

existence, including the increase of personal satisfaction and the promotion of a more humane society and better quality of life, in ecologically sound ways.

By focusing on individual and group action, the series assumes that the social sciences can provide a body of substantive knowledge, a methodology, and an integrative process by means of which knowledge of other fields can be used to contribute to planned rural social change and development and to more harmonious relationships between society and nature. The main purpose of DEVELOPMENT PRAXIS is to systematize experience and to promote understanding of deliberate change in rural environments and to provide a forum for exchange of ideas and dialogue among all participants in such activities.

Manuscripts addressing one or more of the following aims are invited for submission: (1) to develop and test theoretical and conceptual approaches to planned change and development having explanatory power and implications for action and policies; (2) to document, in detail, the development of new types of social inventions—whether processes, organization, strategies and techniques of inquiry, participation, or communication and action—so that their underlying components can be understood and replicated; (3) to discuss the issues and problems related to the interplay of theory, research, value, and action; (4) to evaluate, directly and explicitly, the implicit social models and the assumptions involved in rural development efforts and draw socioeconomic and/or ecological implications; and (5) to evaluate rural development programs, projects, strategies, and techniques in terms of their effectiveness and ecological validity. Manuscripts should be sent to Nora Cebotarev or Tony Fuller; DEVELOPMENT PRAXIS; The Rural Development Outreach Project; University of Guelph; Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1G 2W1.

## **Minnie Miller Brown Receives Winthrop Rockefeller Award for Distinguished Rural Service**

**The National Rural Center  
Washington, D.C.**

The National Rural Center takes pleasure in announcing that an RSS member, Minnie Miller Brown, is the recipient of one of the first two \$10,000 Winthrop Rockefeller Awards for Distinguished Rural Service. The award, sponsored by the National Rural Center and presented in May in Washington, D.C., was the culmination of a lengthy and detailed selection process involving nominees from 44 states. It is aimed at honoring individual leadership in local communities and in the academic

community. Each nominee must have at least one specific contribution through a project or program that affects a rural area or areas. In addition, the project must deal with an important national or regional problem and must be adaptable to other rural areas with a potential for long-lasting impact. The following information about Brown was included with material announcing the award.

Minnie Miller Brown, a state agent with the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service, helped plan a national food and nutrition program aimed at low-income families. Her national contributions were based on her experience at the state and local levels. In North Carolina, she trained nutrition aides who were from low-income families and native to rural areas, so that the program could reach remote rural areas and the neediest of families.

In the program, nutrition aides receive basic training in nutrition and leadership skills from Extension agents. Then, the aides, working with an average of 50 low-income families at any given time and on an individual basis, begin the educational program. The homemaker, often the family member with the most deficient diet, is asked to record or recall all the food eaten in a 24-hour period. In addition to nutritional instruction, the homemaker is taught financial management, health and sanitation practices, and food preparation and storage techniques. Making good use of what is affordable and available is emphasized. The aides look for changes in food consumption patterns by conducting 24-hour food recalls every six months. When the change occurs, the homemaker graduates from the program to make room for someone else. This program now operates in 94 of North Carolina's 100 counties and on the Cherokee Indian Reservation in the western part of the state. Most participants are rural, 6 out of 10 are black, and 5% are American Indian.

Brown served on a national task force that planned the reporting system for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. This model, which uses the food recall system to monitor changes in family diet, was pre-tested in North Carolina and Ohio. Now a national program, it is aimed at low-income families in urban or rural areas and it operates in every state and nearly half of all counties. Nationally, most participants are urban, 43% are black, and 15% are Hispanic; more than 1.7 million families have been reached.

In addition to Brown's extensive field experience, the award also acknowledges her work as a rural sociologist. As an advocate for rural people, especially minorities and women in the South, Brown has carried her message through her Extension work, teaching at North Carolina State University, numerous workshops including one at the Community and Family Study Center at the University of Chicago, and three different visiting professorships at Cornell University.

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P of PBC Fame (or Infamy):

Thanks again for your initial article and the reply published in this issue. I wonder what conversations all this may create at the RSS meetings?

*Will*

73 ~~78~~ papers 1145 am Sal  
62 Discussion 815 am

# Newsline Rural Sociological Society

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