Recruiting Members to a Community Partner Advisory Group

Potential advisory group members may ask …

**Why am I being asked to be a member of the Advisory Group?**
Your input is valuable because you are interested in the well-being of your community. You have knowledge about issues, linkages with community organizations, a variety of experiences and influence of others. All these qualities will contribute to a diverse Community Partner Advisory Group.

**What are the benefits of serving on an Advisory Group?**
- Networking with others who share similar interests and concerns
- Helping shape local programming efforts important to the people in the county
- Helping to gather support for establishing and/or extending educational efforts in important areas
- Participating in leadership and issue-focused educational events

**What does Extension need?**
- Help with identifying and framing the issues of local concern
- Assistance with evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of community-based programs
- Help with communicating to others the value of Extension's educational programming

**What type of commitment am I making by joining an Advisory Group?**
- Active participation during your term
- Willing to carry out the stated expectations of group membership
- Agreeing to work cooperatively with other members to determine the work of the advisory group
- Willing to share information with your social/business/community networks
- Willing to collaborate with other Extension planning groups

**Within county government, what is this status of an Advisory Group?**
The general premise is that advisory groups will consist of volunteer members. Most county boards have guidelines or rules for establishing committees and advisory bodies. A Community Partner Advisory Group should follow procedures used for similar advisory bodies and not be subject to higher standards, nor receive dispensation from local rules.