



## Youth, Family, Community

PHOTO: USDA

# Supporting local communities and industries

*In several states, land-grant universities have developed initiatives and programs for enhancing local businesses and communities. Grant funding has helped some institutions create and expand jobs and foster rural development, contributing to economic impact.*

### Successful examples include:

- Within 10 years of operation, the Community and Economic Development Initiative of **Kentucky** (CEDIK) has received \$15.2 million in competitive grant funding and reinvested \$1.53 million in communities across the state. Its efforts have created, retained or expanded 3,403 jobs and 1,229 businesses. Additionally, it has engaged 6,270 people in programs who have obtained new leadership roles and opportunities because of their participation. During COVID-19 shutdowns, CEDIK leveraged \$700,000 from organizations and foundations for emergency grant funding that assisted more than 240 Kentucky small businesses and farmers who were economically impacted by the pandemic.
- In **Indiana**, Purdue Extension helped secure a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Economic Development Innovation grant to foster rural development in nine communities in the state's North Central and Southern regions. For one of those projects, Purdue Extension collaborated with the School of Nursing, the Center for Community and Environmental Design, and the Turtle Mountain Band of the Chippewa in North Dakota to create a detailed plan for a substance use disorder recovery center that is now underway. The center will integrate a 100-acre campus with a new central facility, recovery residences, courses, equine therapy stables, a sweat lodge, a medicinal garden and walking trails for the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians community.
- Extension educators in **Connecticut** promote resilient coastal communities and economies in the state. They formed an interdisciplinary team and coordinated the Connecticut Environmental Action Day to inspire middle school students to take active roles in addressing environmental and natural resource issues related to climate change. In 2020, multiple 4-H members reported that they applied their action plan in their home and community. More than 500 students were reached through the Climate Change Challenge. All students pledged to take one or more actions to improve the environment.

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## [www.landgrantimpacts.org](http://www.landgrantimpacts.org)

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- In **Ohio**, wine grapes are grown on more than 1,500 acres, and the wine grape industry generates more than \$1.3 billion in economic impact. Researchers at Ohio State University provide educational programming and one-on-one consultations to solve many of the challenges faced by new and veteran industry members. In 2020, the team delivered 15 workshops, conducted 121 site consultations, and produced numerous blog posts, newsletters, factsheets, and guides. These documents were visited more than 8,500 times in 2020. The team also co-organized the Ohio Grape and Wine Conference, which had record-setting online and in-person attendance. The team also oversaw Vineyard Expansion Assistance Program evaluations for many applicants. Fourteen of those received funding, resulting in planting for 28 new vineyard acres across Ohio. This new vineyard acreage will result in contributing an estimated \$615,000 to the economy.