

Rural-Urban Relations: Building Alliances (8 suggestions)

4. Maintain the Diaspora

The other side of responding to increased mobility concerns the people who leave your communities. They are often treated as population lost. But we also know that there are patterns to population movements that may be treated as opportunities by rural communities. Young people leave, but people often return when they are starting families or retiring. Some communities recognize this and therefore maintain contact with their diaspora. Keeping them up to date with local activities and people and linking them through events and services such as reunions, bulleting boards, and web sites. The Internet makes this easy.

EXAMPLE: Doaktown, NB (pop. 955 in 2001)
Doaktown, NB maintains a monthly newsletter and guestbook on the Internet. Comments in the guestbook reveal the interest and involvement of people from around the world.

