



**Nathan Sandwick** was hired to serve as a Supervisory Community Liaison supporting the Rural Partners Network (RPN) team and RPN's participating Network Communities in Wisconsin. Prior to joining USDA Rural Development, Nathan worked for over ten years as a Community Development Educator with University of Wisconsin's Cooperative Extension, connecting community groups and local governments to research-based information and helpful resources. In this role Nathan also routinely facilitated group discussions, visioning sessions, and planning efforts aimed at addressing challenges that confront organizations and communities. Nathan has experience in organizational development, economic development, community planning and placemaking, natural resource conservation, and policy analysis related to land use, transportation and energy. Nathan has a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



**Laura West-Kralcik** was hired as a Community Programs Liaison for the Rural Partners Network program in Wisconsin. Laura has worked in business and economic development for over 20 years. Since 2012 she worked for CAP Services, a community action agency, providing funding opportunities to underserved populations in rural central Wisconsin. During her time at CAP Services, Laura managed the agency's CDFI certified lending arm. She secured several million dollars in federal, state, and philanthropic funding, including funding from Rural Development, to support economic development and job creation. Prior to her time at CAP Services, Laura was an entrepreneur. She owned several small businesses including landscaping, commercial real estate development, and small wind site assessments. Laura is passionate about creating and sustaining vibrant communities in rural areas and bringing her expertise to the Rural Partners Network program.



**Sarah Sippl** has been a registered dietitian in Wisconsin for the last 12 years. She started her career in dietetics working in long- and short-term care facilities in Western Wisconsin, focusing on clinical nutrition management and managing food service departments. Most recently, she worked at the University of Wisconsin-Stout as an administrative dietitian and food safety manager in University Dining. Sarah holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Dietetics from the University of Wisconsin-Stout and completed her post graduate training at the University of Minnesota Medical Center-Fairview Health System. Sarah owns a small beef farm with her husband and three boys. Sarah grew up and continues to live in a rural community and is passionate about seeing rural Wisconsin thrive.