Western Greene County Leadership Academy (EXCCEL)

The Western Greene County Leadership Academy known as EXCCEL pools emerging leaders from the western side of county including the towns of Republic, Willard, Ash Grove and rural areas in an effort to develop future community leaders. EXCCEL graduates use insights and skills learned to engage in building community networks, make well-informed community decisions and find real solutions to real problems. In the process of EXCCEL classes they also learn more about county resources, issues facing their communities and how to help find solutions.

Those discoveries and creative ideas will be shared with the community through special reports published in the Greene County Commonwealth. This creates a community development partnership between emerging leaders, University of Missouri Extension, Greene County Commission and Greene County Commonwealth.

The purpose of EXCCEL is community development through graduates who network and create a shared community vision, commit themselves as leaders to build a course of action to improve the lives of residents in their community, establish partnerships with others to expand available community and county resources and to better engage the community in discussions about these complex issues by using the community newspaper as a resource.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

LOCATION: Will vary with each session each team that plans a session. Most likely, the sessions will make use of the community rooms at libraries or other public locations. Sessions will run from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. except for Legislative Day which is a day-long event.

FOOD: To encourage participation, meals will be included from various local vendors. Class members can bring snacks or get a community business to underwrite a meal on the evenings they plan. MU Extension will fund meal costs that are incurred and reimburse costs.

TEAMS: At the first meeting, attendees will be placed into teams. Those teams will organize one evening of the program and plan that evening’s agenda with guidance from MU Extension Community Development Specialist David Burton. The goal with each session is to dive deep into local community issues and discuss possible solutions. The entire class will also be put into a working group to develop, organize and lead a community initiative or project to address a community issue (either through funding, creation or awareness). Teams will also write editorials/columns for publication in the Greene County Commonwealth.

NO COST FOR THE 2017-2018 SESSION
FEES: Probably $75 per person, payable to Greene County Extension. Grant funds and sponsorships are also being pursued. Fees cover postage and copying costs, travel, speaker fees, publications and meals. Missouri State does a community leadership program that costs $795 per person. Leadership Springfield with the Springfield Chamber of Commerce costs nearly $1,500 per person and requires a year-long commitment.

APPLICATIONS: Yes, a short application is required and it includes behavior expectations for class participants. For the first year the class is limited to 14. That application is attached.
PROGRAM PARTNERS: University of Missouri Extension in Greene County will be taking the lead in partnership with the Greene County Commonwealth and Republic Chamber of Commerce. The Greene County Commission and various county departments and city governments will be vital to the programs success.

CLASS OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE—ENROLLMENT DEADLINE IS AUGUST 28, 2017

CLASS #1—THURSDAY, SEPT. 14 at office of the Greene County Commonwealth, Republic
WELCOME ABOARD – Kick off event with program overview and goals; introduction of participants; team pairing and assignments; fundraising/development 101; media writing as it relates to the monthly space provided in the Commonwealth; and explanation of county/community job shadowing. Will review statewide community conversation data and then collect input from the team on key issues to address.

Team will write/create group editorial/page for Commonwealth regarding issues discovered during each session along with possible solutions which will be published two weeks later

CLASS #2 – Organized by a member team -- Ash Grove
THURSDAY, SEPT. 28 in Ash Grove. Location and agenda determined by assigned team.

CLASS #4 – Organized by a member team -- Willard
THURSDAY, OCT. 19 in Willard. Location and agenda determined by assigned team.

CLASS #5 – Organized by a member team -- Republic
THURSDAY, NOV. 16 in Republic. Location and agenda determined by assigned team.

CLASS #5 – Organized by a member team -- Regional Development, Transportation & More
THURSDAY, JAN. 18. Location and agenda determined by assigned team.

CLASS #6 – Organized by a member team – County Government – Should include tour of jail, and could include meeting with Commissioners, planning and zoning and county emergency management.
THURSDAY, FEB. 15. Location and agenda determined by assigned team.

LEGISLATIVE DAY – Normally near the end of February or first of portion of March. Trip to Jefferson City to visit with legislators will occur during MU Extension Legislative Day when activities are in place. MU Extension will provide needed vans, drivers and meals. Appointments will be made with as many representatives and senators from the represented area as possible. TENATIVE DATE: March 1, 2018

TEAM EVENT OR ACTIVITY – What this is and when it is will be decided by team members who work collectively on this event and have a final product completed end of May. This could be a special one-time event, or an awareness activity or something designed to address local concerns. Date determined by team.

FINAL SESSION – Special speaker for this wrap-up event/program and graduation. In future years this will become a combined graduation and EXCCEL alumni event. MARCH 8 or March 15, 2018

GROUP EDITORIALS — Program participants will write columns and editorials outlining major issues for communities and offering possible solutions. These writings will be printed monthly in the Commonwealth and the Spring “Progress Edition” will feature team writings with profiles of EXCCEL participants. All content will be submitted electronically to staff at the Greene County Commonwealth. The newspaper editor and the course instructor both reserve the opportunity to edit the submission for content, style or length.
TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS
When setting up a community program, the following are possible topics to have addressed.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Topics could include local police issues, domestic abuse, crime stoppers & meth issues and fire safety; additional city issues related to public safety or related boards.

LOCAL ECONOMY – Factual overview of local economy from city; discussion of city finances; a session on “understanding the city budget,” panel of local retailers; tourism and recreation discussion.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT -- Overview of issues facing community and organization of local govt.; roundtables with council members; reports from existing committees.

HEALTH & SOCIETY -- Topics related to health & senior services, child care opportunities, faith organizations and new social groups like Hispanics and health care issues in community.

EDUCATION & LIFE LONG LEARNING --Issues related to elementary, secondary and continuing education in the community or the county at large.

PLANNING FOR GROWTH -- Issues related to planning and zoning, land use, development and growth in the community being visited.

GOALS OF EXCCEL
The EXCEL program is designed to increase the capacity of individuals and communities to address community problems by mobilizing the community human and social capital for common purposes. EXCEL strengthens: personal growth and self-efficacy; community commitment; shared future and purpose, community knowledge and civic engagement. Doing this class in partnership with an established newspaper makes sense because research supports the idea that a healthy community needs a healthy newspaper to support it.

COURSE FACILITATORS
Each time we meet we will hear from different experienced community leaders who will provide instruction for that week. Three people will guide this program from beginning to end and provide instruction and guidance on projects, discussions and planning. Those individuals are:

Ryan Squibb is the owner and publisher of the Greene County Commonwealth. Ryan grew up near Bois D’Arc on a family farm and graduated from Ash Grove High school and later, the University of Missouri (degree in agriculture journalism). He returned home and to fulltime farming in 2002. In 2010, he was named editor of the Republic Monitor in Republic and the later purchased the Willard, Ash Grove, Republic and Mt. Vernon newspapers operating them under the name of Squibb Media. He still manages to farm as well.

David Burton is a civic communication specialist for University of Missouri Extension and is headquartered in Greene County. Burton assists the members of the news media, individuals and communities in gaining a better understanding of local issues. Born and raised in Ash Grove (a 1984 graduate of AGHS), David and his wife Stacey now live in Republic, with their two children. He has a master's degree in marketing and communication from Drury University (2001) and a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and communication/journalism from Drury (1988). For five years, he was the managing editor of a weekly newspaper. Since joining MU Extension in 2001 he has been honored as county program director of the year, outstanding teacher of the year and for the innovative program of the year. He is also an instructor in MU Extension’s online leadership program known as “Leadership Online for Today.”

Andrea Banwart is the executive director of the Republic Area Chamber of Commerce. Banwart’s background includes experience as a school counselor, a co-founder of a not-for-profit organization (Give Back Republic), a local business owner, and an adjunct professor, giving her a unique perspective and set of qualifications to help lead and nurture the Republic business community as it continues to grow.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>What/Where</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Confirmed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Introduction to EXCEL</td>
<td>Program overview and goals; intro of participants; team assignments; lessons on editorial writing; review community conversation data and collect input on key issues to address.</td>
<td>Ryan Squibb, David Burton and Andrea Banwart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Sept. 22</td>
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<td>First editorial</td>
<td>Team overview, contact</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Focus on Ash Grove</td>
<td>Key issues in Ash Grove with input from community leaders; discussion solutions</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Oct. 13</td>
<td></td>
<td>Second editorial</td>
<td>Issues/solutions for Ash Grove</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Focus on Willard</td>
<td>Key issues in Willard with input from community leaders; includes discussion of solutions</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Third editorial</td>
<td>Issues/solutions for Willard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Nov. 16</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Focus on Republic</td>
<td>Key issues in Republic and input from community leaders; includes discussion of solutions</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Fourth editorial</td>
<td>Issues/Solutions for Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Jan. 18</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Focus on region</td>
<td>Key issues in the region with input from community leaders and overview of solutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Fifth editorial</td>
<td>Issues/solutions for region</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs.</td>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Focus on county</td>
<td>Key issues in Greene County; will include a tour of the jail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Sixth editorial</td>
<td>Issues/solutions for county</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Legislative Day in Jefferson City in partnership with MU Extension</td>
<td>Visit with legislators from our part of the county; tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Seventh editorial</td>
<td>Issues/solutions for county</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
<td>Team or community event held</td>
<td>Planned by the team to address a specific issue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Eighth editorial</td>
<td>Lessons learned from event</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>EXCCEL Graduation</td>
<td>Dinner and a speaker</td>
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<td>Progress Edition of the Commonwealth</td>
<td>Profile of Excel Team with focus on community issues</td>
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I wish to apply to be part of the EXCCEL program for western Greene County.

Name ____________________________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________________

City ________________________________  State ________________  Zip ____________

E-Mail ____________________________________________________________________

Home Phone __________________________  Business Phone _______________________

_______ I give permission to have my photo taken during classes and events related to this program and for those photos to be used by Greene County MU Extension and the Greene County Commonwealth.

_______ I give the Greene County Commonwealth permission to publish by writings and to list me as an official member of their community editorial board.

_______ I have reviewed the code of ethics provided and I agree to abide by them.

Signature: __________________________________________________________________________

Since 1914, Greene County residents have sought help from MU Extension in areas related to agriculture, gardening, youth, nutrition, cooking, families, and business and community development. Local Extension programs — like 4-H, Master Gardeners, nutrition education and more — have had a positive impact on the quality of life in Greene County. Your gift helps that impact continue. Your gift is fully tax-deductible and goes directly to the Greene County Extension Council to help grow MU Extension’s 100 year history of programs.
EXCCEL Application

Name of employer: ___________________________________________________________

Employer address: ___________________________________________________________

City ________________________________ State ________________ Zip ____________

Your occupation: ____________________________________________________________

Your education level: _________________________________________________________

How long have you lived in western Greene County: ______________________________

What community or service projects or groups do you currently work with or on: __________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

Name/Contact for someone you would recommend for EXCCEL: ______________________

___________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________

How did you hear about the EXCCEL program: _____________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________
Provide a short essay explaining why you want to be part of the EXCCEL program and what you hope to gain from this professional development experience.
MU Extension Volunteer Conduct

Volunteers are fundamental in partnering with MU Extension to guide and deliver programs relevant to the citizens of Missouri. Extension depends on volunteers to operate with a high standard of ethical conduct.

All extension volunteers must understand and observe these basic standards:

- Treat all youths and adults with respect and without discrimination. This standard includes providing equal access to participation for all, regardless of their race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, genetic information, disability or protected veteran status.
- Avoid harming youths or adults, whether through neglect, sexual harassment, physical force, verbal or emotional abuse.
- Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation.
- Display mutual respect to one another.
- Practice personal and intellectual integrity.
- Demonstrate responsible decision-making.
- Display tolerance and respect for diverse opinions and perspectives.
- Avoid situations where a conflict of interest may occur, regarding their role as an MU Extension volunteer and their business interests.

As a volunteer for University of Missouri Extension and by completing this agreement, you agree that if you, while acting as a volunteer for the University of Missouri Extension, become aware of sex discrimination— including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking on the basis of sex, dating or intimate partner violence, or sexual exploitation involving a student, employee, volunteer or visitor of the university — you will report such behaviors. This action applies regardless of whether the recipient of the behavior is a student, employee, volunteer or visitor of the University of Missouri. You will report the incident to Mizzou's Title IX Coordinator via phone, S73-882-3880, or report via an online form (available on Title IX website). For more information, visit Mizzou's Title IX office website at http://title9.missouri.edu/.

In addition, programs that engage youth as learners or as planning partners must annually complete background checks on volunteers that work with youth, and ensure that screened and oriented volunteers are present whenever youth are present.

- As an MU Extension volunteer, volunteers must fulfill their obligation as a mandated reporter as prescribed by Missouri State Law (Section 210.115.1). If a volunteer believes there is or has been child abuse or neglect, that volunteer must make a report to the appropriate Missouri Child and Abuse Hotline, in addition to the MU Extension staff person who directly supervises the volunteer service.

- Abstain from using alcohol or any illegal substance while working with, or responsible for, youth.

- Be proactive in following best practices for age-appropriate youth supervision:
  1. Make and follow appropriate plans for emergency responsiveness and disaster response.
  2. Obtain and manage health and medical information for emergency response in appropriate situations.

Procedures, requirements and any additional rules will be developed and administered by the appropriate program director, continuing education director or as needed by the vice provost for MU Extension.
Procedures for appeal will be developed and administered at the program level. Each program may also implement processes for review, remediation and appeal that are unique to program circumstances and context.

Volunteers are expected to observe the standards detailed on page 1. Any of the following conduct may be grounds for removal from the program at the discretion of MU Extension administration. The list includes, but may not be limited to:

- Falsification of information, including forgery, omission or provide misleading information regarding an individual’s role as an extension volunteer.

- Representation as an MU Extension volunteer in an unauthorized role, or attempting to implement management or policy decisions that are inconsistent or in direct violation of MU Extension program policies.

- Breach of confidentiality, unauthorized possession, use, copying, or reading of any confidential information to unauthorized persons.

- Theft, unauthorized possession, use or transfer of assets or property of MU Extension, or of another person’s property who is participating, volunteering or working for an MU Extension program; or in any manner defrauding the organization of its assets for any reason or by any means, regardless of value.

- Possession, use, being under the influence, sale, distribution or unlawful manufacture of illicit drugs or alcohol; or misuse or abuse of prescribed or over-the-counter drugs while performing volunteer duties.

- Conviction of a felony violation during the period in which they are serving as an MU Extension volunteer.

- Violation of anti-discrimination policies. Volunteers will not discriminate on the basis their race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, genetic information, disability or protected veteran status. Non-discrimination policies may apply to instances occurring in other settings, including off-campus if there are effects of the conduct that interfere with or limit a person’s ability to participate in or benefit from extension’s educational programs or activities.

- Disorderly conduct including, but not limited to, sexual harassment, creating a disturbance or fighting with or striking a fellow volunteer or program participant.

- Destruction or defacement of property.

In cases where accusations are made against a volunteer, awaiting further information or final determination, a volunteer may be temporarily removed from his or her volunteer role or may be allowed to continue in their volunteer role with certain restrictions.

These policies are in effect for all MU Extension programs that use the participation of volunteers in program guidance and program delivery. Examples include, but are not limited to, Master Gardeners, EXCEL, Youth Development programs, Community Arts, Master Naturalists, Osher LLI, various continuing education programs and any program in which volunteers are engaged to assist in MU Extension program delivery.

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<tr>
<th>Volunteer name (printed)</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Phone number</th>
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<tr>
<th>Supervisor name (printed)</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Phone number</th>
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University of Missouri

PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE

Please check the box that best describes you:

☐ MU student age 18 or older
☐ Non-MU student age 18 or older
☐ MU student under age 18
☐ Non-MU student under age 18
☐ MU College of Veterinary Medicine client age 18 or older

For valuable consideration received, I ___________________________ hereby give The Curators
(print name)
of the University of Missouri, a public corporation, its employees, officers, agents and assigns, the absolute and
irrevocable right and permission, with respect to the videos, audio recordings and/or photographs that its employees,
officers, agents or assigns have taken of me, and/or my child, and/or my livestock or companion animal(s) on
______________________________
(date)
______________________________
(list location)

a. To copyright the same in the name of The Curators of the University of Missouri.

b. To use, re-use, sublicense to other entities, publish and republish the same in whole or in part, individually or in
conjunction with other photographs or images, in any medium including, but not limited to print, video, audio
recordings or the Internet, for all purposes, including advertising, trade or any commercial purpose throughout
the world and in perpetuity.

I hereby release and discharge The Curators of the University of Missouri, a public corporation, its successors and
assigns, its officers, employees and agents, and the members of the Board of Curators, from any and all claims and
demands arising out of or in connection with the use of such photographs, film or tape, including, but not limited to, any
claims for defamation or invasion of privacy.

I understand The Curators of the University Missouri, a public corporation, and its employees, officers or agents
cannot warrant or guarantee that, on placement of such photograph or video image on the University’s website or in other
media, any further dissemination of my photograph or video image will be subject to University supervision or control.
Accordingly, I release The Curators of the University Missouri, a public corporation, its employees, officers,
agents, and the members of the Board of Curators, from any and all liability related to further dissemination of my
photograph or video image.

If I am an MU student, I hereby consent to the release of said videotape, audio recordings, film, photographs or any
other medium for the above-stated purposes and in accordance with the terms stated above, pursuant to the consent

I am of legal age and have read the foregoing and fully understand the contents thereof. Sign on appropriate line(s).

Signature ___________________________ Print name ___________________________
Parent/Guardian signature ___________________________ on behalf of ___________________________.
(for subjects under age 18) (child’s full name)
College of Veterinary Medicine client signature ___________________________ on behalf of ___________________________
(animal’s name or description)