

# 2024 RURAL LISC SEMINAR

Sponsored by



#RuralTalks2024

## Maximizing Your Partnership with LISC

December 3-4, 2024

Little Rock, Arkansas

## Agenda

**Monday, December 2, 2024**

Pre-session until 5:00pm CT

### Delta-based Rural Housing Developers Forum

Hosted by the National Rural Intermediary Coalition (Enterprise, Housing Assistance Council, Habitat for Humanity International, NeighborWorks America, and Rural LISC). **This session is separate from the Rural LISC Seminar; if you are interested in attending, you must register for the session by clicking [here](#).**

Arkansas Ballroom

**1:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

### Welcome and Introductions of the National Rural Intermediary Coalition

Sarah Kackar, NeighborWorks America  
Audrey Johnston, Habitat for Humanity International  
David Lipsetz, Housing Assistance Council  
Robin Wolff, Enterprise  
Nadia Villagrán, Rural LISC

**1:30 PM – 1:45 PM**

### Delta Capacity Building – Addressing the Needs of Today to Serve Tomorrow

Delta Philanthropy Forum Members

**1:45 PM – 2:35 PM**

### Climate Conversation – GGRF and other things...

Robin Wolff, Enterprise, Moderator  
Leanne Adams, Senior VP of National Programs, NeighborWorks America  
Sam Ruark, Director of Green National Programs, LISC  
Charity Hallman, Senior Vice President for Community and Economic Development, Hope Credit Union

**2:35 PM – 2:45 PM**

### Break - Afternoon Snacks and Coffee/Tea/Refreshments

**2:45 PM – 3:30 PM**

### State and Local Policy Conversation – The effectiveness of Rural CDCs participating in state and local advocacy efforts.

Audrey Johnston, Habitat for Humanity International, Moderator  
Robin Wolff, Enterprise

**3:30 PM – 4:25 PM**

### Heirs' Property Conversation

David Lipsetz, Housing Assistance Council, Moderator  
Kristopher Smith, Community Development Officer, Jacksonville LISC  
Karama Neal, Delta-based Heirs' Property advocate

**4:25 PM – 4:30 PM**

Thank you, Next Steps, Goodbyes

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### Monday, December 2, 2024

#### Rural LISC Seminar Begins

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Conway

**Informal Watch Party of Barber of Little Rock**

5:00 – 6:30 Snacks & Drinks

5:30 – 6:00 Showing

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Offsite

**Dinner – Open Networking Dinners (on your own)**

### Tuesday, December 3, 2024

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Arkansas Ballroom

**Funder Breakfast (invite-only)**

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Salon C

**Networking Breakfast (open to all)**

Tiffany Taylor-Minor, Director, Communications, Rural LISC

**Virtual Live Stream Available from 9am – 12:00pm CT: Register [Here](#).**

9:00 AM – 9:20 AM

Salon A & B

**Welcome**

Nadia Villagrán, LISC VP & Rural LISC Director

Mayor Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor of Little Rock

9:20 AM – 9:35 AM

**LISC's Role & Commitment to Rural**

LISC CEO, Michael Pugh

9:35 AM – 11:00 AM

**Fireside Chat – Maximizing the Partnership**

20-minute conversations with Rural LISC Partners & LISC Leadership

**Fireside Chat 1 & Q&A**

NOVA Director of Programs, Juanita Woods

Interviewed by LISC EVP of Local and National Programs, Dr. Ruth

Jones Nichols

**Fireside Chat 2 & Q&A**

Enterprise Center at Pathstone Puerto Rico President & Executive Director,

Javier E. Zapata

Interviewed by LISC SVP of Community Building & Resilient Solutions,

Madeline Fraser Cook

### **Fireside Chat 3 & Q&A**

LIFE Executive Director, Joseph Ceasar

*Interviewed by LISC VP & Rural LISC Director, Nadia Villagrán*

**11:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

### **The State of Rural Post Election & Your Role in Rural Advocacy**

Mark Kudlowitz, Senior Director of Federal Policy, LISC

**11:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

### **Introduce Power Exhibit Hall**

Dr. Ruth Jones Nichols, LISC EVP of Local and National Programs  
Program Leads (1-minute program overviews)

**12:00 PM – 12:15 PM**

### **Break**

**12:15 PM – 1:00PM**

*Salon C: Buffet pick-up  
Salon A & B: Meal seating*

### **Networking Lunch** (open to all)

*Sponsored by Walton Family Foundation*

Emily Avery, Deputy Director, Rural LISC

Sponsor Address: Abe Hudson, Walton Family Foundation

**12:15 PM – 1:00PM**

*Lafayette*

### **HUD Section 4 Recipient & HUD Representatives Lunch** (by invitation)

**1:00 PM – 1:45PM**

*Foyer outside of Salon A & B*

### **Partners Explore Power Exhibit Hall – Your LISC Resources**

**2:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

*Hotel Lobby for Check-in  
Main Hotel Entrance*

### **Partner Site Bus Tour** (offsite)

Go Forward Pine Bluff

Go Forward Pine Bluff Retail Restaurant Incubator

We Center, We Build

Pine Bluff Black Chamber of Commerce

**6:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

*Hotel Lobby for Waitlisted  
Clinton Library for Dinner*

### **Dinner at William J. Clinton Presidential Library & Museum**

*Sponsored by LISC*

**Keynote:** Arlo Washington, People Trust Community Loan Fund & subject of the Oscar Nominated film, *The Barber of Little Rock*

*Introduction by Cassandra Kidd, Business Access Advisor, US Bank*

## **Wednesday, December 4, 2024**

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

*Arkansas Ballroom*

### **Delta-based & Serving Partner Breakfast** (by invitation)

*Sponsored by Delta Philanthropy Forum*

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

*Salon C*

### **Networking Breakfast** (open to all)

*Sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis*

Tiffany Taylor-Minor, Director, Communications, Rural LISC

**Virtual Live Stream Available from 9am – 3:00pm CT: [Register Here](#)**

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

*Salon A & B*

### **Public Funding Opportunities for Rural Investment: Inflation Reduction Act**

**Moderator:**

John Moon, President, LISC Green

**Panelists:**

Ronald Newman, Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of Treasury  
Charity Hallman, Hope Credit Union's Senior Vice President for Community and Economic Development

**10:00 AM – 10:20 AM**

**Keynote Address: USDA Rural Development**

Dr. Basil Gooden, Undersecretary for Rural Development, USDA

**10:20 AM – 11:20 AM**

**Driving Investment in Rural with Private & Public Funding**

**Moderator:**

Deanna Hamilton, Senior Vice President, Development, LISC

**Panelists:**

Lee Jones, Executive Director, Rural Partners Network (RPN), USDA

Sara Hiller, Senior Grants Manager, Mastercard STRIVE USA

Kim Davis, Senior Advisor, Delta Region Lead, Walton Family Foundation & Delta Philanthropy Forum

Stephanie Stone, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Technical Assistance, HUD

**11:20 AM – 11:50 AM**

**Break**

**11:50 AM – 12:50 PM**

*Salon A & B*

**Networking Lunch with Rural Champion Awards**

*Sponsored by JPMorganChase*

11:50 – 11:55 – Sponsor Address: David Klein, Community Engagement, Corporate Responsibility, JPMorganChase

12:30 – Award Ceremony

**12:50 PM – 1:00 PM**

**Break**

**1:00 PM – 1:45 PM**

**Lightning Round of Innovative Tools & Resources**

**Host:**

Christa Vinson, Director Digital Equity & Strategic Partners, Rural LISC

**Presenters:**

Benya Kraus, Director of Network Advancement, Resource Rural

Camden Blatchly, Data Analyst and Developer, Center on Rural Innovation (CORI)

Iain Hyde, Director, National Economic Research & Resilience Center, Argonne National Laboratory

**1:45 PM – 2:45 PM**

**Lightning Round of Innovative Partner Programs**

**Host:**

Julianne Dunn, Workforce Development & Financial Prosperity, Rural LISC

**Presenters:**

Ben Lewis, Griot Arts, Clarksdale MS

Daniel Boggs, Greater Greenville Housing & Revitalization Association, Inc, Greenville MS

Carol Silva Moralez, UpSkill NWA, Springdale AR

**2:45 PM - 3:00 PM**

**Event Closing**