



House Rural Development Council

*The Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation
Jasper, Georgia*

August 20, 2019

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Team



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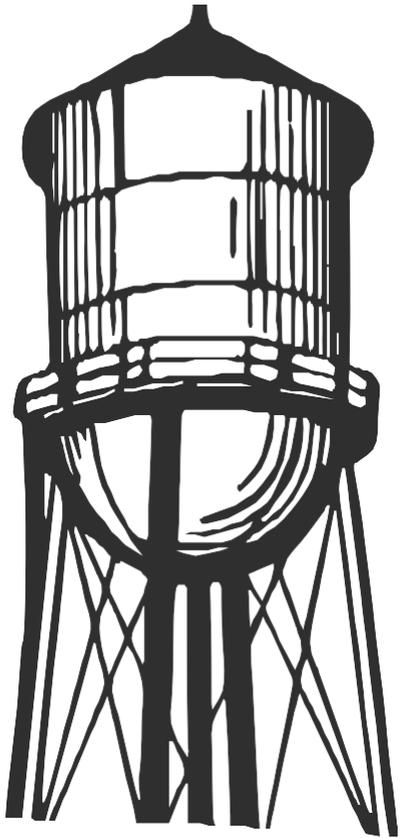
Jessica Akins
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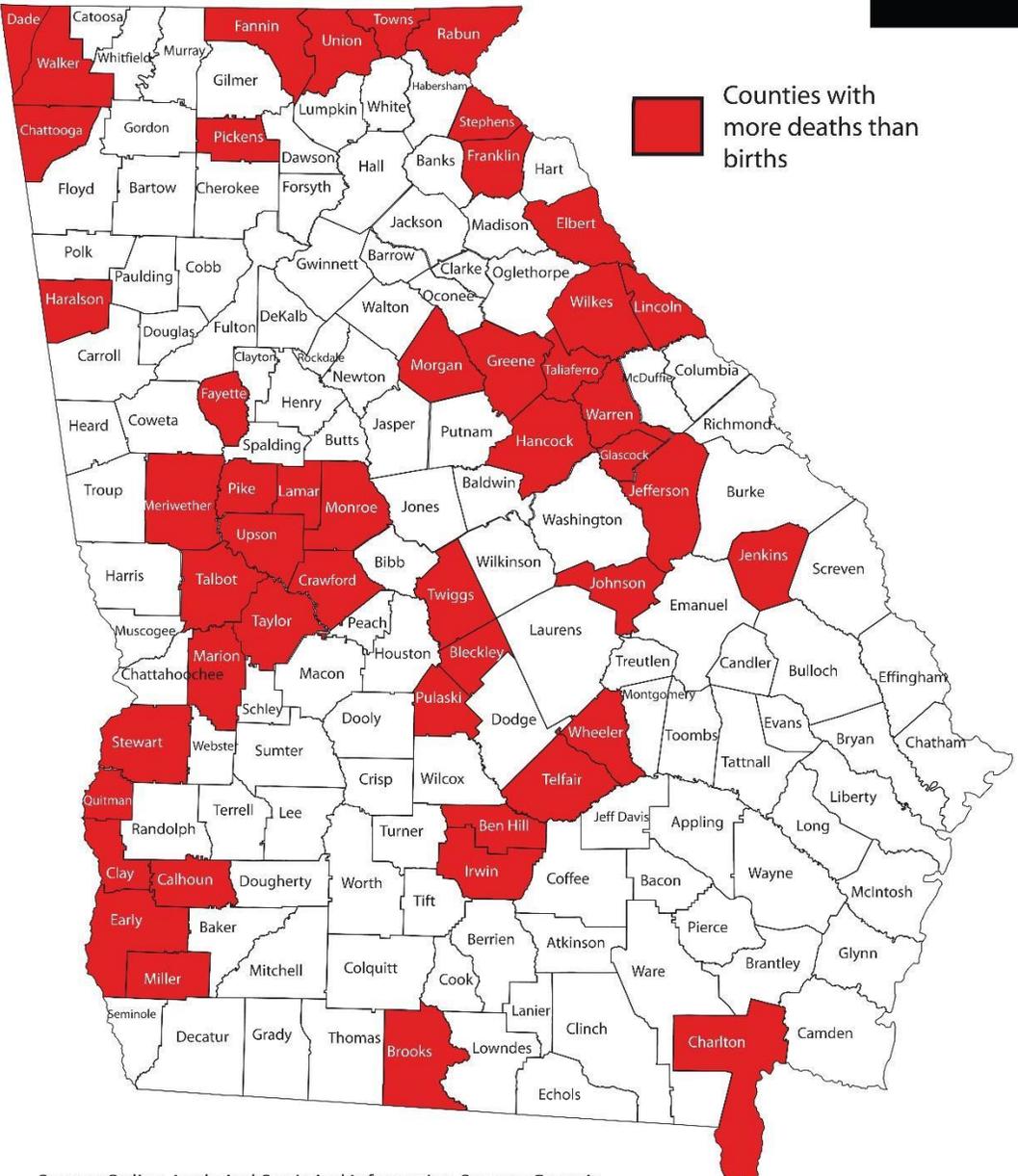
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Finding a path to prosperity!



Source: Online Analytical Statistical Information System, Georgia Department of Public Health.

Is Rural Georgia Dying? Literally?

by Charles Hayslett on August 17, 2015

Why?

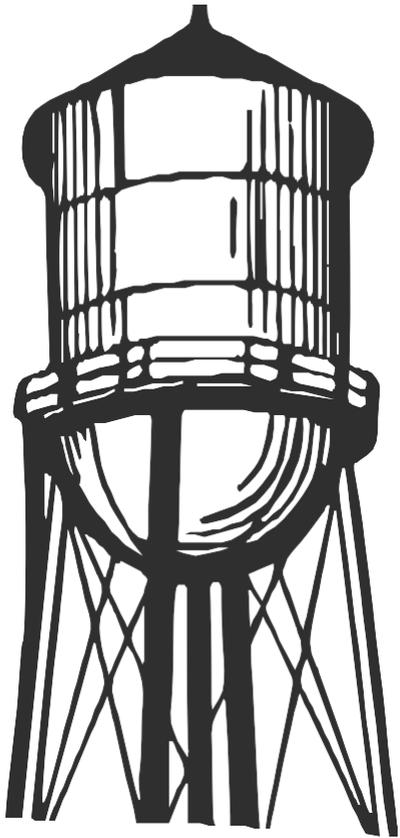
- Birthrate,
- Death rate,
- High export,
 - ✓ HS grads leave
- Low import,
 - ✓ Young singles and families don't move in!



- Concerns about quality of education for their family, and
- Lack of access to basic healthcare needs, and
- Perceived lack of business, job, or financial opportunity,



Three reasons!



Foci for today!



The work of the Center and its staff will be guided by a view that we must,

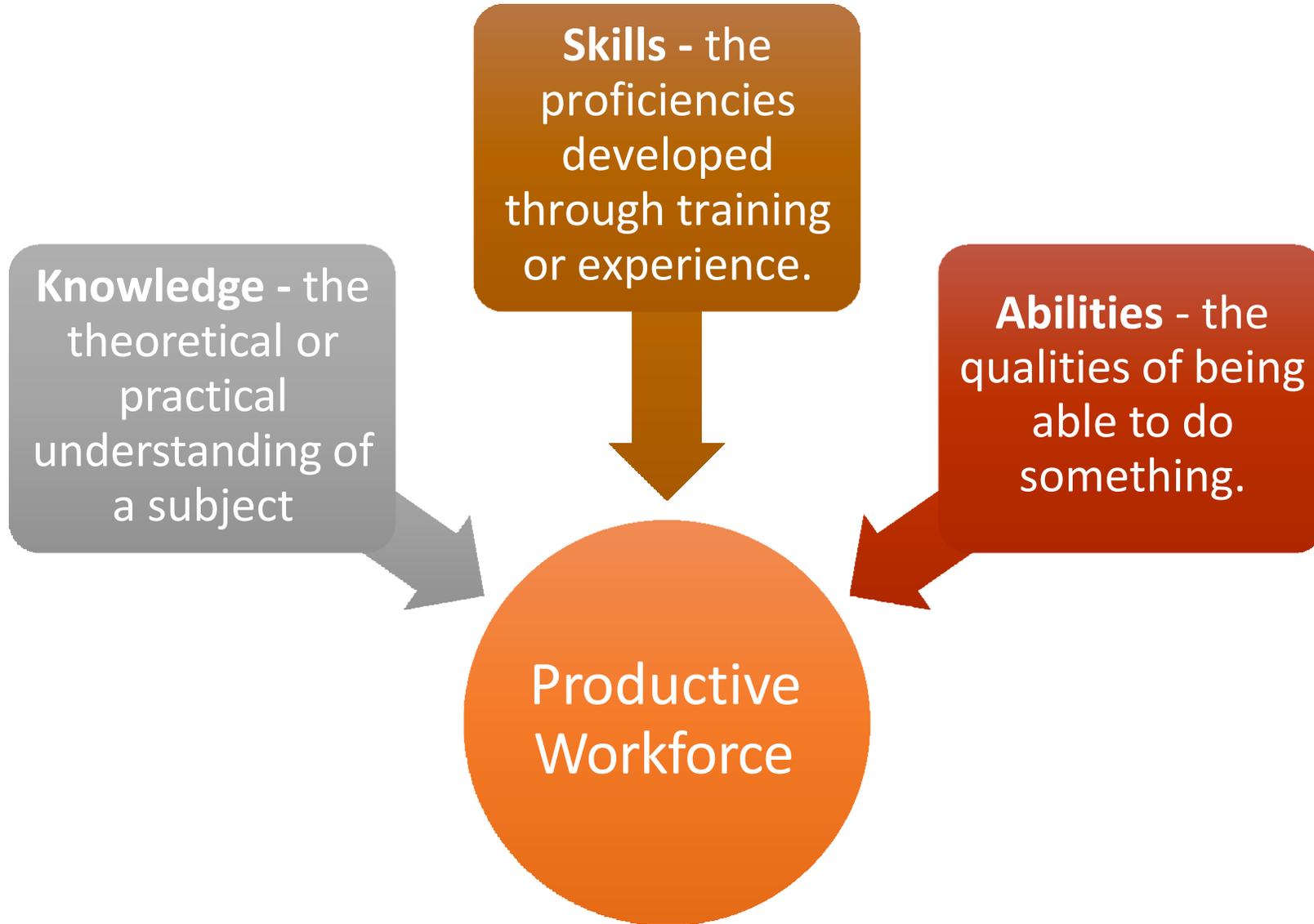
- **Remind** all Georgians of the vital role that rural people and places play in statewide success and that,
- When we find ideas that are working in rural Georgia, we should **recreate** them in other communities throughout the state and that,
- An essential step in **rediscovering, reconnecting, and recreating** rural Georgia is to **reinvest in people by infusing inspired, educated, and energetic human capital in small towns and rural communities.**

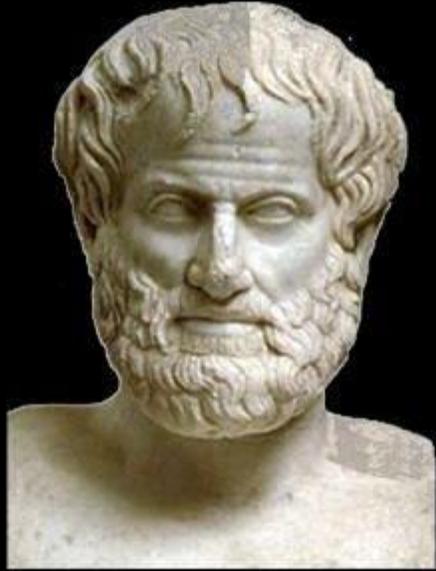
Essence = values and vision

People-Focused Projects

- 
1. General education...
 - A. Mentoring,
 - B. Coaching, and
 - C. Introducing by experience.
 2. Health education
 - A. Winning in Healthcare by Succeeding in Math
 - B. USDA RUS-DLT - taking nursing education to nurses!
 - C. Miller County Hospital
 - D. Regional Health Technology Center

An essential step in **rediscovering, reconnecting, and recreating** rural Georgia is to **reinvest in people by infusing inspired, educated, and energetic human capital in small towns and rural communities.**





ARISTOTLE, THE NICOMACHEAN ETHICS

Aristotle believed that education was central – the fulfilled person was an educated person.

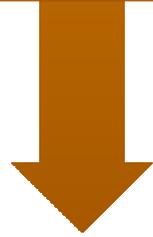
He believed in both education through reason and education through habit.

By the latter he meant **learning** by doing – “Anything that we have to **learn** to do we **learn** by the actual doing of it...”

- ✓ Discipline focused
- ✓ Labs
- ✓ Coaching
- ✓ Hand-on
- ✓ Internships
- ✓ Research
- ✓ Practice



Skills - the proficiencies developed through training or experience.



Knowledge - the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject

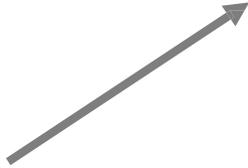


Abilities - the qualities of being able to do something.



Productive Workforce

- ✓ Core curriculum
- ✓ Writing
- ✓ Math
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Discipline oriented course



- ✓ Coaching
- ✓ Mentoring
- ✓ Life experience
- ✓ Internships
- ✓ Critical thinking
- ✓ Problem solving



We believe in internships...







Just this summer:
243 Students in internships
210 Paid internships (86%)

Newton, GA

Joseph W. Jones Ecological Research Center

Goals...

- Systematically connect student interns with prospective internship hosts.
- Connect graduates with potential employers.
- Shine the light on well prepared students – workforce ready!
- Develop a longitudinal database on opportunity, need, and placement in rural communities.
- Introduce college students to opportunities in rural communities.
- Increase importation of well-educated and inspired young people into rural communities.

A Proof of Concept Project



First year successes:

- More than 7,000 student and alumni records loaded
- Nearly 500 active student profiles
- A massive amount of new data is loading based on summer internships.
- As of last week there are 27 new internships posted and 48 full-time permanent jobs.
- 267 ABAC specific employers are registered.
- More than 1,100 employers pay for access to records available through the technology provider.

Math = Better Healthcare!

- Three-year pilot with Colquitt Regional Medical Center,
- Very successful,
- Question - can it be replicated?

Next steps...

- Replicate it with Miller County and Archbold?
- If replication is successful
 - Brand it,
 - Copyright it, and
 - Take it statewide.

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Taking it to the nurses!

Essence of the system...

- High-speed internet,
- Polycom-based bisynchronous telecommunications technology,
- 11 hospitals in rural South Georgia

What does it mean?

- Can deliver the RN to BSN credential step with the added benefit of real communication between educator, nurses, clinical instructors, and CNOs.
- Provides the essential technology to support telemedicine.



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Regional Health Technology Center

- Educators need technology,
- Clinical providers need technology,
- Costly,
- Short life cycle/rapid obsolescence, and
- Opportunity for efficiency and profit!

Our project...

- Determine need,
- Determine feasibility,
- Coerce team play,
- Win!

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Go to ruralga.org