



**NEBRASKA COOPERATIVE
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**



EXTENSION

Community Vitality Initiative

*Dedicated to assisting people
prosper in rural areas.*

NCDC



NCDC assists groups and communities who are exploring or have formed a cooperative business. NCDC can guide a cooperative effort from visioning to implementation. Services include facilitation, providing resources, technical assistance and education

Benefits of Community Owned Grocery Store

Cooperatives are user-owned and user-controlled businesses formed to benefit a group of members. Cooperatives are designed to reward use, encourage users to commit to using the services, and encourage users to voice opinions about how the business is doing.

- Preserve town's local character.
- Local ownership enables those who feel the impact of a decision to make decisions affecting the business.
- Through operating the enterprise, neighbors understand the economics of operating rural grocery store.
- Community-owned stores support local economies.
- Complement other local businesses.
- Access to food in community.

Cooperatives

- Provide a service or need in the community
- Improve bargaining power
- Reduce costs
- Obtain products or services otherwise unavailable
- Expand new and existing market opportunities
- Increase income

Source: Kansas State University Rural Grocery Store Initiative <https://www.ruralgrocery.org/resources/bestpractices.html>

Process

- Exploring the possibility and organizing
- Assessing Feasibility & Planning
- Implementation

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