

EARN A DEGREE WHILE WORKING IN RURAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Rural Development Leadership Network is a national multicultural organization supporting community-based development in poor rural areas.

The Program - Duration: 18-36 months. Demanding curriculum includes: Field Project implementation, related independent study, RDLN Rural Development Institute (4 1/2 weeks) for intensive study, exchange and networking. Qualified participants may earn a certificate or master's degree. (We are willing to work with schools for bachelor's or PhD also.) Each RDLN Leader works with the guidance of a Field Advisor and Study Advisors. Each has a Sponsoring Organization, which serves as an umbrella for the Field Project and contributes financially to RDLN. The amount required is \$7,500 (certificate)-\$30,000 (M.A. option).



Leaders at Orientation for the RDLN Rural Development Institute at the University of California at Davis



RDLN Leader Theresa Isley of North Carolina on field trip to visit farmworkers during RDLN Institute

Application Procedure - Write to RDLN for an application, to include: autobiographical essay describing previous work in rural community development, outline of proposed RDLN Field Project and study program, resumé, other background material, three letters of recommendation. Telephone interviews of finalists.

Sponsoring Organizations: Write to RDLN for information and agreement form. You will be asked to commit programmatic, financial, and logistical support for the RDLN Leader you sponsor.

Criteria For Selection - 1) Proven dedication to community-based rural community development, 2) For master's degree, B.A. degree. 3) Commitment to building relationships with other rural people and communities, 4) Willingness to report regularly to RDLN, 5) Ability to work cooperatively and in self-directed, self-motivated way, 6) Presentation of a feasible and valuable RDLN Community Development Project, 7) Sponsorship by an organization, which can make the required programmatic and financial contribution to RDLN.

Board of Directors: Moises Loza, Housing Assistance Council (DC); The Hon. Dr. Unita Blackwell, former Mayor, Mayersville, MS; Anita LaRan, Sangre de Cristo Livestock Growers Association, Collaborative Visions (NM); Twila Martin-Kekahbah, United Tribes Technical College (ND); Shirley Sherrod, SWGA Project (GA); G. David Singleton, Applied Development Economics (CA); Mily Trevino-Sauceda, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas (CA); John Zippert, Federation of Southern Cooperatives (AL).

Apply ASAP - The next Institute is scheduled for Spring 2021. Telephone interview, academic transcripts required. While your application is being processed, you may continue identifying funds for the Sponsoring Organization contribution. The RDLN Rural Development Institute is held approximately every other year.