

October 18 & 19, 2016

U.S. Department of the Treasury and The States of West Virginia, Pennsylvania,
Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia present:
**Rural Entrepreneurship: A Conversation with Practitioners of the Entrepreneurial Ecosystem
to discuss the state of entrepreneurship in our local rural communities**

**Robert H. Mollohan Research Center
1-79 Technology Park
1000 Galliher Drive
Fairmont, WV, 26554**

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

11:30 - 12:00 Registration

12:00 - 12:45 Lunch: Welcome and Opening Remarks

David Rixter, Outreach Manager, U.S. Department of the Treasury (moderator)

Jeff Stout, Director, U.S. Department of the Treasury

Bringing ARC's Mission to Life in Rural Appalachia: Ray Daffner

Appalachian Regional Commission's mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia. The conference's opening session will focus on how we live up to that mission. What do ARC alternates, program managers, local development districts, and the co-chairs — the four branches of ARC's family tree — identify as the key ingredients for making strong and sustainable investments across the Region? What are replicable models and ideas? What lessons should we keep in mind as we continue to grow Appalachia's future?

**1:00 - 1:30 Understanding the Small Business Landscape
Jen Giovannitti, Regional Community Development Manager
Federal Reserve Bank – Richmond**

**1:30 - 4:00 State Presentations: Rural Entrepreneurship: A Conversation with Practitioners
Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia
(States description of their SSBCI program, ecosystem, population served &
results; how do the practitioners interact with other providers within the
ecosystem?)**

- Finance
- Policy
- Support
- Culture
- Human Capital
- Markets



4:15 – 4:45	NetWork Kansas: A Rural Success Story Imagene Harris: Manager of Economics and Operations
4:45 - 5:00	Closing Remarks and Adjourn
6:00 - 7:00	Reception
7:00 – 9:00	Dinner <i>(Shuttle Service from the hotel to the restaurant will start at 5:30 P.M. and will run as needed until 9:30 pm.)</i>

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

8:00 - 8:30	Breakfast Welcome and Opening Remarks
8:30 – 9:50	Federal Agency Presentations: Rural Support Programs EDA: Doug Lynott, Director, Office of Economic Development Integration USDA: Cristina Bernado, Senior Advisor to Administrator Samuel Rikkers Bobby Lewis, West Virginia State Director Lisa Sharp, Business Program Director and Rural Development Coordinator EPA: Dr. Melissa Kramer, Office of Policy, Office of Sustainable Communities SBA: W. George Murray, Deputy District Director, West Virginia District Office
10:00 - 10:40	Thought Starter: Regional Shale Gas Energy Initiatives, Steve Hedrick, President and CEO, The Mid-Atlantic Technology, Research and Innovation Center (MATRIC) National Trends and Policy Outlook The State Science Technology Institute (SSTI) Jason Rittenberg, Membership and Development Director
10:45 – 12: 15	Working Groups: 4 – 6 groups inclusive of representatives from each state and federal agency as available identifying regional opportunities and challenges Working Group Presentations Each group presents top regional opportunity, challenges in implementation and federal resources available to support
12:30 - 1:30	Working Lunch: Identification of overarching Regional Initiative(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborative project(s) spanning multiple states defining objectives and outcomes• Commitment of groups, scheduling of follow-up gatherings and articulation of next steps.
1:30	Adjourn