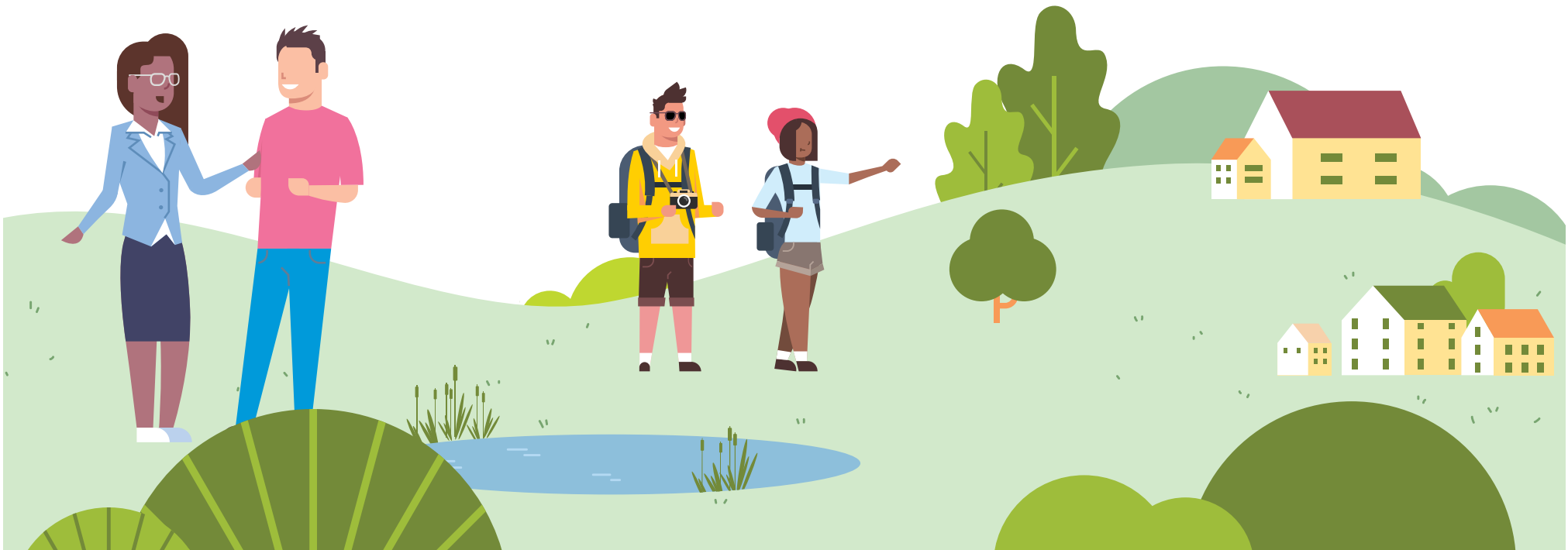


# Coming HOME

STORIES FROM  
MAIN STREET

## Incorporating Young Voices in the Future of Rural America

Across America, rural communities debate important issues that impact their livelihoods. Engaging young people in this discourse is a critical investment in your community's future.



Coming Home is a collaboration between the Rural Community Assistance Partnership's Rural Homecoming initiative and the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street project. For more information about participating, visit the project website at: [MuseumOnMainStreet.org/ComingHome](https://MuseumOnMainStreet.org/ComingHome)





Top to bottom: Youth interview a Choctaw Nation historian for an exhibition in Poteau, OK, photo by Kiamichi Technology Centers; a student team from Lansdowne High School gathers stories from a business owner in Ellicott City, MD, photo by Historical Center of Baltimore County; and a youth story collector interviews a community member in St. Joseph, MI, photo by The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center.

**Coming Home: Stories from Main Street** is a project that invites young people to learn about their communities, document local history, and foster important discussions about their community's future by:

# Coming HOME

## STORIES FROM MAIN STREET

- Conducting interviews, collecting images and video footage, and using the research to tell complex multi-media stories
- Developing a deeper understanding of their hometown's character and an increased appreciation for local history and culture
- Recognizing the ways in which their communities' stories are vital, reinforcing a sense of connection to their towns
- Engaging community members who have left their town in conversations about their experiences and what they miss about rural America.

The result is a vast array of dynamic multi-media projects that connect youth voices to local discourse. Young voices will be amplified, creating a more inclusive narrative of what the rural experience is in different regions of the country.

