

RCDG Grant Reporting

Fiscal Year 2004 (745890)

Grantee Ohio Cooperative Development Center (OSU Research Foundation)

Report for Period Ending September 30, 2005

Check one: **Semiannual Report** Final Report

SUMMARY OF GRANT ACTIVITIES

Technical Assistance Projects Initiated:

- Attended a meeting with the officers of Hickory Ridge, a group of artists and orchardists in Morgan County, to talk about cooperative purchase of advertising. Reviewed with the group the different business models and discussed their real need for a formal model in their current arrangement. Group decided that a formal model would not be relevant given the current arrangement and services they are performing together, but additional activities in the future might constitute a business organization to mitigate the risk.

Technical Assistance Projects Completed or Terminated:

- Bristol Village/ Senior Housing: Economic and Social Impact study completed
- Farm Supply Cooperative Case Study
- Buckeye Meat Goat Producers Association
- Northeast Ohio Foodshed Network

Technical Assistance Reports Issued:

Surveys Conducted:

Cooperatives Incorporated:

- North Church Construction Cooperative

Training Seminars or Activities Conducted:

- Attended the National Society of Accountants for Cooperatives (NSAC) in Indiana. OCDC staff made a presentation along with the Kentucky Center for Cooperative Development and the Indiana Cooperative Development Center on the services available for cooperatives from the cooperative development centers.

Other Significant Activities:

- Ohio River Valley Farm Marketing Conference: Organized a 3 state marketing conference that brought together over 140 producers from 7 states to educate them on various marketing tools and outlets. These producers are looking at adding value to their products through some value-added process.
- Cooperation Works!/ Woodworks: Attended the Annual meeting for Cooperation Works, Woodworks and National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) in Washington DC. Center personnel participated in planning activities for the associations for the coming year and met with state congressional staff to gain support for the work OCDC is doing within Ohio.

Activities Benefiting Minorities This Reporting Period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY Ohio Premium Pine Cooperative

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met** Not Met

Obtain 2 additional members for the cooperative.

Have 3 sales planned for the coming fall

Complete the USDA VAPG grant for value-added pine opportunities.

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Assisted the co-op in establishing a tracking system for the value-added grant monies and match so that the reimbursement process is streamlined for the Treasurer.

Work accomplished by center staff 100 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period:

Obtain additional members for the cooperative.

Rough draft of business plan completed using data from USDA VAPG

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY _____ Farm Supply Cooperative Case Study _____

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Complete case study for Mid America Cooperative Council for use in director training programs.

Minor corrections and comments included and finalized

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Presented overview of study to the Mid America Council Board of Directors

Work accomplished by center staff 100 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period:

None

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY _____ Ohio Pro Beef Alliance _____

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Get training initiated and in process with the Board

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Assisted the cooperative in updating Articles and By-Laws to change the place of business of the cooperative. Helped develop a membership recruitment brochure and printed them for distribution at the Farm Science review in September.

Work accomplished by center staff 100 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period:

Start training in March 2006 and continue for 4 monthly Board meetings.

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY Buckeye Meat Goat Producers Association

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Hold a strategic planning session with the membership of the association to determine the appropriate structure and next steps for the future.

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Assisting the Association in separating from the Task Force, mostly Extension professionals, to move the Association forward.

Work accomplished by center staff 100 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

The Association is unresponsive and does not want to address their issues. The project has been terminated until the officers decide that they want to move their Association forward. They have not met in over 6 months to talk about the Association activities for its members.

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period: *None*

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY American Berry Cooperative

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Utilize berry packs and complete a taste panel to determine the marketability of the product to children and elderly people.

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Work accomplished by center staff 100 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

The timing of the completion of the packaging was at the very end of the school year. Taste panels for youth had to be delayed until the start of school in August. Taste panels will be completed in October.

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period:

Complete taste panels for product.

Develop marketing strategy for highly rated products.

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY Northeast Ohio Foodshed Network

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Continue to develop the relationships.

Move towards a more organized structure to deliver locally produced foods to willing buyers.

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Work accomplished by center staff 50 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period: *None*

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY North Church Construction Cooperative

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Incorporated the cooperative with SOS

Work accomplished by center staff 50 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period:

Develop brochures and marketing information pieces

Establish an accounting system using Quickbooks

Confirm 3 contracts for construction projects

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY Bexley Natural Market

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Making the site operational and increasing sales through online orders.

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Work accomplished by center staff 30 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Some technical issues have prevented the cooperative from being bale to take orders online, the website has all the items listed but are still working out the payment issues.

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period:

Complete marketing plan and materials for increasing online ordering through site.

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:

PROJECT/ACTIVITY OCDC Seed Monies Program

This Reporting Period:

Established objectives for this quarter: **Met Not Met**

Award grants to up to 5 groups/ cooperatives that will provide financial assistance.

Other significant work accomplished for the project this reporting period:

Assisted groups in preparing good applications for the OCDC Grant Advisory Committee to review.

Work accomplished by center staff 100 %

Work accomplished through contracted service:

Contractor Name _____ %

Reason(s) why established objectives (if any) not met:

Any problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will affect attainment of overall project objectives during established time period:

Next Reporting Period:

Established objectives for next reporting period:

Continue to provide good applications for the Committee to review and fund up to 5 groups biannually.

Planned actions to meet unmet objectives from this reporting period:
