



Rural Partners of Illinois

The Illinois Rural Development Council

www.ruralpartners.org info@ruralpartners.org

Chair, Molly Hammond, USDA Rural Development

Vice Chair, Laura Hepp Kessel, SIU Medicine

~ Rural Partners Mission ~

Rural Partners is a member driven forum that links individuals, businesses, organizations and communities with public and private resources to maximize the potential of rural Illinois.

The Voice of Rural Illinois – Your Voice – Needs to be Heard!

You can do more when you join Rural Partners. You will be part of a statewide, comprehensive organization that focuses on the economic vitality, quality of life, and leadership development of rural Illinois and joins councils from other states in a national organization, *Partners for Rural America*. You will benefit from interacting with individuals and organizations across the state to help achieve important personal and community goals. Rural Partners helps you connect with resources you need to enhance your community and economic development efforts. The members and friends of Rural Partners represent the diverse population of rural Illinois, and include representatives of local, state and federal agencies, academic professionals, non-profit organizations, private businesses, and dozens of experienced individuals confronting similar challenges.

Three Powerful Reasons to Join Rural Partners

NETWORKING: Rural Partners works to match your community with resources and services available through collaboration with other members as well as federal, state and local agencies and policymakers.

LEARNING: Rural Partners co-sponsors and organizes training for rural leaders and residents who are building a brighter future for rural Illinois by increasing their community’s leadership capacity, economic vitality and quality of life.

PROBLEM SOLVING: Rural Partners facilitates the creation of private/public partnerships for rural communities working out innovative ways to address economic development, health care, child care, housing, transportation, education, information technologies, workforce development, and an array of other challenges and opportunities.

Rural Partners Annual Membership Categories *(please select “X” one)*

Corporate Member..... **\$1,000**

Private sector corporations who are concerned about the future of rural economies, business development and the quality of life of rural Illinois residents.

Regional Organization **\$500**

Public and private sector organizations whose sphere of responsibility and influence for community and economic development span broad territories and/or multiple counties that extend into portions of rural Illinois.

Local Government/Small Business **\$200**

Units of local government, nonprofit organizations and small business owners who desire to become an active contributor to Rural Partners and collaboratively strengthen the “Voice of Rural Illinois.”

Individual **\$50**

Individuals who are actively engaged in and/or wish to support community and economic development throughout rural Illinois.

Name: _____ Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address: _____ Website: _____

Please enclose payment to Rural Partners and return to Rural Partners, 3085 Stevenson Drive, Suite 200, Springfield, IL 62703. Thank you!