

Jennifer Yost – Biography

Jennifer Yost P.C.E.D., a long-time resident of Idaho, graduated in 1999 from Knox College, located in Illinois, where she earned her B.A. in Political Science. After many years of hands-on experience in the Community Development field, she earned her certification as a Professional Community and Economic Developer.

Jennifer began her near 13 year career in Community Development assisting small rural communities with the development of health care delivery systems. She assisted with the development of 3 new health care systems and the expansion of 3 existing systems by helping to obtain well over \$4 million in annual grant funds. She also assisted with obtaining over \$1.5 million for the Ada County Health Care Coalition for the development of an integrated health care delivery system.

Jennifer left the world of health care for the world of water and sewer system when she joined the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program with the Idaho Department of Commerce. While there she was responsible for an 18 county region; providing technical assistance to grantees, their consultants, business leaders and local elected officials on community issues such as land-use, downtown revitalization, and infrastructure deficiencies. Her duties with the State included contract development between the state and local units of government, and conducting in-depth compliance reviews of grantees; including site monitoring, and project inspections. She served as the State CDBG program's Federal Labor Standards Specialist.

Jennifer later joined the City of Nampa to run the Community Development Division. She oversees the City's Community Improvement Programs and the U.S. Housing and Urban Development funds received through the CDBG Program. During her tenure with the City, she has served as the lead for the development of a neighborhood revitalization plan; bringing those that live and work in the neighborhood together to express their desires for their future and using those desires to not only be integrated but to shape the entire plan. Additionally during her time with the City, existing community improvement programs expanded their service and the City instituted a new Housing Repair Loan program to assist low-income homeowners with health and safety repairs and ADA modifications.