

IMPROVING THE DELTA, ONE YOUNG ADULT AT A TIME



*Young people these days are hopeless!
The Delta is not worth the investment!*

You have heard these judgments, which suggest that it is pointless to try to revitalize rural regions like the Arkansas Delta, because it can be costly and difficult, and because services like health, education, and workforce training are often so distant.

The Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center organized a summit to counter that despair. It connected businesses in the region, community-based organizations, and ordinary citizens of the area to exchange ideas about the life-changing opportunities and services available to young adults in the 18-39 group. They explored ideas for advancing their educational achievement, financial literacy, and lifetime learning and for connecting them with health services that are available in the region. Much better use of the educational resources in the region, including community colleges and trade schools as well as workforce training in the public schools, can improve the quality of life and economic potential of young adults.

Lavern Sims of BGACDC talked about civic engagement, Wilbert Dawson about the importance of insurance and veterans resources, Connie Roebuck of the Roebuck Foundation about health awareness, LaChandra Johnson of the Marvell-Elaine School District about secondary-school services, Richard Spilman of the Delta Cultural Center about the cultural resources in the area.



Netasha Brown, who leads the BGACDC 18-39 initiative, and others established a plan of action to lead people in the community to access the services.