





# Rural Community Building Approach











## Purpose: The 4Cs

These are the goals of community building work.

	<b>Connections:</b> Building caring, lasting and inclusive relationships
	<b>Capacity:</b> Having the people, groups, skills and resources needed to shape the future
	<b>Community-led Action:</b> Knowing where the community wants to go and taking action to get there
	<b>Community-building Culture:</b> Possessing a sense of community, unity, pride and resiliency

## Practices

Activities community builders use to attain the 4Cs above.

	<b>Listen to learn:</b> Listen actively, openly and frequently to as many community groups as you can.
	<b>Come together:</b> Meet. Share food and stories. Remove barriers to participation.
	<b>Engage to mobilize:</b> Find opportunities and energy, and build a team and activities around that. Keep welcoming and reaching out to new groups and individuals, especially traditionally underrepresented ones.
	<b>Develop skills and networks:</b> Build new skills and teach needed skills to others. Grow and nurture relationships, partnerships and networks.
	<b>Plan together:</b> Collectively create a vision where many community priorities, perspectives and interests are represented. Develop goals, strategies, measures and action plans by the community, for the community.
	<b>Create change:</b> Get stuff done! Reach your long-term goals through short-term actions. Honor the pace of the community. Stay flexible and adapt to the journey.
	<b>Celebrate and reflect:</b> Celebrate successes and learn from setbacks. Renew and re-energize.
	<b>Transform:</b> Be open to changing personally through this work. Seek to understand and shift the systems and structures that would allow for a more thriving community.