What’s Working and Why?

*Summary plenary facilitated by Steve Kline, The Economic Development Group, Ltd.*

At the end of the conference day, we’ll take a few minutes together to identify and review some of the ideas and strategies that were covered in the plenary and breakout sessions. This facilitated discussion will call upon participants to share expectations about how to apply new information, test new ideas, and develop strategies to begin addressing the issues that are most pressing in our communities and organizations.

**Our facilitator . . . . . Steve Kline**

Steven E. Kline is President and Chief Executive Officer of The Economic Development Group, Ltd., (EDG), based in Bloomington, Illinois. In tandem with Jacob & Klein, Ltd., an economic development law firm, EDG specializes in the creation and administration of Tax Increment Financing Districts and provides economic development services to municipalities located throughout the State of Illinois. Steve is a contributing author to economic development publications and is a frequent speaker at conferences.

Prior to joining EDG, Steve was a research associate at the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Illinois University where he helped create and administer the *MAPPING the Future of Your Community* program. As an advocate for rural development and the creation of broad based public-private partnerships, he is a member of the Illinois Development Council and a past Chair and current member of the Board of Directors for Illinois Rural Partners, which represents the State of Illinois in the National Rural Development Partnership of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He holds a B.S. in Agricultural Science and a M.B.A. from Western Illinois University.

“You've always had the power right there in your shoes, you just had to learn it for yourself.”

*L. Frank Baum*