

BUILDING BLOCKS



"Building Blocks for Community Revitalization and Prosperity" is the name of the Valentine and Cherry County Building Entrepreneurial Communities grant project coordinated by the Valentine Cherry County Economic Development Board. The joint effort included a variety of activities to strengthen the regional business community:

- Completion of a community and business contact database that will be regularly updated with

information for existing and prospective businesses.

- Local employment opportunity and business transition information is available on the web.
- A business transition and retention seminar was held that included information on tax structures and selling a business.
- An entrepreneur inventory and needs survey was completed.
- Seminars for entrepreneurs were held.
- Business development and expansion mentoring was made available.
- Business-related books were purchased and donated to the Valentine Public Library business development and agri-tourism section, and additional books are available directly from the Valentine Cherry County Economic Development Board(VCCEDB) office.
- Other activities included youth entrepreneur development seminars, a summer work study program for an intern with the VCCEDB program, and development of a leadership component.
- Plans are underway to create a comprehensive regional website linking the Chamber of Commerce, VCCEDB, City of Valentine, the local hospital, civic organizations, schools, businesses, and tourism entities.

As part of the VCCEDB grant project, David Buchholz, with David and Associates, presented a marketing seminar for residents and business owners in the region. The topics included leadership in advertising, advertising strategies, efficient brochures, techniques for getting your ads noticed, tips for radio and other media advertising, impact of a web page, and how to find your unique selling point.



Seminars featured expert panels.



David Buchholz

For more information on the Valentine and Cherry County program, contact Mike Burge at crplcrk@sandhillswireless.net or visit their website at www.vccedb.com.