

## ABOUT US:

The cooperative business model, rooted in community with a focus on people, has a long history of building from the ground up. Cooperatives are owned and controlled by the people they serve, working together to meet shared economic, social and cultural needs. Cooperatives are also committed to the communities they serve and work to help them prosper.

Nearly a century ago, rural communities established cooperatives to bring electric and telephone services to underserved areas, significantly enhancing their quality of life. In 1942, these early electric cooperatives formed the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC). In partnership with North Dakota's telecommunications cooperatives, now the Broadband Association of North Dakota (BAND), NDAREC began offering rural development services in the early 1990s. Today, they continue to elevate the quality of life in communities across North Dakota through various initiatives.



*Nineteen26 Campground and Lodging*



*Nineteen26 Campground and Lodging co-owner **Erin Dewitz**, with contractor, **John Ellis**, Steele*



*Rural Access Distribution Co-op members collaborate with Emmons County volunteers.*

## CONTACT US:



**ELLEN HUBER**  
Rural Development Director  
☎ 701-667-6444  
✉ ehuber@ndarec.com



**MARY HELVIG**  
Rural Development Specialist  
☎ 701-667-6404  
✉ mhelvig@ndarec.com



**CHRIS GESSELE**  
Cooperative Development Specialist  
☎ 701-667-6405  
✉ cgessele@ndarec.com



**BRIAN GION**  
Cooperative Development Specialist  
☎ 701-667-6440  
✉ bgion@ndarec.com



### Rural Development Services

3201 Nygren Dr. N.W. | P.O. Box 727  
Mandan, ND 58554  
www.ndarec.com



# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



*KayCee Lindsey, Lindsey Grocery, Crosby*

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FOR NORTH DAKOTA

Powering grassroots efforts with development experience and resources to assure quality of life in North Dakota's communities





Calli and CJ Thorne, co-owners of Yellowstone River Beef, Williston

## BECOME A COMMUNITY CHAMPION

Imagine the impact you could have on your community with the right support and resources to assist you. Through the NDAREC rural development service center, we can assist your community with economic and community development projects that improve access in areas like health care, child care, food processing and distribution, housing and economic betterment.

Our team is dedicated to helping you turn your ideas into impactful projects. Whether you're focused on economic development infrastructure or community projects, we provide the expertise and technical skills to help bring your vision into reality.

By engaging with our services, you can champion initiatives that enhance the quality of life for everyone, fostering a sense of pride and unity within your community. Together, we can create a legacy of progress and prosperity.

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- Guide organizational and business development
- Provide business development analysis
- Develop and promote cooperative development strategies
- Assist in obtaining start-up funds for research and development activities
- Provide start-up administrative services
- Provide professional referrals
- Coordinate local and statewide rural development efforts



Dockside Entertainment, Devils Lake



## FINANCING AND FUNDING RESOURCES



Rural Development Finance Corporation  
GROWING COMMUNITIES

## LOANS & GRANTS

With a mission of encouraging economic diversification and community vitality, the Rural Development Finance Corporation (RDFC) plays a valuable role in financing for North Dakota communities through revolving loan and grant programs. RDFC specializes in incentive financing for communities with populations of 10,000 or fewer. It is directed by electric and broadband cooperatives operating in North Dakota, the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives (NDAREC) and Broadband Association of North Dakota (BAND).



North Dakota Rural Electric Cooperatives Foundation

## EXPANDING CAPACITY

With a vision of vibrant, sustainable rural communities now and into the future, the North Dakota Rural Electric Cooperatives Foundation provides another avenue for agencies, organizations and individuals to support rural development initiatives. The foundation's ability to fundraise provides additional resources for projects of a charitable nature and builds on the capacity of the rural development service center to pursue opportunities and address challenges for small towns and businesses.

*A unique aspect of working with the rural development team at NDAREC is they are skilled in finding funding sources that match your community's needs. Often, they link the correct combination of local, state and federal sources together to make rural development in your community successful.*



Staff discuss a proposed local food hub with produce growers.