November 19 th Noon	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/893913565 Use your microphone and speakers (VoIP) Or, call in using your telephone.	Reports and Analytics. This session will focus on getting reports and analytics out of the BEAR database. Review both user-

	Dial +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 893-913-565 Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting Meeting ID: 893-913-565	defined and custom reports for a variety of purposes. You'll see how to easily generate these reports and then export, print, e-mail and even map them.
Wednesday December 17 th Noon	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/737111317 Use your microphone and speakers (VoIP) Or, call in using your telephone. Dial +1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 737-111-317 Audio PIN: Shown after joining the meeting Meeting ID: 737-111-317	This session will focus on advanced group and communication features in the BEAR platform. You'll learn how to create groups and communicate with these groups efficiently using integrated system functions.

- **BEAR Training Held in Hamilton** (pictured below)



Vickie Steele, Bitterroot Job Service, organized an in-depth BEAR Team Training on September 19th, at the Bitterroot Job Service Conference Room. The training provided program details, hands-on worksheets, and other information to build and/or strengthen a BEAR Team.

- **IWT:** Chris Wilhelm reported on September 19: *To date we have formally granted \$212,657 statewide on 89 applications, and have \$39,478 in the pipeline. Factoring in both granted and pipeline applications, we have \$289,361, or 53% remaining available.* Remember new forms must be used for each application and are available at <http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/service/iwtagents.asp>
- **Data Highlights for September**
 - There were 18 BEAR Retention Visits held in September.
 - Counties with retention visits: Flathead – 3, Gallatin – 5, Missoula – 3, Park – 2, Butte/Silver Bow – 2, and Stillwater County - 2.
 - Action Items: The following numbers reflect Action Items that were conducted for businesses across Montana, meaning a Bear Team member made a referral to assist a business. If the Action Item was completed, meaning the referral was able to contact the business and provide assistance, the Action Item becomes closed.

Location	Action Item Opened	Action Item Closed
Deer Lodge County	1	--
Flathead County	1	--
Gallatin County	25	20
Missoula	1	1
Park County	7	5

- **September Outreach Specialist Visits and Business Updates**
The following BEAR Team members completed Business Retention Surveys and/or update reports for the businesses they have contacted.

Warren Vaughan - 11	Mike Jackson - 5	Mike Williams - 2
Caitlin Brandl - 2	Deborah Derrick Gass - 1	Katie Weaver - 1
Kristin Rutten - 1	Denise Rabe - 1	Kim Morisaki - 1
Lynn Kinnaman - 1	Meagan Lannan - 1	Kathy Wojick - 1

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- [Check these out! New Community Friendly Grants](#) *Extension Community Resources Program weblink.* Thanks to David Young, Professor, Community Resource Specialist Extension Service & College of Nursing, MSU, for providing this information.
- **Request for Applications released for Technical Assistance Scholarship Program.** Earlier this year, we launched the Technical Assistance Scholarship Program (TASP). TASP is designed to bring significant technical assistance (TA) within reach of communities working to reclaim neighborhoods from vacancy and abandonment, while piloting new solutions to advance the field as a whole. [Download the Request for Applications.](#)
- **GRANTSTATION:** [Click here to read the entire newsletter](#) or click on the section headings for specific grant opportunities and important announcements. Email [MEDA](#) for the username and password.

OPPORTUNITIES AND TOOLS FOR YOU Interested in sharpening your professional skills as an economic and community development practitioner? Looking for new tools to place in your economic development tool box? Check these out.

- **2014 CDFA National Development Finance Summit** agenda and schedule of events. Check out the full agenda online, and register today to take advantage of all the incredible education and networking opportunities. Join us November 18-21 in Scottsdale, AZ for a can't miss conference. The **2014 CDFA National Development Finance Summit** will cover bonds, TIF, special assessment, tax credits, rural financing, EB-5, P3, crowdfunding, and many more hot topics.
- **Heartland Center Presents: Community Capitals Framework Originators to Keynote Institute Register Today!** Applications of the Community Capitals Framework in Natural Resource Planning, the Environment and Community Vitality. Date: November 5-7, 2014; Lincoln, Nebraska
- **SBIR/STTR Air Force Roadshow - Sept 22nd**
Montana Technology Innovation Partnership Program (MTIP) and MSU TechLink are pleased to announce that David Sikora, Program Manager for the Air Force SBIR/STTR Program, will be making a personal visit to the Rocky Mountain West with a stop in Bozeman on Monday, Sept 22nd. Please mark your calendars - 8am - 12:30pm in the WTI/MMEC Conference Room at 2310 University Way, Building 2 (from Kagy, take 7th Ave. south past the stadium). During his visit, David will provide overviews of the DoD and Air Force SBIR/STTR programs, and will be available to answer your questions. He will also meet individually for one-on-one consultation sessions. Please contact Audrey Wooding, MTIP Program Manager, to sign up for one-on-one sessions and general RSVP at awooding@mt.gov or [406-994-3885](tel:406-994-3885).