

NEWS RELEASE May 18, 2023 Contact: Mary Breidenbach mabreide@purdue.edu

First North Central Region 1994 Land Grant Innovation Grant Awarded

(West Lafayette, Ind.) – North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD) is thrilled to announce the 2023 recipient of the North Central Region (NCR) 1994 Land Grant Innovation Grant.

As the newest NCRCRD competitive seed grant for 2023, the NCR 1994 Land Grant Innovation Grant aims to enhance the ability of the North Central Region's 34 land-grant institutions to positively influence the quality of life for 1994 Land Grant stakeholders in rural areas, sovereign nations, and Native American communities in the twelve states of the North Central Region of the United States.

Please join us in congratulating the first recipients of this grant:

Principal Investigator: Anna Ross, Turtle Mountain Community College Grant Title: Turtle Mountain Community College Leadership Internship Organization: Turtle Mountain Community College State: North Dakota NCRCRD Priority Area: Developing Leadership & Civic Engagement

"We are delighted that the new 1994 Innovation Grant was awarded the first year offered," shared Maria Marshall, NCRCRD Director. "With twenty 1994 Land Grant Institutions in the North Central region, we look to grow these awards in the future."

All submissions are reviewed by the NCRCRD advisory committee and based on their recommendations, the NCRCRD board selects the final recipients. Because NCRCRD receives its core funding from the U. S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA), the grants are also reviewed and approved by the USDA for consistency with Federal guidelines.

NCRCRD offers multiple types of grants each year to enhance the ability of the North Central region's thirty-four land-grant institutions to contribute to the success of the NCR's rural communities. In addition to the NCR 1994 Land Grant Innovation Grant, NCRCRD also offers Small Grants for Rural Development Research and/or Extension Projects, the Collaboration and Implementation Grant, and funding for Thematic Working Groups.

Funds awarded range from \$5,000 - \$40,000 and all projects must relate to the Center's three priority areas of work — Creating Resilient Communities and Economies, Developing Leadership and Civic Engagement, Promoting Community Health and Wellness.

Upon the grant's completion, NCRCRD asks the Principal Investigators of each funded project to share project results or findings with the broader North Central Region and beyond in an NCRCRD-hosted webinar.

NCRCRD list of grants and fellowships: https://ncrcrd.ag.purdue.edu/funding-opportunities/grants-and-fellowships/

NCRCRD webinar series: https://ncrcrd.ag.purdue.edu/webinars/

North Central Region's twelve states and its land-grant institutions: <u>https://ncrcrd.ag.purdue.edu/who-we-are/land-grant-universities/</u>

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The North Central Regional Center for Rural (NCRCRD) is one of four Regional Rural Development Centers in the United States. NCRCRD's work links the research and educational outreach capacity of our region's 34 land-grant universities with our region's communities, local decision-makers, entrepreneurs, families, farmers, and ranchers to help address a wide range of development issues unique to our 12-state region. NCRCRD promotes regional collaboration by elevating the research and extension programs in our region; offering grant opportunities to support new and ongoing regional research, extension, and integrated activities; establishing a North Central Region dataset to encourage regional exploration; and creating networking opportunities through webinars, sponsorships, and making introductions between our partners. For more information, please visit https://ncrcrd.org/.

NCRCRD receives core funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA NIFA) as well as from the North Central Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NCRA), North Central Cooperatives of Extension Association (NCCEA), and Purdue University, College of Agriculture.