Save the Date for the 2015 NACDEP Conference in Little Rock

Join us for some southern hospitality at the 2015 NACDEP Conference to be held May 17-20, 2015 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Voted #1 on Kiplinger’s Top 10 Great Places to Live in 2013, the conference will offer something for everyone. We’ll be staying downtown in the River Market District, an area that has been transformed over the past several years. Here’s a sneak peak at some of the local community development highlights being considered for workshops and tours:

- Clinton Presidential Library & Museum and School of Public Service – Learn a little bit about presidential history and a lot about action leading to positive changes in Arkansas and around the world.
- Heifer International Campus, Village & Ranch – Experience the hands-on, interactive global education activities and philanthropic efforts of this nonprofit and tour the new platinum LEED-certified facility.
- Embrace cultural diversity as you visit the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Landmark (pivotal point in civil rights and desegregation history), Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, and Consulate of Mexico.
- Chow down on great food for the body and mind while you learn about our Local Food Initiatives, featuring North Little Rock’s Argenta Market, the Little Rock River Market Farmers Market, and restaurants featuring local-grown products.
- Downtown Revitalization – Participate in a tour and interactive discussion with local leaders on the evolution the Little Rock-North Little Rock downtown area made possible through public-private partnerships. It all started with a napkin!
- Grab a bicycle and ride along the downtown sections of the 34-mile Arkansas River Trail and take part in a Q&A session with local leaders about collaboration and investments to create and expand this local jewel.
- Fayetteville Shale – Explore the energy, environmental, economic, agricultural, and local government impacts of recent natural gas extraction activity in this area just north of Little Rock.
- Test your limits at the C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center by participating in our ExCEL program, a teambuilding and leadership program with experiential on-ground activities, a low-ropes course, team climbing tower, Giant's ladder, and high ropes course.
- Arkansas State Parks – Learn about the economic and quality of life impacts of this robust system in our state and enjoy the outdoors with hiking and interpretive activities at Pinnacle Mountain State Park.
- Rural Health Initiative – Get an in-depth look at this collaborative effort to improve access and quality of health care in Arkansas.

Do you have additional ideas or want to get involved at the ground-level in planning this fabulous event? If so, contact Stacey McCullough smcullough@uaex.edu; 501-671-2078) today!

Submitted by Stacey McCullough

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