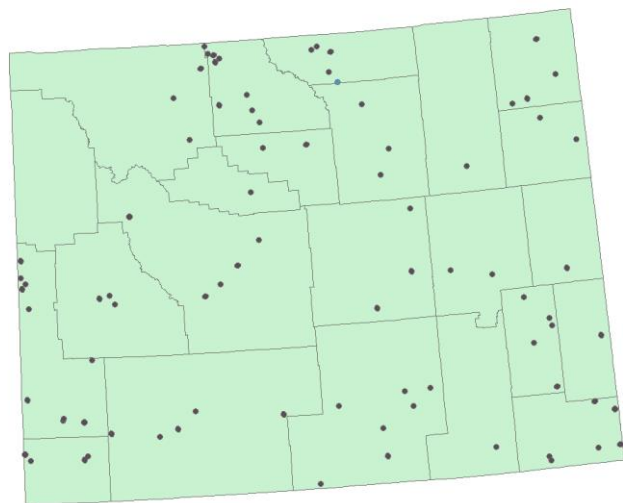


WYOMING'S COMMUNITY REVIEWS PROGRAM REACHES STATEWIDE

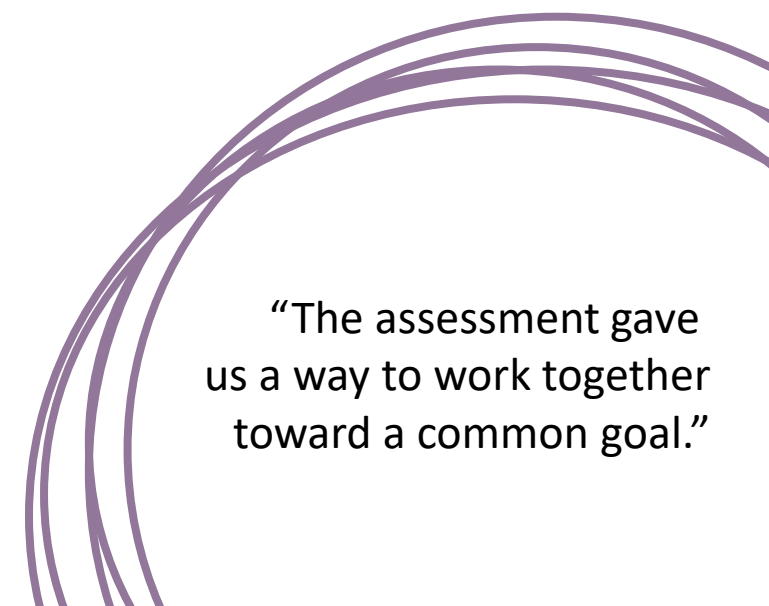


The Wyoming Business Council implemented the Wyoming Community Reviews program in 2000. A community review is an assessment and strategic planning process designed for towns with fewer than 10,000 people. The program brings together community members and local leaders with experts in rural community and economic development to identify local priorities and resources to achieve them.

Community reviews are co-developed with local leaders, business owners, and residents. Each review is unique, focuses on a wide range of community issues, and is tailored to the community. This process helps communities move from assessment to action to results.



- Community reviews in 85 communities since 2000
- 2 new assessments each year
- Plans underway in Cody and Fort Laramie



“The assessment gave us a way to work together toward a common goal.”

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING IS PARTNERING WITH UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO TO STUDY WAYS TO IMPROVE THE COMMUNITY REVIEWS PROGRAM



www.communityreview.org



Funding from a USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture research grant is helping us identify ways communities benefit from participating in Wyoming's Community Reviews program.

To date, five Wyoming communities have participated in the evaluation process called "Ripple Effects Mapping," which helps communities identify the chain of effects resulting from the review and their implementation efforts. Another 10 communities, at least, will be evaluated before the grant ends in 2020.

Participating communities receive up to \$1,000 to implement a project identified as a need by their review.



This project is supported by USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Grant #2016-10945. It is part of the AFRI Foundational program.

"We have a pretty optimistic community now and a lot of positive change."

WYOMING'S COMMUNITY REVIEWS PROGRAM HAS POSITIVE IMPACTS ON RURAL COMMUNITIES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Green River

Downtown revitalization including a new building for police department

Rawlins

Received grant to participate in the Main Street Program

Wright

Received several grants to build a visitor center and fire hall

IMPROVEMENTS IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Cokeville

Installed back-up generator at city hall to help with frequent blackouts

Rawlins

Improved the leaky reservoir

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

Baggs

Formed a women's empowerment group; Established a monthly community dinner and oral history

Rawlins

Created several new community groups, including an artist guild and several physical activity classes

WYOMING'S COMMUNITY REVIEWS PROGRAM HAS POSITIVE IMPACTS ON RURAL COMMUNITIES

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Baggs

Raised about \$500,000 for a new community center

Cokeville

Created a new rec program that includes a soccer league and bussing kids to swim lessons

Rawlins

Passed a bond for a new aquatic center and new schools

IMPROVEMENTS IN HEALTHCARE

Baggs

Formed a rural health district and a new health clinic

Cokeville

Created a hospital district and a local health clinic

IMPROVEMENTS IN TRANSPORTATION

Baggs

Started a community bus to other towns and regional events

Wright

Created safer roads by adding lanes and easier access to commercial property

THANK YOU!

Contact the Wyoming Business Council
to learn more about, or participate in, the
Wyoming Community Reviews program:

www.wyomingbusiness.org/creviews
307-777-5812

Watch for comprehensive reports on
www.communityreview.org
over the next year