

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Several years ago Furnas and Harlan County citizens decided to cooperatively work on development opportunities for their region. After attending regional workshops and meetings, they formed the Furnas/Harlan Partnership and capacity building work began. With limited staffing, the Partnership undertook several efforts to strengthen the region's business climate and continue educating local residents about opportunities for business and community growth.

When BECA was enacted, the Furnas/Harlan Partnership was one of the first grant recipients requesting funding for business training and leadership development in the region.

The Partnership offered Leadership Plenty classes to develop stronger leadership skills for current leaders and encourage potential future leadership. Leadership Plenty is a leadership education project of the University of Nebraska - the course included a visit to Lincoln to visit selected government sites. Participants were from six different communities within the Partnership region.

Going beyond their own region, the Partnership teamed up with the PK Partnership which includes Phelps and Kearney County to sponsor EDGE classes.

Looking for additional ways to help individuals and businesses, the Partnership used the University of Nebraska's Bit Mobile, a mobile technology learning lab, to conduct classes on incorporating technology into your business. Another course offering was "Marketing Locally and Electronically".

Furnas/Harlan Partnership also offered several Business Transfer forums and an introductory course entitled "What Business Should I Start?".

The Furnas/Harlan Partnership plans to build on the momentum gained from their BECA grant to offer other opportunities in the region.. For more information, contact Rosie Stockton at director@furnas-harlan-partnership.org.



Leadership Plenty class visits Lincoln



Classes conducted in the Bit Mobile

