

Congressional Breakfast Briefing
sponsored by the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
in collaboration with the
Rural Sociological Society and the American Agricultural Economics Association
and support from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation

Rural and Community Prosperity
8:30 to 10:30 a.m., Friday July 20, 2001
Gold Room (2168) of the Rayburn Office Building

The Briefing will inform key decision makers in the legislative and executive branches of the federal government about strategic findings of social science research, teaching and extension programs bearing on rural and community prosperity. Details about the briefing and key participants appear below.

Key Participants

The host, **Dr. Howard Silver**, Executive Director of COSSA, will open the Briefing with a short introductory comment, providing context about COSSA's sponsorship of a series of Congressional briefings, through a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. The audience will consist principally of key stakeholders for rural and community prosperity -- staff members from Congress, federal agencies and non-government organizations.

Dr. Janet Bokemeier (Michigan State University and Chair, ESCOP Social Science Committee) will overview the briefing and introduce the speakers. To highlight issues and opportunities facing rural America, describe relevant research, teaching and extension work, and suggest policy options:

Dr. Cornelia (Neal) Flora (Iowa State) will examine communities in the rural context;

Dr. Diane McLaughlin (Penn State) will describe rural families; and

Dr. Mike Woods (OK State) will lay out rural economic issues.

Dr. Chuck Fluharty (RUPRI) will summarize the presentations and highlight policy-relevant options.