

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Owner & Principal

Tara Kuipers Consulting, LLC, Cody WY

July 2009 – Present

Serve as an independent consultant for facilitation and strategic planning, public involvement, education and training, public speaking, mediation & organizational development projects for organizations and firms in Wyoming and across the Rocky Mountain West and nationwide. Extensive experience working in strategic planning, nonprofit and local government board development, natural resource-related issues, collaborative decision-making, and public involvement.

Community Development Educator

University of Wyoming, Northwest Area, Cody WY

July 2009 – February 2017

Provide communities, organizations, boards & government entities with training and facilitation in the disciplines of leadership development, group facilitation, public involvement, board governance, collaboration, change management, dispute resolution and program evaluation. Continually assess clientele and community needs, then develop, plan, deliver & evaluate education and facilitation opportunities to address defined needs. Utilize various teaching formats such as in-person workshops, multi-session class series, podcasts & videos, written educational articles and marketing items,

Executive Director

M.A.P.S. (Multiple Agencies Partnering for Success) Coalition, Beatrice NE

June 2005 – July 2009

Facilitated and administered a community-wide wellness, safety and community engagement coalition by identifying needs, developing topical task force groups, creating educational materials & programs, overseeing volunteers and staff, securing funds and assessing community impacts.

Student Success Coordinator & Academic Advisor

University of Nebraska Lincoln, Lincoln NE

May 2002 – June 2005

Served undergraduate and graduate students as an academic and career counselor, and implemented a train-the-trainer model for faculty to increase their involvement in student success initiatives.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Education, Adult Education

August 2018

University of Wyoming College of Education, Laramie WY

Master of Science in Education, Counselor Education

December 2002

University of Wyoming College of Education, Laramie WY

Bachelor of Science Human Development & Family Studies

May 2000

South Dakota State University, Brookings SD, Graduated with Highest Honors

RELATED TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

- **Emotional Intelligence Coach**, Institute for Social and Emotional Intelligence, September 2019, Denver CO
- **Strategic Planning Facilitator**, Technology of Participation, December 2017, Portland OR
- **Strategic Doing Facilitator**, Purdue University Agile Strategy Lab, March 2017, Washington DC
- **Understanding Organizational Development**, The OD Network, September 2014, On-line
- **Change Management**, American Society of Training and Development, September 2014, Laramie WY
- **Foundations of Public Participation**, International Association of Public Participation, May 2014, Washington DC
- **The Effective Facilitator Certified Facilitator**, Leadership Strategies, October 2009, Atlanta, GA
- **Mediator and Mediation Trainer**, Nebraska Mediation Association, December 2005, Omaha, NE

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- **Board of Directors**, Intermountain Chapter of International Association of Public Participation, Jan 2014 – Jan 2018
- **National Marketing Committee Member**, National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals, June 2014 – Jan 2016
- **Annual Conference Proposal Selection Committee**, National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP), March 2011 & March 2013
- **Faculty Senate**, University of Wyoming, July 2010 – July 2014

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- **International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)**, Since 2013
- **National Coalition for Deliberation and Dialogue (NCDD)**, Since 2013
- **Association for Talent Development (ATD)** (*formerly American Society for Training & Development*), Since 2010
- **International Association of Facilitators (IAF)**, Since 2009
- **National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP)**, 2009 - 2017

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

Assessing Community Needs Interview and video, Western Regional Program Leaders, Washington State University & Oregon State University, February 2016, Corvallis OR <http://extension.wsu.edu/wrpl/program-assessment/>

Bias and the P2 Professional. Conference Presentations, Intermountain Chapter of IAP2 USA Conference, April 2016 (invited), Salt Lake City UT; and IAP2 North American Conference, September 2014, Portland OR

Community Collaboration: The Barn Raising of Our Times. TED Talk, TEDx Cody: Depicting the West, April 2015, Cody WY, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH3ZgYmPvAk>

Worlds Collide: The Intersection of Facilitation and Adult Education. Conference Presentation, National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP) Annual Conference, June 2014, Grand Rapids MI

Natural Resource Collaboration: Existing Efforts & Lessons Learned. Conference Presentation, Ruckelshaus Institute Collaboration Forum on Natural Resources, April 2013, Lander WY

Strengthening Collaboration by Strengthening Evaluation. Conference Presentation, National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP) Annual Conference, March 2011, Charleston SC

Values to Action. Closing Keynote Address, Snowy Range Nonprofit Leaders Institute, August 2010, Laramie WY

HONORS & AWARDS

- **Collaborative Team Award**, Summer 2019, Wyoming Game and Fish Commission, for work facilitating the Yellowstone Cutthroat Collaborative Regional Working Group
- **Outstanding Educator Award Recipient**, December 2015, University of Wyoming College of Ag & Natural Resources
- **Excellence in Community Development Education Programming Award**, June 2014, National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP) Mountain West Chapter
- **Wyoming's 20 Under 40: Recognizing Wyoming's Best & Brightest**, March 2012, Casper Star-Tribune
- **Friend of Business Award**, January 2012, Cody Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
- **Coalition of Excellence "Coalition in Focus" Award**, January 2008, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) <http://www.cadca.org/got-outcomes-coalition-excellence-award-winners-2008>