

Peggy Schlechter is a Community Vitality Field Specialist with SDSU Extension and is based out of the SDSU Research & Extension Center in Rapid City. She loves small towns and rural life in South Dakota and promotes South Dakota every chance she gets. For over 10 years, she has worked for SDSU Extension in her current role where she focuses on workforce development including entrepreneurship, remote work opportunities, and agritourism. She also enjoys facilitating activities such as grant writing workshops, strategic planning sessions and SDSU's Marketing Hometown America program so she can spend time with the great people who live in our communities. Prior to working for SDSU Extension, Peggy was employed for 18 years in higher education as an instructor, Career Services Director, and Dean of Students. She also has 8 years' experience as a middle school/high school teacher. As her side hustle, Peggy operates a successful direct sales business and assists with the family ranch on which she lives. Peggy possesses a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from South Dakota State University and believes it's always a great day to be a Jackrabbit!