## Introduction

Many rural communities are struggling to rise above the economic downturn brought on by changes in traditional farming economies, the loss of manufacturing jobs and the rise of the global marketplace.

Extension professionals are uniquely positioned to help their communities explore new opportunities and to reinvent themselves.

To address this issue NCCE officially launched NC Thrive in July 2013; a community development program whose purpose is to weave all of the academic and practical knowledge housed at the university and within Extension together into a hub for community development support.

## NCSU NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Our goal is to foster vibrant and thriving communities This showcase highlights a few of our new educational technology tools.

