



# CEDIK 2018 IMPACT REPORT

ENGAGED COMMUNITIES  
VIBRANT ECONOMIES



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Hello!

I have been fortunate to lead a diverse and talented team that welcomes different opportunities each day. In 2018, CEDIK focused a lot of effort partnering with communities in Southeast Kentucky on their downtown revitalization efforts. In this report you will learn more about last summer's student intern effort led by Ryan Sandwick in Manchester, the Mountain Women Mean Business conference held in Harlan, and a global entrepreneurship program Kentucky is participating in with eight other countries through MIT's Regional Entrepreneurial Acceleration Program. We also welcome Kristina Joyce as the new Kentucky Small Business Development Center's State Director. The KSBDC is charging forward creating robust partnerships across the state guided by a new strategic plan.

While we are only three months in to 2019, it has been a busy one so far. Our health team is working diligently with over 30 hospitals to assist them with their Community Health Needs Assessment. In addition, Su Troske and Sookti Chaudhary recently completed an interesting research study that estimated how ambulance times increase when a hospital closes, a growing crisis in rural America. We launched CREATE BRIDGES to support retail, entertainment, and hospitality businesses and employees in 13 counties in Eastern Kentucky. Finally, we are excited to announce our new storefront in Winchester, Kentucky in partnership with UK's College of Design and Cooperative Extension, the Winchester Main Street Program, and the city of Winchester. We will be launching a 2-year Design Studio on Main Street later this year.

Alison Davis, Executive Director

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

### **Agricultural and Applied Economics Association**

*Distinguished Extension Program: Group Award*

### **Bluegrass Tomorrow**

*2017 Equine/Agriculture Vision Award (awarded in 2018)*

Two Reports: Influence of the Agricultural Cluster on Fayette County Economy & Influence of the Agricultural Cluster on the Woodford County Economy

### **Community Development Society**

*Outstanding Program Award, Extension Community & Leadership Development Training Series*

### **National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals**

*Creative Excellence Award - Southern Region Winner, Alison Davis & Daniel Kahl*

*Excellence in Teamwork Award - Southern Region Winner, National Runner-up*  
Kentucky Promise Zone Downtown Revitalization Program

*Innovation & Creativity Award - Individual - Southern Region Winner, National Runner-up, 'Chalk and Talk' Program*

*Educational Materials Award - Individual - Southern Region Winner, Community Planning & Design Series*

*Distinguished Career Award - Ronald Hustedde*

# 2018 Research Accomplishments

## Journal Articles

**Jairus Rossi**, Tim Woods, & **Alison Davis** (2018). The Local Food System Vitality Index. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*. 8(3), 137-158

Tim Woods, Ali Asgari, & **Jairus Rossi** (2018). Trust Signals and Legitimacy in Local Products for Local Markets. *Choices*. Quarter 3.

**Jayoung Koo** (2018). Visibility of Sustainable Development Efforts: Assessment of Kentucky Trail Towns. *Journal of Sustainable Development*. 11(6), 187-204.

Zimmerman, Julie N., & **Kahl, Daniel**. (2018) Finding Publicly Available Data for Extension Planning and Programming: Developing Community Portraits. *Journal of Extension*. 56(3).

## Book Chapters

**Daniel Kahl** & A. Campbell (2018). "Engaging Citizens to Influence Climate Change." In Albrecht, D. & Lachapelle, P. (eds), *Approaches to Address Climate Change at the Community Level in the U.S.* London: Routledge Publishing.

28 Data/GIS requests

16 Invited conference presentations and posters

6 Customized Reports for Clientele

- Union College
- Bourbon County Joint Planning Commission
- The Nature Conservancy
- Breckinridge County Memorial Hospital
- Equine Land Conservation Resource
- Kentucky Center for Ag and Rural Development

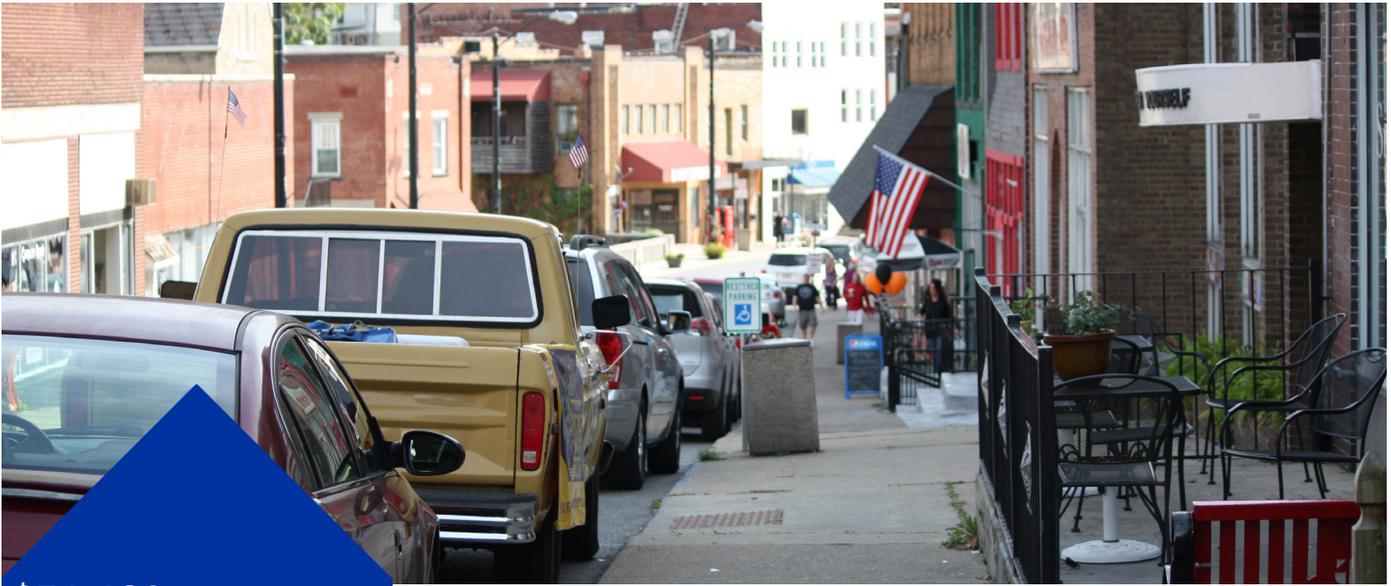
## New Service: CEDIK Collaborates with Communities to Better Understand Housing Needs

CEDIK works with community stakeholders to implement a housing survey and provide a report with economic and housing indicators and detailed survey results. The survey provides information on current housing characteristics, the respondents' intention to move in the coming years, their preference for housing, location, and amenities, as well as some of the barriers for not living in the area. The survey is addressed both to area residents and people commuting to work in the area. CEDIK facilitates preliminary and final presentations of the study findings.

A housing study is an important tool for communities creating or modifying comprehensive plans or considering the housing needs of both the existing population as well as new families, retirees, etc. The results predict future housing demand, resident preferences for housing size, price, and location as well as additional neighborhood and community-level investments that would support both new housing developments as well as existing neighborhoods.

Bourbon County Joint Planning Commission contracted with CEDIK in summer 2018 to conduct a housing study for residents and employees of Paris, Kentucky. Andrea Lacy, Bourbon County Joint Planning Office says "Partnering with CEDIK has been extremely beneficial for our community! As Planning Administrator of a small community with limited resources, it is crucial for us (and any community) to foster relationships with our local academic institutions. Not only does it provide a cost effective way for us to conduct long-range planning, it has been refreshing to have a third-party expert perspective on housing. Perhaps I've been most impressed by CEDIK's personable nature when facilitating community meetings. Several members of the community expressed their positive impressions from these meetings. I am confident that the final product will help us further refine our housing policy approach to benefit those most in need."

# Seven Eastern Kentucky Communities Receive Mini-Grants to Spark Engagement & Investment in their Downtowns



**\$51,628** in funding for downtown reinvestment in 7 Eastern Kentucky communities

*Communities received \$32,450 from POWER grant*

*Communities contributed \$19,178 in-kind*

**71%** re-invested locally

**41** community organizations participated in these projects

**7** public forums held

**3** new plans/initiatives created

Seed funding provided to one business to establish brick & mortar location

Seven communities in eastern Kentucky received mini-grants in 2018 to invest in locally determined priority projects. Harlan, Hazard, Hyden, Middlesboro, Tri-Cities, Williamsburg and Whitesburg stakeholders were able to access these funds through participation in the Promise Zone Downtown Revitalization POWER grant. CEDIK awarded the mini-grants; each project incorporates new and exciting ways to engage local stakeholders in their revitalization efforts.

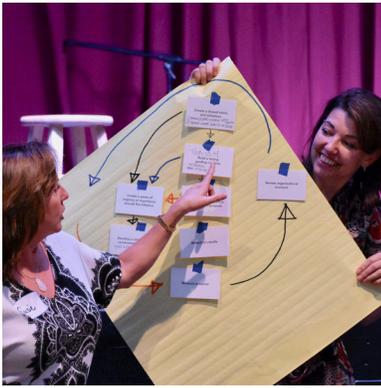
CEDIK, the Kentucky Small Business Development Center and the UK Department of Landscape Architecture, in partnership with the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky and the Kentucky Main Street Program, have been supporting each of the participating downtowns over the previous year as they developed priorities for their own revitalization efforts. Sandi Curd, Promise Zone Coordinator for Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation and member of the grant review panel shared,

**“Our downtowns are the heart of our communities and culture. I am so proud of the creative work and citizen engagement these communities have put forth for celebrating what makes their city unique, vibrant, and wonderful.”**

**Harlan** County’s Chamber of Commerce received funds to implement and organize the Mountain Women Mean Business conference highlighting women led businesses in downtown Harlan while also connecting and supporting women business leaders across the region.

**Hazard’s** community meetup, InVision Hazard, received funds to support costs associated with hosting an Appalachian Transition Fellow. The fellowship is designed to increase the community’s capacity strategically shaping the physical and social character of downtown Hazard by amplifying efforts around arts, culture and creative placemaking.

The Leslie County Community Foundation, in partnership with **Hyden**-Leslie County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Hyden launched a week-long community revitalization kickoff effort. The series of events was designed to showcase Hyden’s assets and engage its residents to create a renewed sense of purpose. One outcome included the creation of a community council to support future downtown revitalization efforts.



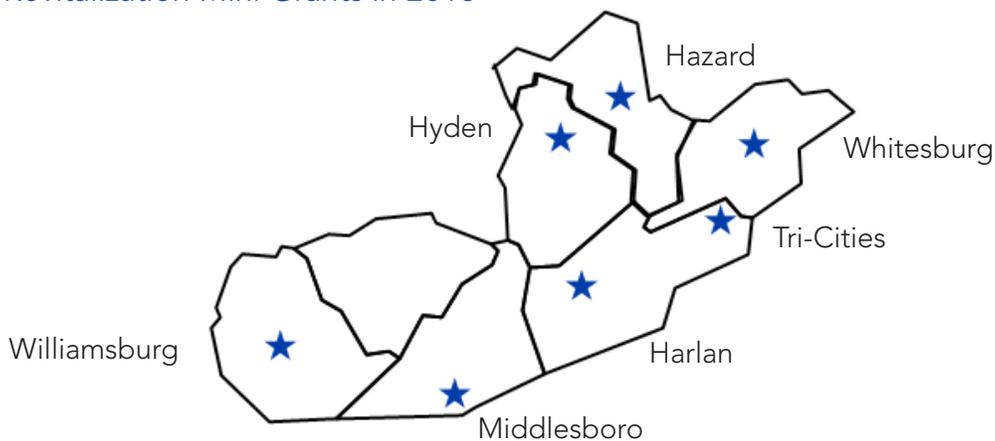
**Middlesboro's** Main Street program, in partnership with Bell County Tourism, applied and received funds to support the purchase and installation of community message boards that were installed in high traffic areas downtown. Four local partners were involved in this effort to provide a centralized location to share information about upcoming events and sites of interest for residents and visitors.

The **Tri-Cities** Heritage Development Corporation, in partnership with the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce, Cumberland Tourism Commission and Tri-Cities Trail Town Merchants Committee, created a series of market events downtown that increased foot traffic, retail sales, and served to activate underutilized buildings and green spaces. The two street markets during the summer of 2018 averaged roughly 200 attendees and included 16 vendors at each market. The Tri-Cities Shop and Walk program culminated with 48 local businesses participating in a shop local campaign. Bobbie Gothard, Director of the Tri-Cities Heritage Development Corporation shared, **“We feel the project was well worth the funds and the hours we worked. It brought new volunteers to our work on not just this project but others in the area too.”**

**Whitesburg** received funds to support walkability and wayfinding access to business and civic amenities for residents and visitors. The project will contribute to creating an environment that supports and facilitates improved health outcomes via increased activity and exercise.

Why Whitley, an emerging community action group in Whitley County received a mini grant to fund the inaugural River Fog Festival in **Williamsburg**. This event invited residents to enjoy local food, music, arts all while interacting with a previously vacant space in new and innovative ways. Four local bands participated, and three food vendors and two craft beverage vendors reported \$6,000 in sales at the event.

### Downtown Revitalization Mini Grants in 2018



## Arts Extension Program Engages Eastern Kentucky Residents with Community Events, Education, and Networking



**133,618** residents participated in an Arts Extension program

**1,045** Artisans participated in a training

**250** reported an increase in income based on their participation

**12,546** residents participated in an artistic skill development workshop or series

**540** artisans showcased work (visual, literary, performing) through an Arts Extension sponsored/coordinated event

Extension Agents in three Kentucky communities coordinate local festivals, night markets, concerts and public performances to provide communities with a means to attract outside tourism dollars, provide local citizens access to arts experiences that reflect their community narratives, and create venues for local artists to generate revenue. The Hatfield & McCoy Arts Council drew 1,000 visitors to a remote area of Pike County. Bill Williams Heritage Blues Festival in Greenup County generated \$6,350. River Fog Festival in Williamsburg generated \$10,000 in financial support, with nearly \$7,000 paid directly to local musicians, artisans or local foods vendors.

**By focusing tourism efforts in small, rural communities, these dollars have a significant impact locally.**

### Enhancing the Creative Economy

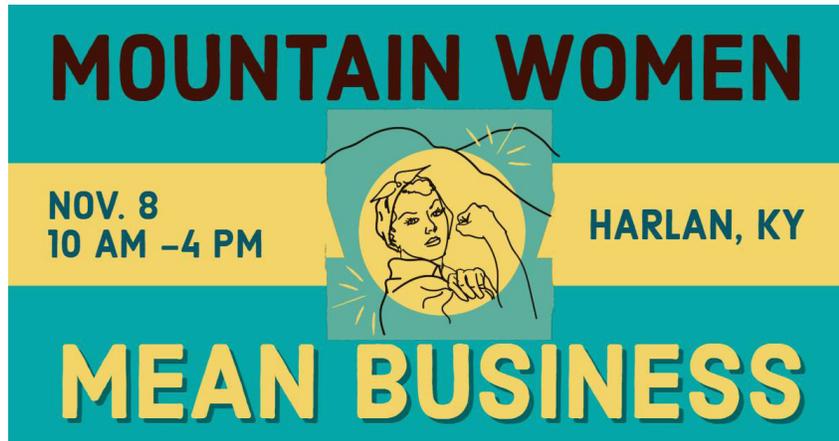
As part of a comprehensive, regional approach to economic development in Southeast Kentucky, Arts Extension specialist Sky Marietta focused her efforts exclusively on a 12 county region. Marietta supports local businesses through organized regional marketing campaigns, connecting artisans in southeast Kentucky to buyers in metropolitan areas, and individualized training on logo design, social media, pricing, and labeling. In 2018, 21 southeastern Kentucky businesses have received direct support to expand their businesses through new/secondary locations, increased marketing footprints, or through online sales.



### **Business Spotlight: Sassy Trash**

April Collins has an increasingly successful business upcycling unique items into home décor at the Loyall Flea Market in Harlan County. Then, in early 2018 she bought a historic building on Main Street in Harlan and repurposed it to open her own brick-and-mortar retail store, Sassy Trash. At the core of the business is Collins' own unique creations, like lamps made from an old lunch bucket and coal hat.

(Business Spotlight continued from p. 6)  
 Sassy Trash has become a flagship destination for those visiting Harlan. Currently, the store offers work created by more than 30 local artists from around Southeastern Kentucky and Southwestern Virginia. This includes handmade wooden goods, like dulcimers and live-edge bowls, as well as bath and body goods, paintings, and several handmade jewelry options. But you will also find fresh baked goods, canned goods like jams, pottery, and hand-sewn clothing.



### Deepening Women’s Business Networks in Appalachia

*Mountain Women Mean Business* was a woman-led conference that brought together over 100 participants in downtown Harlan, Kentucky to network, learn from local business leaders, and gain professional development training. The conference organizers were a team of women in Harlan working with CEDIK, including Downtown Events Coordinator, Laura Adkisson, Harlan Tourism and Convention Center Assistant Director, Amanda Middleton, and downtown business owners April Collins, Amanda Colton-Wofle, and Ashley Bledsoe. They recruited local leaders like Kristin Smith, head chef of the Wrigley Taproom and Eatery in Corbin, and Mae Suramek, founder of Noodle Nirvana in Berea, and Lacy Hale, artist and entrepreneur in Whitesburg, to share their lessons learned. The conference partnered with Mountain Association for Community Economic Development, Southeast Kentucky Economic Development, Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation, and the Appalachian Impact Fund to provide sessions on topics like business accounting and time management. In addition, the female members of the Future Business Leaders of America from Harlan High School attended, including going to a special Youth Engagement and Leadership program led by CEDIK. The conference concluded with an awards ceremony that recognized four outstanding women leaders in the region.

Along with the day of connection, conference funds were re-invested in local businesses, with a particular focus on women-led businesses in the region. In all, \$3,600 was spent on small businesses in the area, with \$3,300 spent on women-owned businesses in Harlan County.



## CEDIK's Commitment to Supporting Community Leaders and Leadership Development



Community leadership happens when community members align their energies to work together to bring about meaningful change. CEDIK supports effective leadership in Kentucky through programs, trainings, and facilitation support to organizations and communities.

### Strengthening Skills for Leadership

Leadership development is a process of helping individuals discover their own influence, skills, and capacities for working with others to address a common concern. In 2018, CEDIK facilitated leadership development through programs delivered to communities and professional development opportunities for individuals and organizations.

**Leadership Winchester, Clark County:** CEDIK supported the Chamber-based leadership program in 2018 by aligning professors and staff from the University of Kentucky Department of Community and Leadership Development (CLD) to engage the class in community leadership, conflict resolution, communication, and personal leadership skill development. In addition, students from the CLD 430 Leading in Community class worked with the program leaders to create program curriculum.

**Leading Healthy Community Connections:** A new leadership curriculum for helping community members assess community systems and take action to improve community health was developed by CEDIK and tested by a small group in Lincoln County. According to project facilitator Rita Stewart with Lincoln County Extension, **“This program gives them voice and connection to their community. They see how they can make a difference.”**

**Using Art to Creatively Strengthen Health Coalitions:** Through hands on exercises using watercolors, creative writing, personality assessment, and collaboration strategies, 56 participants representing 29 agencies and/or coalitions from across the state learned how to engage their local citizens, focusing on individuals that have not traditionally attended activities in their communities. Participants learned strategies to build and strengthen health coalitions, to describe techniques for planning and facilitating effective meetings, and to recognize the value of working with different personalities based on their strengths, allowing them to work effectively with all community members.

**Professional Development Workshops for Extension:** In 2018, the University of Kentucky Extension Leadership Development Training was nationally recognized with an Outstanding Program Award by the Community Development Society. The rotating series, coordinated by the CEDIK, UK Department of Community and Leadership Development faculty, and UK Extension, provides information and core skill practice for Extension educators. Workshops hosted in 2018 included Community Power Dynamics, Developing Effective Communication and Listening Styles, Personal Leadership Development, Basics of Facilitation, Working with Elected Officials, and Hosting Community Conversations.



## Identifying Priority Issues

In a complex world of competing priorities, the ability to surface and name the issues important to a community is an important first step to change. CEDIK assists communities through methods of community-member opinion and data collection including surveys, interviews, and listening sessions.

**The First Impressions Program** uses outsider visitor perspectives to help communities identify ways they can improve how non-residents see their community. In the last year, CEDIK supported 9 communities in the process of collecting outsider feedback. CEDIK staff facilitate community members to form response-action teams. From the feedback provided, communities initiated 20 community improvement projects.

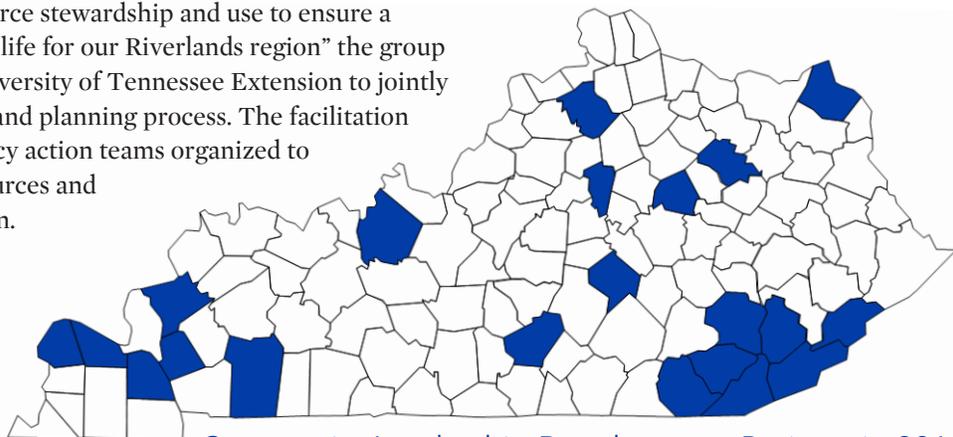
**The Business Retention and Expansion Program** affords a county or community business development organization a process to determine ways they can support existing businesses. In 2018, CEDIK worked with Crittenden County; eight additional counties have initiated BR&E and are in the process of listening to local business needs.

## Planning for Community Change

Beyond issue identification, communities may need to convene the public to design strategies for change. CEDIK helps to facilitate groups organizing to discuss and develop plans for community improvement. Some examples include:

Working with eight counties in SE Kentucky, the **Downtown Revitalization Project** is convening shared interest groups to pursue improved communities. In 2018, the project brought together government, business, education, and community organizations to begin a process of identifying community plans and goals for community development. By convening the teams across the region, efforts for collaborative regional efforts are being explored.

In Western Kentucky, a network of 19 Federal and State Government organizations, businesses, local government, and interest-organization representatives came together to form an organization called the **Riverlands Outdoor Heritage Conservation Alliance**. With a vision to “Collaboratively sustain regional capacity for natural resource stewardship and use to ensure a continued high quality of life for our Riverlands region” the group called on CEDIK and University of Tennessee Extension to jointly facilitate a prioritization and planning process. The facilitation resulted in five interagency action teams organized to improve the natural resources and quality of life in the region.



Community Leadership Development Projects in 2018

## Downtown Plan for Manchester, Kentucky Created Through Intensive Effort by Summer Intern Team



**13** pop-up design studios undertaken downtown

**2,000** hours invested by CEDIK interns

**7** local elected officials involved

**15** buildings and potential green spaces evaluated for their investment potential

**4** downtown crosswalks improved

**1** new downtown green space created

Over the summer of 2018 CEDIK led an intensive intern effort in downtown Manchester, KY. This effort sought to identify what was great about Manchester's downtown in effort to amplify it as a foundation for future revitalization. The focus of the intern work was as much on the physical space of the downtown as it was on being a collaborative community partner.

At the beginning of the project, the CEDIK intern cohort established a weekly pop-up design studio. This studio served as a temporary headquarters for the interns to consistently experience and inventory the downtown, while providing a neutral, physical space to engage with the broader community. Additional community engagement efforts included Chalk and Talk, as well as a visual preference survey during the summer's Main Street Market.

These opportunities invited community members to identify physical challenges in their downtown and envision potential options to address them. While not every suggestion or finding in this plan was initially popular, the inventory/analysis process painted a clear path to quantify each recommendation. These community engagement efforts led to place-based findings grounded in the physical and financial realities of the community.

With the downtown character identified and public realm elements inventoried and analyzed, priority focus areas were identified with short, medium and long term projects. These projects focused on the public realm, including historic preservation, pedestrian circulation, public art, downtown social spaces, and placemaking opportunities. The projects ranged from efforts that could be undertaken this weekend with no money and twenty sets of hands to \$20,000 projects that require significant planning and capital.

**Manchester's city council has unanimously adopted the Downtown Plan as their official planning document with plans to install a new downtown social space in the heart of the commercial district during the spring of 2019.** This is an important step for Manchester as the city does not currently have a town square or central gathering space. Further, the nearby state Department of Transportation office agreed to repaint several of the downtown crosswalks based on the plan, and were open to broader downtown traffic calming efforts potentially establishing Manchester as a pilot community for future DOT projects in Kentucky.

MEET THE INTERNS



**Kenneth Riggs**  
 Hometown: Acworth, GA  
 University of Kentucky graduate student in Architecture

**Ronnie Sloan**  
 Hometown: Louisville, KY  
 Berea College undergraduate student in Environmental Policy

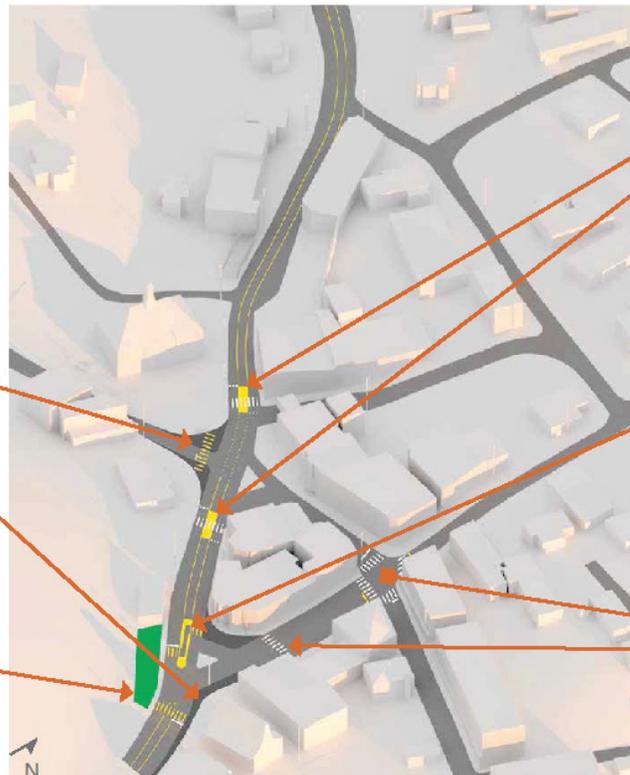
**Melissa Habermehl**  
 Hometown: Covington, KY  
 University of Kentucky undergraduate student in Landscape Architecture

**Brittany Sams**  
 Hometown: Maysville, KY  
 University of Kentucky graduate student in Historic Preservation

## Detail from Manchester Plan

### Short Term Project Options - Precedent Projects

These projects represent short term and pilot projects that tests out the feasibility and popularity of projects downtown. These projects focus on traffic calming and improving the walkability of downtown Manchester as illustrated by case studies.



Painted intersections  
 Source: Better Block



Pop-up park  
 Source: Jessica Torassian



Pedestrian refuge islands  
 Source: yting.com



Jagged crosswalk  
 Source: Lexington Herald Leader



Painted crosswalks  
 Source: Parsons Revitalization Organization

## Connecting Cave Country Trail Project Receives Statewide and National Accolades from Professional Organizations



LA 324 Design Studio  
IV: Community Design  
& Engagement  
Fall 2017

15 Weeks

18 Students

5,400 hours invested  
by students

\$64,800 in-kind value  
of student work on  
project

16 community groups  
participated/engaged  
in the project

6 state and federal  
agencies advised  
during the process

In Fall 2017, UK undergraduate students enrolled in a Landscape Architecture Community Design Studio partnered with Cave Country Trails, Inc. (CCT), a private non-profit organization on a service-learning project. CCT's mission is to develop a regional trail network in South Central Kentucky centered around Mammoth Cave National Park, Nolin State Park, Barren River Lake State Park, and nine gateway communities in four counties. Mammoth Cave National Park expands over three Kentucky counties (Edmonson, Hart and Barren) which are within the Barren River Area Development District (BRADD) and the Caves, Lakes and Corvette Tourism Region. The regional economic impact of tourism in 2016 was \$709 million dollars.

Community leaders, tourism officials, and members of stakeholder groups, such as equestrian, road biking, mountain biking and paddling, serve on the 17-member Board of Directors for CCT. The National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program, BRADD, and funding from six tourism commissions have supported the working group's visions. Through a year-long public input process, CCT identified a regional trail network of 1,500 miles, including 800 miles of bicycle touring routes, 275 miles of water trails, 100 miles of existing trails for hiking and biking, and 300+ miles of proposed trails.

The UKLA students complemented CCT's ongoing efforts by developing additional conceptual plans and designs that expand and/or connect with the regional vision. UKLA students collaborated with the communities of Brownsville, Horse Cave, Cave City, and Park City for this regional endeavor. These towns have the potential to become stronger gateway communities from several directions for trail users and tourists accessing Mammoth Cave National Park. All four communities were in varied stages of applying for Kentucky Trail Town certification of which Cave City and Horse Cave have been certified as of 2018.

During a 15-week period, UKLA students researched, analyzed, planned, designed, and presented spatial design proposals for the four communities. They also organized and facilitated a design workshop to engage community members. Students presented a range of proposals and project ideas to CCT members which addressed small to large-scale goals, objectives, and designs complementing the long-term regional objectives. The ideas students seeded in the community were well received.

**The design proposals are being used by communities in support of their Kentucky Trail Town applications and prompted further engagement efforts to enhance and revitalize their built environments.**

## 2018 Recognition

In early 2018, the Kentucky Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (KY/ASLA) recognized one team of students for their project submission. This service-learning project was invited to be presented at a workshop during the Mid-America Greenways and Trails Conference in late spring of 2018. In summer 2018, the team of students whose work was acknowledged by KY/ASLA, co-authored with the instructor a poster presentation delivered at the national Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) conference.

## New Community Design Resources in 2018

**Radical Walking Toolkit [for Youth]**



WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THIS TOOLKIT?

- Example of questions a facilitator can use during a Radical Walk.
- Example of a mapping activity.
- Example of a Radical Walking survey questionnaire with emphasis on public spaces and arts.

### Radical Walking Toolkit [for Youth]

Radical walking is a process for recapturing our understanding of everyday spaces through slow walking. The initial idea of Radical Walking emerged from the works of a French theorist and philosopher from the mid-20th Century. We structured Radical Walking as an engagement process and a tool to entice individuals to examine their surroundings.

This toolkit provides a youth-focused example of guiding questions, activities and a survey questionnaire that can be utilized to help youth observe, interpret, and voice their ideas for vibrant communities. It can also be used by community leaders to enliven engagement in community and economic development efforts in more creative and holistic ways.



### How to Lead a 'Chalk and Talk' in Your Community

The 'Chalk and Talk' program seeks to engage people in a creative and accessible way about their feelings, thoughts and views on their city's downtown. In essence it is a way to informally gather and summarize the varying views and experiences of attendees of local festivals and events about the city while they are immersed in it. The intent is for this information to inspire dialogue and help inform the preliminary steps taken towards longer term design, planning, and revitalization initiatives.

Our how-to guide provides an overview of how to lead the program, the evaluation process, and directions to build your own collapsible chalkboard.

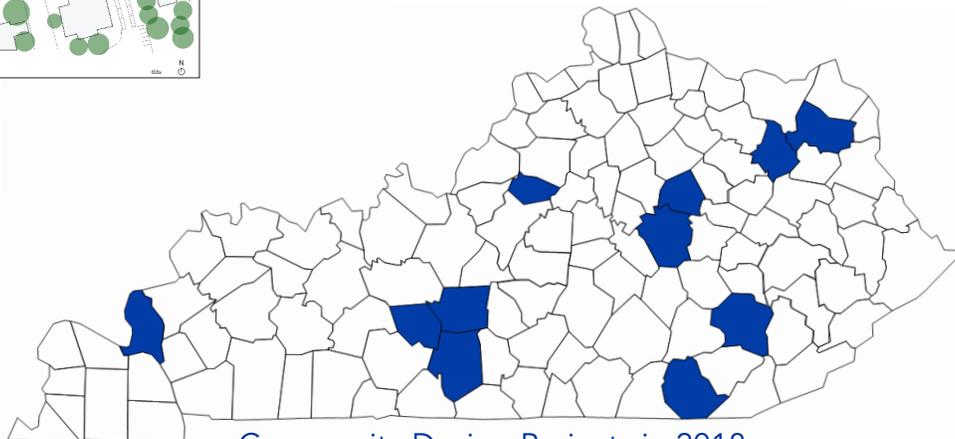
**DRAWING A BASEMAP USING INKSCAPE**  
Initial FALL 2014  
Revised FALL 2016  
SPRING 2018



DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPE PLAN

### How to Draw a Basemap Using Inkscape

Inkscape is a free and open-source vector graphics editor. Community members can create graphics such as a basemap that can be used for planning or grant writing purposes. The basic steps for creating a basemap with readily accessible information is outlined in this resource.



Community Design Projects in 2018

# First U.S. Team Participating in MIT's Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program Led by CEDIK



## MIT REAP Cohort

### CEDIK

Luke Ramsay,  
Alison Davis,  
Simona Balazs

### KY Cabinet for Economic Development

Brian Mefford

### Centre College

John Roush

### BitSource

Rusty Justice

### SOAR

Jared Arnett

### Logan Aluminum

Vijay Kamineni

### Northern KY Tri-Ed

Casey Barach

### The Future of Work in KY Initiative

Sam Ford

In early 2018 CEDIK spearheaded an application to create statewide impact on entrepreneurship through a partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program (REAP) is designed to help regions around the globe evaluate and explore their own entrepreneurial ecosystem and then execute a plan to create as large an impact as possible.

CEDIK's application was successful and Kentucky became the first region in the US to be accepted into the program. **The aim of this two year program is to build a deeper understanding of the entrepreneurial ecosystem from a holistic approach.** Once done, the team, with additional stakeholders, will begin the real work of impacting Kentucky's entrepreneurial health in the most significant way possible.

In October, the core of Kentucky's MIT REAP team met in Cambridge, Massachusetts to begin the process of digging deep into the many variables impacting how entrepreneurs thrive (or not).

The team joined regions from Denmark, Australia, China, Norway, England, Ecuador, Italy, and Mexico. Together, these nine teams created a more comprehensive understanding of their region and a deep appreciation for how each group (government, higher education, corporations, risk capital, and entrepreneurs) impacts each other and are vital to the overall ecosystem.

*Photo above, left to right: Jared Arnett, Vijay Kamineni, Brian Mefford, Scott Stearns - MIT Faculty and Co-founder of REAP, Luke Ramsay - Kentucky Team Champion, Casey Barach, Simona Balazs. Not pictured: John Roush, Rusty Justice, Sam Ford, and Alison Davis.*

#### MIT REAP FRAMEWORK



**MIT REAP**  
**KENTUCKY**

# Appalachian Health Career Scholarship Program Enters its Eighth Year



CEDIK administers scholarships through funding provided by the New York Community Trust, to Appalachian students pursuing education in health care or a health-related field. The program is entering its eighth year, and to date has provided scholarships to 77 Appalachian residents.

Because of the shortage of health care providers in the Appalachian region, along with the expected retirement of many physicians and an aging population that demands more health care, the need to educate and then retain young health care professionals is a real priority. **This scholarship program enhances the pipeline of workers that can adapt to legislative mandates, changing health conditions, and the changing structures of the institutions that can provide health care.**

The scholarship program is open to all full-time (and part-time) undergraduate or graduate students who are beginning or continuing their education in a health career field. To be eligible, students must be accepted in an accredited institution in a program of study in health care or a health care-related field. Examples of qualifying degree programs include but are not limited to nursing, public/community health, mental health, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy, dentistry, health information technology, and health quality improvement. The scholarship provides a maximum of \$5,000 for one year of study.

Over **450** applications received

**77** scholarships awarded

Residents from Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia have been awarded scholarships

Past recipients are now employed as a(n):

- Physician Assistant
- Labor and Delivery Nurse
- Internal Medicine Resident
- Dentist
- Compliance Audit Specialist

