

# ROAD Session Virtual Exchange

This Is What  
Capacity Looks  
Like:

Building  
Development  
Muscle in Rural and  
Native Nation  
Communities



# Today's Event Partners

Community   
Strategies Group

 THE ASPEN INSTITUTE



Rural Community  
Assistance  
Partnership

**RURAL LISC**



**HAC**

Welcome  
David Lipsetz  
President and CEO  
The Housing Assistance Council

# Why host/organize Rural Opportunity and Development (ROAD) Sessions?

- Highlight and unpack rural development ideas and strategies that are critical in response to COVID-19 and to long-term rebuilding and recovery.
- Feature stories of on-the-ground practitioners who have experience, wisdom and savvy to share.
- Reflect and emphasize the full diversity of rural America – lifting voices and lived experiences from a wide range of rural communities and economies.
- Spotlight rural America's assets and challenges
- Infuse practitioner stories and lessons into rural narratives, policymaking and practice across the country
- Strengthen the networking of organizations serving rural communities and regions.

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## Exchange Format

- **Panel Discussion: 3:30-4:30 p.m. ET**  
Our speakers share their experience adapting and innovating rural strategies to build capacity.
- **Breakout Rooms: 4:30-5:15 p.m. ET**  
*Optional*  
Join a breakout to meet others, ask questions, seek advice and share your thinking and experience. *Format: Open questions and answers, ideas and advice sharing. Each breakout will include one or more of today's speakers plus a facilitator.*

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## Exchange Format

- Use the **Chat Box** to share insights or to echo/underline a panelist's point. Please share your thoughts with civility and compassion.
- Use the **Q & A Box** to ask your question of the speakers.  
*Participant questions will be addressed during the event, in the last 15 minutes of the panel discussion, and during the 30-minute follow-on breakout session.*

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Capacity Looks Like

Social Media



- **If you'd like to share insights from this event on [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#), you can find us at:**

[@AspenCSG](#), [@RuralLISC](#), [@RuralHome](#)  
[@RCAPinc](#), [@federalreserve](#)

[#ruralinnovation](#), [#roadsession](#)

## And lastly before we dig in...

- At 4:30 PM ET, enter the breakout discussion by clicking on the link provided in the Chat Box and in the email sent to you today.
  - You have received an email with a special Zoom link for the breakout session already.
  - We will send those links again in the next hour to every registered participant's email.
  - If you have not received it – please send a note to [csg.program@aspeninstitute.org](mailto:csg.program@aspeninstitute.org).
- Recordings of the first hour will be available on the Aspen CSG event webpage in the next few days. That video link will be sent to all who registered.



Today's Moderator

**Janet Topolsky**

Executive Director

Aspen Institute Community Strategies Group

# INVESTING IN Rural Prosperity



*Investing in Rural Prosperity* – A pathbreaking new book from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

Access info: The book is ***free and available*** to the public both electronically and in hard copy at [www.stlouisfed.org/investinrural](http://www.stlouisfed.org/investinrural)

Author info: The chapters in the book were authored by 79 people from 28 states representing every region of the country. The authors work at financial institutions, foundations, government agencies, nonprofits, and in academia. More than half are women, and a quarter are people of color.

Chapters by David Lipsetz, Janet Topolsky and many other ROADS partners.

**Check it out via the link in the chat!**



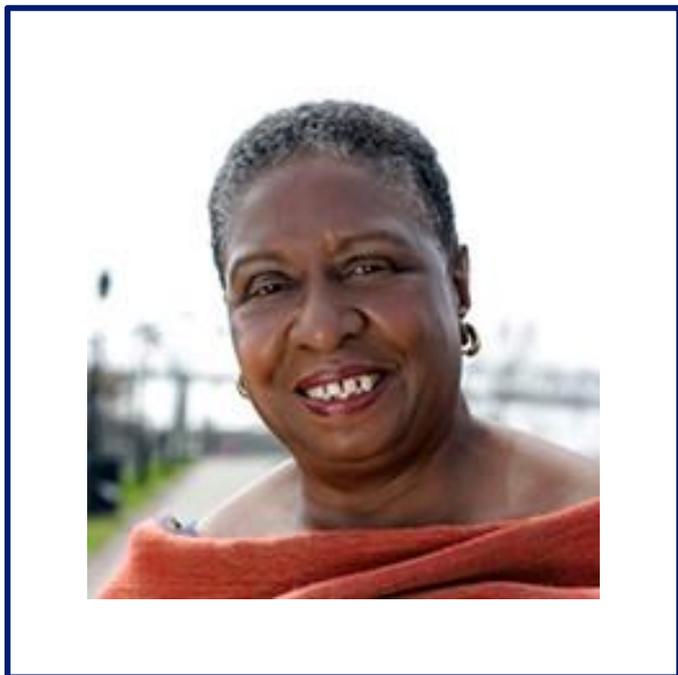
**Miriam Jorgensen**  
Research Director  
Native Nations Institute



**Shonterria Charleston**  
Director of Training and Technical  
Assistance  
The Housing Assistance Council



**Cheryal Lee-Hills**  
Executive Director  
Region Five Development Commission



**Linetta Gilbert**  
Managing Partner  
Gilbert and Associates



# Q&A Session

Moderated by Janet Topolsky



# Join us for the breakout room discussion

- To enter the breakout session: Simply use the Zoom breakout link provided in the Chat Box.
  - We sent every registered email that link again during this hour.
  - If you did not receive it – please send a note to [csg.program@aspeninstitute.org](mailto:csg.program@aspeninstitute.org)
  - Each room will include one of our speakers and a facilitator – it may take a few minutes to get them sorted into the right room. Chat until they get there!
- Open discussion!

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See you in the Breakout Room!