UCANR Innovation Skill-Building Experience, November 2018

Results at a Glance

The Impact Collaborative offers members a statewide or institution-wide Innovation Skill-Building experience locally each year. Since 2017, the Impact Collaborative has held 13 of these events. Prior to the event, we work with leadership teams to understand their goals and what is needed to help with program impact. During these events, we work with members in three areas:

1. Building skills in innovation,
2. Ideating with project and program teams using our design thinking and lean experimentation methodology aligned with local strategic goals, and
3. Creating action plans for projects and programs ready for implementation

This event was designed alongside the UCANR Leadership team to help meet their own unique institutional goals. The intended outcomes of this event were:

1. Teams will apply the Innovation Kit process and Innovation Canvas to develop business model innovations to create novel ideas to fund our work.
2. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) will select 2-4 projects most ready now for further support and/or investment.

To host one of these events in your state or at your institution, member Directors and Administrators need to contact Chris Geith for an initial discussion in order for us to learn what your institution is looking for and expects from a statewide or institution-wide event. Once we are in alignment to move forward, we will coordinate a date with you.
● In attendance:
  ○ 45 participants from 10 teams
  ○ 5 UCANR Leadership Members served as Key Resources
  ○ 2 Innovation Facilitators
  ○ 5 eXtension Staff served as Key Resources

● Results
  ○ 97% agree or strongly agree that they can use the Impact Collaborative design-thinking process from the Innovation Kit for their projects or programs.
  ○ 96% agree or strongly agree that they can co-create with teams that use the engagement and wisdom from the community.
  ○ 97% agree, mostly agree, or strongly agree that they will be able to utilize the information they received from their experience with their projects and programs.
  ○ 94% reported that the Impact Collaborative Innovation Kit materials (content, structure and format) are conducive to their ongoing planning and development.
  ○ 96% stated that they can apply the Innovation Kit to a “real world” idea that creates local impact.

● Team Outputs
  ○ Sample team summaries are below:
    ■ The Flying Squirrels: A Farm to Table dinner with a scientist roadshow for diverse clientele interested in scientific topics that teach people about a unique scientific topic while also advertising UCANR, feeding people, offering an interactive experience and developing relationships, enabling fundraising brand recognition and selling UCANR products unlike a one-time individual county-developed fundraising ask for donations.
    ■ Go!: An evaluation service for industry leaders, federal and state programs, administrators, and other funders, that provides unbiased, credible assessment, enabling improvement of policies and programs unlike the current environment in which policies and programs are not regularly assessed.
  ○ All 10 teams were selected to move forward with further support and/or investment.

● Feedback from Extension Director, Dr. Wendy Powers
  ○ “People were shocked that this was included in our membership with eXtension. I think it really was a tremendous added value of having that membership, and I really appreciated the eXtension teams' participation in it and their flexibility in willing to work with us.”

● Additional Media
  ○ Aspects of this event were featured in this video.