SEE YOU IN RED LODGE! MONTANA SUPERHEROES – BUILDING OUR COMMUNITIES
Can you believe it? We have almost hit 100 for our MEDA Fall Conference. The conference, hosted by Beartooth RC&D, will take place October 5th – 6th, Old Roosevelt School, Red Lodge, MT. The agenda highlights success stories and tools that are used by Montana Superheroes working in the Economic Development arena. See you in Red Lodge to get powered up!

EDA CEDS TRAINING – OCTOBER 4TH IN BILLINGS
While on your way to the MEDA Conference, take in the EDA CEDS Training to learn of the new guidelines in preparing your Community Economic Development Strategy document. Turn your ideas into action.

FEATURED MDOC PROGRAM AND PARTNERS
It is hoped you can join us in Red Lodge for the IgniteMontana! segment and learn how MT Dept of Commerce programs have been used to build Montana businesses.
MEDA BOARD AT WORK
The MEDA Board met on September 26th for a one item agenda: preparing for the 2019 Legislative Session. An update will be given by Rick Edwards, Legislative Chair, during the MEDA Fall Conference, in Red Lodge. The board will also meet the evening of October 5th, for a working dinner, in Red Lodge. Please contact Gloria if you wish to attend.

MEDA WORKING GROUPS UPDATE
- MEDA RLF Working Group – If you work with Revolving Loan Funds you will want to participate in this working group as participants discuss, learn and share their day-to-day tasks with RLFs. The next RLF meeting is set for December 19th.

- MEDA Resource Team Assessment Working Group – The next meeting will be October 12th at 9am. An update will be provided on the three state grant that is reviewing and improving Resource Team Assessments.

- CRDC/EDD Working Group – Many from this working group will be attending the EDA CEDS training in Billings, October 4th.

MEDA Rick Jones Memorial Scholarship Update
Congratulations! Anne Boothe and the Scholarship Committee announced the following winners for the Third Quarter Round: Cooper Fisher, BLDC and Nicole Rush, Missoula Economic Partnership. Fourth Quarter applications are now being accepted. Deadline: October 23rd. For more information visit: Criteria and Application

MEDA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
MEDA membership stands at 230. Individuals who have never attended a MEDA Conference will receive special nametags so that networking opportunities can begin.

MEDA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
The MEDA Membership Committee met on September 28th. The committee is preparing a membership survey to obtain feedback on how to improve the relevancy of each MEDA membership.

TOOLS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU
Check out the information below to learn of new tools and opportunities for you as you work in the field of Economic Development.
Nonprofit Administration Online Program

Presentation Slides from NADO’s Annual Training Conference Now Available for Download
The slides from presentations at this year’s Annual Training Conference in Anchorage, AK are now available for download. Visit the conference page at: https://www.nado.org/events/2017-annual-training-conference/, then click on the “Agenda and Presentations” tab on the left side of the screen. Each speaker’s presentation is hyperlinked and housed on Slideshare where they are available for viewing and download. Questions? Contact Brett Schwartz at bschwartz@nado.org.

Tools Available from EDA Assisting Communities Impacted by Recent Disasters
The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) provides resources to communities involved in disaster response and recovery under the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF). Under the framework, EDA leads the Economic Recovery Support Function which allows the agency to coordinate disaster recovery planning and project implementation with partners including Economic Development Districts (EDDs), University Centers, and institutes of higher education. Click here to access EDA-supported disaster recovery tools and resources.

Technical Assistance to Brownfields Providers to Host Webinar on Brownfields Grants Application
Join the nation’s top brownfields experts for a webinar on October 17 at 2:00 pm E.T. to learn key tricks of the trade as you prepare your Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 grant applications. Hosted by the Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR), NALGEP, the KSU Technical Assistance to Brownfields
Communities Program, and the New Jersey Institute of Technology, the webinar will focus on: how to maximize proposal points and avoid common mistakes while preparing your application; what’s new with the FY 2018 grant guidelines; the importance of building community support for your application; special tips for disadvantaged and small/rural communities; and more. Click here to learn more and register.

- New Resources Available to Montana Businesses and Communities Impacted by Wildfires

- There is great information about grant writing being offered at the Grant Writing Bootcamp coming to GLASGOW October 12th and may be beneficial to YOUR business or organization! Only 17 seats remaining for this select course. Visit www.growvalleycounty.com to find a registration form. Contact TeAra Bilbruck, Two Rivers Economic Growth

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

⇒ Check out the updated website from MSU Extension and their great list of grants!
   http://msucommunityresources.org/GrantOpportunities.html

⇒ USDA Community Development Grants

⇒ Ag Development Council extends GTA program deadline
   The Agriculture Development Council met last week and voted to extend the deadline for the popular Growth Through Agriculture (GTA) program, from September 15, 2017 to November 15, 2017. The deadline was extended to allow more time for producers to apply for funding.

⇒ Applications Open to Brownfields Cleanup Grant Program
   On September 19, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published a Request for Proposals (RFP) announcing the availability of Brownfields Cleanup grants. Under the program, funds are available for cleanup-related work at brownfields sites under ownership by the grant applicant. Either multiple or individual cleanup sites may be included in one application and each proposal may request up to $200,000. Applicants may submit up to three proposals. Applications are due November 19. Click here for more details.

⇒ MEDA is a member of GrantStation. Email gloria if you would like the username and password.