

1999 Annual Report Executive Summary

Clinch-Powell Enterprise Community

The Clinch-Powell Enterprise Community (EC) proudly reports that its first year of operation was a resounding success.

Significant accomplishments were twofold. First the administrative requirements were met in getting the organization up and running including by-laws, policies, strategic plan revision, organization structure and the signing of funding agreements and MOAs with USDA Rural Development, the Lead Entity and the Fiscal Agent. Secondly, program accomplishments resulted in funding to the region of over \$8 million for activities identified in the strategic plan. This was entirely leveraged funding with no monies being received in calendar year 1999 from the EC designation.

We have made concerted efforts to keep the community informed and to gain input and participation. Board members and staff make frequent presentations and reports to partner organizations including non profits, and at school administration meetings. We held a training workshop for the public, non profits and organizations in the region to learn how to gain and benefit from the EC designation. We also held a workshop for the business/industry community on how to take advantage of the tax credits available to them.

Partnerships and alliances are flourishing. It has been a major aim of this EC to see that everyone benefit from this EC designation and we feel that this is one of our strongest accomplishments.

Plans/Prospects for the Future:

Short-term goals:

1. Division of funding between direct EC funding and granting to others to carry out strategic plan activities.
2. Staffing to help carry out the plan, work with partners and community groups and to write grants.
3. Begin making grants from EC funds.
4. Finalize and begin to implement regional economic development marketing plan.
5. Make meetings public through video conferencing.
6. Develop and maintain an EC web site for public input and information dissemination.

Long-term goals :

1. Expand usage of video conferencing capabilities.
2. Organization of CDC.

3. Organization of regional Chamber of Commerce.
4. Develop business plan for sustainable economic development
5. Regional feasibility study for water and waste.