

Group Name: Community Development Workgroup

Updated: 10/10/2025



Group Leadership and Members:

Tabitha Samuel, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Alana Romanella, University of Colorado Boulder Co-Chairs

Shelley Knuth, University of Colorado Boulder; Katia Bulekova, Boston University; Jill Gemmill, Clemson University; Ralph Zottola, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Bryan Webb, Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center; Gretta Kellogg, Penn State University; Marisa Brazil, Arizona State University; Nancy Brack Herlocher, University of Michigan; Paul Stey, Brown University; Tim Boerner, National Center for Supercomputing Applications; Kathryn Kelley, CASC; Sandra Gesing, San Diego Supercomputing Center; Karen Tomko, Ohio Supercomputer Center; Jaime Combariza, Johns Hopkins University; Jason Simms and Andrew Ruether, Swarthmore College.

Group Summary:

(One paragraph summarizing the proposed group, to be included on the CASC website.)

The CASC Community Development Workgroup is focused on expanding access to research computing and data (RCD) resources, particularly for non-R1 institutions. By identifying common challenges and surfacing proven strategies already in use across the CASC community, the group aims to support widespread participation in advanced computing. A key priority is equipping members with tools to demonstrate the institutional value of community development efforts.

Charter Focus/Purpose and Scope:

(Details on specific focus, purpose or purposes, and scope)

This workgroup seeks to improve access to RCD infrastructure and expertise for under-resourced institutions. Through targeted strategies and shared practices, the group will develop actionable recommendations that help institutions overcome barriers to participation in the national research computing ecosystem.

Key areas of focus include:

- Conducting a rapid needs inventory
- Building a centralized repository of success stories and best practices
- Supporting leadership development and workforce strategies
- Providing tools to communicate ROI to institutional leadership

Goals/Deliverables:

Specify goals and deliverable products, including the approximate expected timeline of work.

The workgroup expects to deliver recommendations in the following areas:

Needs Assessment and Priority Setting

- Conduct listening sessions and review prior CASC and partner efforts
- Identify and prioritize needs specific to non-R1 and under-resourced institutions
- Launch a centralized repository of member practices supporting community development

Workforce Development

- Inventory existing training and professional development resources
- Share curriculum and materials from CASC members

Regional Engagement and Collaboration

- Document replicable models from regional collaborations
- Identify opportunities for joint initiatives to address shared challenges

Resource Allocation and ROI

- Develop messaging and frameworks to demonstrate ROI of community development strategies
- Identify funding opportunities to support institutional efforts

Outreach and Communication

- Strengthen communication channels to share member activities
- Promote success stories and effective models for expanding access to RCD

Exit Strategy:

The workgroup will conclude upon completion of its goals and deliverables. A final report outlining accomplishments, next steps, and a sustainable strategy will be presented to CASC membership prior to the Spring 2026 meeting.