

## Training & Assistance

### Education & Training

- \* Project management
- \* Assistance with membership development
- \* Development planning and training
- \* Board of Director Training Levels I, II and III

### Financial Assistance

- \* Financial projections, assistance with business planning and budgeting assistance
- \* Grant and loan procurement

### Technical Assistance

- \* Strategic planning
- \* Group facilitation
- \* Facilitation of outside resources such as legal and accounting
- \* Assistance with pre-feasibility & feasibility studies
- \* Market analysis and business plan development
- \* Succession planning



*"The Nebraska Cooperative Development Center has helped us develop our business and get the professional training we've needed to excel in our field. Thanks to the NCDC mini-grants, Farmstead First members have been able to attend conferences and get hands-on training from dairy professionals and participate in professional networking with cheese makers and cheese buyers across the country. There is no doubt that our business venture has benefitted from these experiences-thanks so much, NCDC, for your support!"*

*-Krista Dittman, Farmstead First*

NCDC is funded in part by a Rural Cooperative Development Grant provided by USDA Rural Development

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***Dedicated to assisting people prosper in rural areas by helping them to work together through cooperative business development***

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*Our Mission: Dedicated to assisting people prosper in rural areas by helping them work together through cooperative business development.*

For over a decade the UNL Nebraska Cooperative Development Center (NCDC) has been working with start-up and established “multi-owner” businesses throughout the state. NCDC is Nebraska’s center for cooperative based business development. We help facilitate the formation of new business ventures and growth of existing businesses by providing technical assistance, training and education programs.

Cooperative businesses are unique because they are autonomous associations of people united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise. NCDC works with groups who incorporated or have an interest in forming cooperatives, LLCs and other “multi-owner” businesses.

## There are many different types of Cooperatives

### Retail Cooperatives

- \* It’s “our store”
- \* Organized as communities, or other “local group”, owning their own retail stores
- \* Examples: hardware, grocery/food, variety, clothing, agriculture products, and even movie theatres

### Worker Cooperatives

- \* Members of worker cooperatives are both employees of the business as well as owners of the cooperative
- \* New business start-ups could be organized as worker cooperatives
- \* Examples: bakeries, retail stores, software development groups and aquaculture

### Producer Cooperatives

- \* Created by producers
- \* Organized to process, market and distribute their own products
- \* Examples: agriculture products, lumber, carpentry and crafts

### Service Cooperatives

- \* Created to fill a need in the community
- \* Organized to give members more control over the services that are offered
- \* Examples: service co-ops such as child care, health care clinics and funeral services

### Housing Cooperatives

- \* A type of service co-op that is a unique form of home ownership
- \* Organized as an incorporated business formed by people who wish to provide and jointly own their housing
- \* The units in a co-op are owned by the cooperatives and cannot be sold for profit

*“I contacted NCDC because of their experience with pulling groups together. It was a natural fit.”*

*-Connie Hancock,  
University of Nebraska—Lincoln  
Extension*