

ARKANSAS LAND AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

THE ADVANCER

Fargo, Arkansas

Summer Edition 2020

CARL BURNETT
MICRO-URBAN FARM PARTICIPANT



CORONAVIRUS SAFETY

Follow these easy steps to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.



Farmer's
COVID-19 Relief
Guide
See pages 10-13



Disinfect surfaces around
your home and work.



Wash your hands for at
least 20 seconds.



Sneeze or cough?
Cover your mouth.

2018 Farm Bill Programs Guide
See pages 16-17



Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation
533 Floyd Brown Drive • P.O. Box 907 • Brinkley, AR 72021
Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation
484 Floyd Brown Drive P.O Box 743 Brinkley AR. 72021



Letter from the President

Dear Members, Farmers, Landowners, Rural and Urban Partners and Supporters:

Thank you for your continued support of Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC) and Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC). Your support has allowed us to achieve forty (40) years of successful program service delivery. For this time period, the ALFDC Annual Conference and Membership Meeting has become a beckoning special event for our members, supporters, farmers, landowners, and rural residents. This event always allow us to come together to celebrate our past and renew our commitments, with an understanding that we are all in this together, to stand as advocate voices and service providers for the unserved and underserved limited resource and minority farmers and rural communities. This point and time in our history represents uncertainties and challenges never experienced during our time of existence. Such uncertainty and challenges in our communities, state, country, and the world have required all of us to think and do things differently. With the continuation of the pandemic COVID-19, the staff and board of ALFDC and ALCDC find it necessary to do things differently as well for this year's 40th Annual Conference. As we continue to work on the details, we want to assure you that we will make our decisions with your health and safety and that of our staff in mind. Additional information regarding the conference will be forthcoming.

Please give attention to the survey that we continue to place in the Advancer Newsletter. If you have not completed and returned it, please do so. Otherwise, if our staff call you regarding the survey, please take a few minutes to complete the survey with them. The information you provide is especially important for us in our efforts to provide the best and maximum amount of service to you as part of our network. We continue to work and promote economically sustainable community development for our historically unprivileged and underserved clients. While we are working with clients and communities in person by appointments only, we are working ongoing through video conferencing, newsletter, and online servicing. While our present approach is somewhat different from the past, it is necessary and in the interest of all parties involved and in accordance with CDC guidelines to stay safe and healthy. -

For continued updates please contact our office at (870) 734-3005 cell; (870) 589-3699 or connect with us on our web site at; www.alfdc.webs.com or email: calvinrkingsr@yahoo.com.

Sincerely

Calvin R. King, Sr.

Dr. Calvin R. King, SR.

President



*Picture above:
Carl Burnett shops with Tri-County Farm Supply.*



*Picture above:
Carl Burnett picking his crops.*



*Picture Below:
Carl Burnett at his Farm*



*Picture Below:
Carl Burnett tending to his crops.*

Carl Burnett Micro-Urban Farmer

Growing up on the farm with his grandfather in Monroe county, Carl Burnett developed his skills and love for farming and the land. He met his wife, Ruthie, in Monroe county, they have been married for thirty (30) years. Carl and his wife have six (6) children and nine (9) grandchildren. As a third generation farmer, he credits his grandfather for teaching him the skill for being a micro-urban farmer. He understands the importance of applying the proper production management practices and accessing the right information to improve his operation to maximize his production and income opportunities. Being in the farming business for forty (40) years has allowed him to experience the good and the bad as a farmer. Understanding the many risk factors involved in the business of farming, is why he always participates in ALCDC partnership information and training programs involving USDA Natural

Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) and Farm Service Agency. Burnett's vegetable farming operation crop production consist of squash, purple hull peas, tomatoes, and watermelon. He utilizes direct to consumer marketing, wholesale, and retail sales, for his fresh farm to table produce. Burnett says that he enjoys farming and knowing that he is providing fresh quality produce. He operates his farm in accordance with USDA Good Agriculture Production practices (GAP) and Good Agriculture Handling Practices (GHP). Mr. and Mrs. Burnett are members of The Church of God and Christ, Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC) and the Livestock Association of Eastern Arkansas. They feel that their strong spiritual belief and commitment to family and community has provided them their gateway for opportunity.

Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation Provides COVID-19 Farm Aid Grants to Limited Resource and Minority Farmers'

Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC) will be providing support assistance to a limited number of farmers in its service impact area. The program is in partnership with Farm Aid national COVID-19 Farmer Resilience Initiative, working with more than 120 local, state, and regional organizations across the country to pair immediate farmer relief efforts with longer term resilience strategies.

Already endangered by years of low prices, trade disruptions, frequent natural disasters and climate change, limited resource and minority farmers now also face the myriad impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. These include loss of direct markets from the closure of restaurants, schools, and other institutions; increased infrastructure and labor costs associated with creating new markets; supply chain and labor disruptions; and even greater declines in prices for their products.

Through the Farmer Resilience Initiative, ALFDC/ Farm Aid is distributing \$500 in one time grant increments to help farmers meet household expenses, and are paired with resources developed by Farm Aid's national partners, which include Farmers' Legal Action Group (FLAG), Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA (RAFI-USA), Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative, Intertribal Agriculture Council, and the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. Together, these partners work to help farmers and ranchers navigate recovery.

"Limited resource and minority farmers and ranchers face a deep and multifaceted farm crisis. Federal responses to both the ongoing economic crisis and COVID-19 have unfortunately not flowed to this segment farms, leaving much of this farm population high and dry. "Without aggressive action, we will lose thousands of limited resource and black farmers and ranchers to this crisis, with ripple effects across our food system that are sure to further drain rural economies, impoverish food and farm workers, and consolidate land and markets into even fewer hands."

To help farm families recover from the impacts of COVID-19, the Farmer Resilience Initiative is:

- Investing in farmer-led solutions to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Deploying emergency grants to family farmers and ranchers in need, particularly those producers that are less likely to receive federal and state disaster aid.
- Coordinating a national network of experts to create comprehensive resources for farmers.
- Offering support to farmers under stress through the 1-800-FARM-AID hotline and connecting farmers to the legal, financial, and mental health support resources they need to recover.
 - Supporting local, state, and national farm organizations working on the ground to help farmers navigate this crisis; and

- Advocating for needed COVID recovery funds and resources from the federal government for short-term relief and long-term resilience.

Arkansas land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC) collaborative approach to assist limited resource and minority is now in its 40th year of experience with disaster technical and response assistance for limited resource and minority farmers, ranchers, and veterans. ALFDC and Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC) program service delivery work is to support equity and equality to keep this segment of our farm population on the land, growing good food for all.

To request an application for assistance or additional information, call (870) 734-1140 or mail a written request to P.O Box 743 Brinkley, Arkansas 72021, or email: alcde1934@yahoo.com.

YECAE/EXCEL 2020 YOUTH PROGRAM

Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC) has now entered its 2020 phase four (4) and five (5) of its youth program, workforce readiness work experience and Entrepreneurship. The program provides an opportunity and support for youth in developing healthy lifestyles, and professional careers in agriculture and related fields including economics, bio-systems, agricultural engineering, communications, dietetics, family sciences, human nutrition, community development, and entrepreneurship. Participants progress through five program phases: 1. Healthy Lifestyles 2. Character Development 3. The Business of Farming 4. Professional Work Experience 5. Career Planning Development/Leadership Training. The professional work experience and Entrepreneurship phase of the program is implemented during the summer months. The Youth Enterprise and Careers in Agriculture (YECAE) program is now in its 29th year of operation. Phase 1, 2 and 3 operates year around with the youth, ending with a rallying, transitioning into phase four (4) and five (5) of the program with the Youth Entrepreneurship camp for ages 13 through 15, Professional Work Experience and Career Planning and Leadership Development for ages 16 through 18. This phase of the program began June 15, 2020. The program has thirty (30) participating youth.

Distinguished alumni of the ALFDC/ALCDC Youth program include current ALFDC/ALCDC Board Chairman, Dr. Brian Cornelious, Ph.D.- Agriculture; Roger Smith, Farmer and Board member, Karen Westbrook, Regional Manager, NRCS-Arkansas; Derrinda Applewhite, NRCS District Conservationist for Monroe County, Arkansas and Corey Farmer, Arkansas NRCS State Coordinator, EQIP. Kevin Farmer, NRCS in Washington D.C along with many others.





Congratulations

to the

2020 Partnership School graduates of the Youth Enterprises and Careers in Agriculture and Entrepreneurship

You have successfully completed all requirements and mastered the skills for living and practicing Healthy Lifestyles. Your Character Development has progressed nicely. You understand The Business of Farming is about business and is not just a way of life. Some of obtained Professional Work Experience as interns in NRCS offices, others as workers here at ALCDC and its various properties. Hopefully, all of you have given a lot of thought to applying the knowledge you gained from Career Planning Development/Leadership Training and are now on track with your careers. We expect each of you to be leaders in your chosen endeavors, to do well in furthering education and career development. You are our future, please continue to make us proud of you.

LaShica Miller, Youth Director

Gerelisa Swanigan, Assistant

2019 Youth Photo





FARM AID DISTRIBUTES \$400,000 TO STRENGTHEN FARMERS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Farmer Resilience Initiative Includes More Than 120 Partners

Farm Aid announced today the disbursement of \$400,000 to launch a national COVID-19 Farmer Resilience Initiative, working with more than 120 local, state and regional organizations across the country to pair immediate farmer relief efforts with longer term resilience strategies.

Already endangered by years of low prices, trade disruptions, frequent natural disasters and climate change, farmers now also face myriad impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. These include loss of direct markets from the closure of restaurants, schools and other institutions; increased infrastructure and labor costs associated with creating new markets; supply chain and labor disruptions; and even greater declines in prices for their products.

Through the Farmer Resilience Initiative, Farm Aid is distributing relief funds in all 50 U.S. states and the U.S. Virgin Islands, administered by local and regional partners. Grants, distributed in \$500 increments, will help farmers meet household expenses and are paired with resources developed by Farm Aid's national partners, which include Farmers' Legal Action Group (FLAG), Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA (RAFI-USA), Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative, Intertribal Agriculture Council, and the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. Together, these partners work to help farmers and

ranchers navigate recovery.

"Farmers and ranchers face a deep and multifaceted farm crisis. Federal responses to both the ongoing economic crisis and COVID-19 have unfortunately flowed to farms with the most resources, as well as powerful corporate interests, leaving the vast majority of farmers high and dry," said Alicia Harvie, Farm Aid's Advocacy & Farmer Services Director. "Without aggressive action, we will lose thousands of farms and ranches to this crisis, with ripple effects across our food system that are sure to further drain rural economies, impoverish food and farm workers, and consolidate land and markets into even fewer hands."

To help farm families recover from the impacts of COVID-19, the Farmer Resilience Initiative is:

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- Offering support to farmers under stress through the 1-800-FARM-AID hotline and connecting farmers to the legal, financial and mental health support resources they need to recover;
- Supporting local, state and national farm organizations working on the ground to help farmers navigate this crisis; and
- Advocating for needed COVID recovery funds and resources from the federal government for short-term relief and long-term resilience.

Farm Aid's collaborative approach to the Farmer Resilience Initiative is informed by more than 30 years of experience in disaster response, which relies on the participation and strength of grass roots organizations on the ground in affected communities. By handing major decision-making authority over to the local and regional organizations that work most directly with farmers, Farm Aid shares power with its grantees and supports local leadership to best address the needs of America's diverse farm communities.

Farm Aid's grant-making is one aspect of its work to keep family farmers on the land, growing good food for all. In addition, other Farm Aid programs inspire an increased demand for family farm food; bring farmers, advocates and activists together for trainings and other opportunities; advocate for policies that serve farmers and eaters alike; and invite everyone to be part of building a thriving family farm system of agriculture.

For more information about the Farmer Resilience Initiative, visit www.farmaid.org/farmer-resilience-initiative/.

Farm Aid welcomes donations at www.farmaid.org/donate.

Voices of Resilience: Quotes from Our Partners

"It is critically important to provide direct relief to Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities during this time," said **Melanie Allen, Program Director of the Black Farmer Fund**, an organization building a community investment fund to serve Black food system entrepreneurs across New York state. "And there is also the essential need to invest in long-term recovery and infrastructure- building that BIPOC farming communities will need after the pandemic."

"America's farmers and ranchers already carry a great burden to produce food and fiber under increasingly stressful conditions. Following years of low and volatile markets from continued trade issues and other disruptions, they did not need another catastrophic event like the COVID-19 pandemic," said **American Farmers & Ranchers / Oklahoma Farmers Union (AFR/OFU) President Scott Blubaugh**. "We hope grant efforts such as Farm Aid's Farmer Resilience Initiative will be a bright spot of relief for our nation's struggling agricultural producers."

"Friends of Family Farmers is proud to work with several other fantastic nonprofit organizations in Washington and Alaska. We aim to ensure that this money gets to historically under served farmers most harmed by COVID-19," said **Shari Sirkin, executive director of Friends of Family Farmers in Portland, Oregon**. "Meeting and working with these other caring, passionate people to help family farmers in our region is time well spent."

“Kansas Farmers Union has always been so impressed with how Farm Aid steps forward when needed with what they can,” said **Donn Teske, Kansas Farmers Union president**. “We have had the honor of assisting their efforts in Kansas over the years after tornadoes, flooding and now COVID-19.”

“Some of the food producers most impacted in the Pacific Northwest by COVID-19 are those who come from Black, Indigenous, or People of Color communities and had accounts with restaurants that were forced to shutter their doors months ago. These are some of the food producers who have suffered the most yet weren’t provided COVID aid by our federal government,” said **Kendra Kimbirauskas, vice president of the Northwest Farmers Union** and a farmer from Linn County, Oregon. “While we know this money is merely a drop in the bucket, we hope that it will provide some relief to these producers during these tough and troubling times. We are grateful to Farm Aid and our organizational partners for their efforts to help ease the pain facing these farmers, ranchers, fishers and their families in our communities.”

“From the get-go, we’ve wanted to leverage this funding to bring greater awareness to the larger issue of disparities in who gets access to land and resources to farm, which has led us to focus our outreach to farmers who identify as People of Color, women, and new and beginning farmers,” said **Christina Stucker-Gassi, Idaho Organization of Resource Councils chair**.

“The Farm Aid COVID-19 Farmer Resilience Initiative funds for Nebraska are being administered by our Rural Response Hotline. We have prioritized meeting the immediate family living expenses for farm, ranch and rural families hit hard by COVID-19,” said **Vern Jantzen, chair, Nebraska Rural Response Council**.

“Farming communities already shoulder a great deal of risk, and the economic turmoil resulting from COVID-19 is pushing many farmers to a breaking point,” said **Martin Lemos, co-executive director of the National Young Farmers Coalition**. “We are grateful to Farm Aid for working tirelessly to advocate on behalf of farmers in crisis. And we are thankful for this opportunity to join them and partner organizations from across the country to support the labor of young farmers and ranchers, specifically Black, Indigenous and other farmers of color. It is our hope that these funds will assist farmers and ranchers as they fight hard to keep their businesses open through the uncertainty and challenges of this pandemic, and to ensure food security for their communities.”

Farm Aid’s mission is to build a vibrant, family farm-centered system of agriculture in America. Farm Aid artists and board members Willie Nelson, Neil Young, John Mellencamp and Dave Matthews host an annual festival to raise funds to support Farm Aid’s work with family farmers and to inspire people to choose family farm food. For 35 years, Farm Aid, with the support of the artists who contribute their performances each year, has raised nearly \$60 million to support programs that help farmers thrive, expand their reach of the Good Food Movement, take action to change the dominant system of industrial agriculture and promote food from family farms.

NAVIGATING

COVID-19 RELIEF FOR FARMERS



PROGRAM DETAILS ARE RAPIDLY CHANGING

COVID-19 relief is constantly evolving. Be sure to check with the relevant agency for changes in details from those listed here, as the rules for some programs have yet to be released, while others have already changed.

DOCUMENTATION IS CRITICAL

Some of the programs that can help you require documentation.

Details matter. Have your records handy and start taking detailed notes that capture your price or market losses and tell the story of what is unfolding on your farm.

CONTACT AGENCIES AND LENDERS RIGHT AWAY

You should contact the agencies and lenders related to COVID-19 relief programs as soon as possible. Keep a record of all your contacts with agencies, insurance companies, lenders, contractors, and anyone else officially involved in the recovery effort.

YOU MAY NEED A FARM NUMBER

Most farm programs administered by USDA require farmers to register with the Farm Service Agency and obtain a farm number. This process is free. Contact your local USDA Service Center to obtain one.

DEADLINES WILL COME FAST AND MAY CHANGE

Most COVID-19 relief programs have deadlines. Some of them come very quickly, and in some cases funding could run out before the deadlines. The accompanying table includes deadlines when they exist, but you should double check with agency offices to make sure the dates have not changed.

SOME PROGRAMS HAVE APPEALS PROCESSES

Some relief programs include an appeals process. If you are denied from a program, know that “no” is not always the final answer.

RECOVERY IS A LONG AND OFTEN STRESSFUL PROCESS

Recovery from any disaster or emergency will be a long process. As is the case with other traumatic experiences, people tend to go through stages as they recover from a crisis. Be patient and caring with yourself and others.

Attending to the mental health of everyone involved is essential. You can find related resources on the next page.

SCAM ARTISTS WILL COME AROUND

Unfortunately, scam artists always arrive soon after an emergency strikes. Be careful. Be especially wary of loan or debt modification scams arising

during this time of COVID-19.

DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL

The programs described below are available to all who are eligible. Discrimination is illegal. Each agency should have a discrimination complaint process. USDA's discrimination complaint process is discussed in the *Farmers' Guide to Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)* available at www.flaginc.org/covid-19-guide/.

YOU CAN CALL FARM AID

Navigating these programs can be overwhelming as you rebuild. Please know that you can call 1-800-FARM-AID at any time if you need support. Farm Aid can connect you to someone near you to help you figure things out.

FARMERS' GUIDE TO COVID-19 RELIEF

For more details on the programs described here see the latest version of the *Farmers' Guide to COVID-19 Relief* and the *Farmers' Guide to CFAP* by the Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc. at www.flaginc.org/covid-19-guide/.

KEY CONTACTS FOR NAVIGATING COVID-19 RELIEF

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Find your local USDA Service Center: <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>. Note that your local Service Center may be in a near by county.

USDA Information Hotline: For USDA-related questions, please contact (202) 720-2791.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SBA Coronavirus Relief Options: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options>

SBA Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center: For help with SBA's Disaster Loan Assistance website, <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/>, contact 1-800-659-2955 | TTY:1-800-877-8339.

Lenders for PPP: <https://www.sba.gov/document/support-paycheck-protection-program-participating-lenders>

SBA EIDL Application: <https://covid19relief.sba.gov/#/>

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Find Your State Unemployment Office: <https://www.dol.gov/coronavirus/unemployment-insurance#find-state-unemployment-insurance-contacts>

STRESS AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

SAMHSA National Helpline/1-800-662-4357 a 24/7 free and confidential referral and information service line

SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline/1-800-985-5990 to speak to a counselor trained in disaster response.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline / 1-800-273-8255. The Lifeline provides 24/7 free and confidential support for people in distress, and prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones.

To find a mental health counselor in your area, refer to <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us>.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT

FLAG's Farmers' Guide To Covid-19 Relief : www.flaginc.org/covid-19-guide/

Farm Aid Hotline: 1-800-FARM AID or farmhelp@farmaid.org

Prepared by FarmAid, Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc., Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative, Intertribal Agriculture Council, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, and RAfi-USA.

SUMMARY OF COVID-19 RELIEF FOR

FARMERS

JUNE 15, 2020

PROGRAM	AGENCY	WHAT IS AVAILABLE?	ELIGIBILITY	FARM ELIGIBILITY	APPLICATION and DEADLINE INFORMATION	
RELIEF BASED IN CARES ACT						
Economic Impact Payments (aka Recovery Rebates for Individuals)	Internal Revenue Service (IRS) www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments	\$1,200 payment per eligible person, plus \$500 per qualifying child.	Payments reduced once an income threshold is passed (\$75k for individuals; \$150k for joint returns). See IRS help on receiving payments here: https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/how-to-use-the-tools-on-irs.gov-to-get-your-economic-impact-payment .	Yes. As individuals.	In theory, payments are automatic for those who file federal taxes or receive Social Security or federal benefits. For those who don't, basic information must be provided to the IRS.	Some lenders can seize payments.
Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)	Small Business Administration (SBA) https://www.sba.gov	Loans cover 8 weeks of payroll costs. Loans can be forgiven.	Farms; small businesses; nonprofits; tribal small business concerns; veteran's organizations; other self-employed individuals; and independent contractors.	Yes. As employers.	Application deadline is June 30, 2020. Must apply via a lender. Lenders have applications or use: https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/PPP%20Borrower%20Application%20Form.pdf .	First come first serve. Off and on availability due to funding shortages. Impossible to know when funding may run out permanently.
COVID-19 Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program	Small Business Administration (SBA) https://www.sba.gov	Loans for small businesses and Emergency advances of up to \$10,000 that do not need to be repaid.	Small agricultural enterprises and businesses of under 500 employees; private nonprofits; small agricultural co-ops; sole proprietorships; and tribal small business concerns.	Yes. Farms were made eligible on April 24, 2020.	Program available until Dec. 31, 2020. Initial funding ran out, but new funding is available and SBA resumed taking applications from farms on May 4, 2020. Must apply directly on SBA's website: https://covid19relief.sba.gov/#/ .	First come first serve.
Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) Program	Department of Labor https://www.dol.gov	Unemployment insurance available for jobs lost due to COVID-19. Normal payments increase by \$600 per week, and assistance extended to 39 weeks of benefits.	Available to "unemployed self-employed." Must be unable to work due to one of several reasons related to COVID-19 crisis.	Yes As self-employed unemployed individuals.	Apply with state unemployment insurance office. Find state office: https://www.dol.gov/coronavirus/unemployment-insurance-find-state-unemployment-insurance-contacts .	State unemployment office may not realize farmers can be eligible.
Foreclosure Moratorium and Forbearance	Various. Not clear who will enforce it or how.	Forbearance and foreclosure moratorium for residential home mortgages. Forbearance means not making payments for a time.	Only government backed residential mortgages are eligible (i.e. if federal agencies made or guaranteed a loan, or if Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac are involved).	Maybe. For mortgages that include homes, and little else.	Contact the lender. For more information see Consumer Financial Protection Bureau: https://www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/blog/guide-coronavirus-mortgage-relief-options/ .	To date, it does not appear that farm mortgages are eligible even if the mortgage includes a residence.
Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP): Direct Payments	U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) www.usda.gov	Direct payments for specific commodities (crops and livestock) that USDA determined suffered price losses of 5% or greater in early 2020.		Yes. Program is designed for farmers.	Application period runs from May 26, 2020 to August 28, 2020. Applications available at: https://www.farmers.gov/cfap#apply . Must apply via FSA offices.	\$16 billion in funding. USDA determines which commodities are eligible, but that list can, and likely will, change.

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP): Farmers to Families Food Box Program	U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) www.usda.gov	USDA purchases fresh produce, dairy and meat. Distributors and wholesalers provide box of food to	The government will purchase fresh produce, dairy, and meat from farmers.	Yes.	USDA has approved first round of contracts. Unknown if more proposals will be sought.	\$3 billion in purchases of food from farmers.
				As sellers of fresh produce, dairy, and meat.		
Bankruptcy	Contact an expert.	Court supervised.	Varies. Chapter 12 is for family farmers; under the CARES Act, COVID-19 payments do not count as income for Chapter 7 or 13 bankruptcies.	Yes.	No single deadline.	
OTHER RELIEF						
Court System	State, federal, and tribal courts.	Delays on certain matters; temporary suspension of fines and fees, etc.				Find some court information here: https://www.ncsc.org/pandemic
Farm Service Agency (FSA)	USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) www.fsa.usda.gov	Accelerations and some foreclosures suspended for FSA Direct Loans. For Guaranteed Loans, servicing considered by FSA.	Current borrowers.	Yes.		Information on USDA's actions in response to COVID-19: https://www.farmers.gov/coronavirus
Federal Crop Insurance	Contact the farmer's insurance provider.	Indemnity payments.	Must have previously bought crop insurance. COVID-19, by itself, does not create an insurable loss.	Yes.	Contract has details. Often short deadlines to report losses.	Crucial for farmers to follow crop insurance
Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)	USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) www.fsa.usda.gov	FSA program similar to crop insurance, and available when crop insurance is not available.		Yes.	Varies. Applications for payment must be filed within 60 days from last day of coverage for the crop year.	Crucial for farmers to
GUIDANCE						
Regulator Guidance for Financial Intuitions	Various.	General guidance that lenders should be willing to modify loans and work with borrowers. This guidance does not provide direct relief for individual farmers.		Yes. Does not provide direct relief for individuals.		

Hemp Production in Micro/Urban Farms

Although not illegal Urban Farms attempting to raise Commercial Hemp still face several obstacles. Commercial Hemp looks and smells like the cannabis plant but, does not have the level of the cannabis plant thus causing security concerns. While on the other hand, Hemp Production is ideal for Micro-Farmers. Arkansas Land & Community Development Corporation defines a Micro-Farm as being a farm operation located outside of an incorporated Municipality.

After a hiatus of almost 45 years, industrial hemp production was reintroduced in the United States 2014 Farm Bill through State pilot programs with commercial production beginning again in 2019. The pilot programs demonstrated that, like many new industries, the pattern of establishment and expansion of industrial hemp is influenced by existing infrastructure, public sector support, relative profitability of alternative enterprises, and development of functioning markets.

U.S. industrial hemp acreage reported by State pilot programs increased from zero in 2013 to over 90,000 acres in 2018, the highest acreage since 1943, when 146,200 acres were planted. While the U.S. hemp industry grew rapidly and commercial hemp production was legalized again by the 2018 Farm Bill, the industry's long-term economic viability is uncertain.

The pilot programs for industrial hemp authorized in the 2014 Farm Bill were successful in restarting production of a crop that had not been commercially grown in the United States for decades. The 2018 Farm Bill addressed many of these challenges highlighted by the pilot programs or authorized subsequent regulations to address them. While the numbers of planted acres and participants in the U.S. industrial hemp industry increased rapidly under the pilot programs, and hemp can now be grown legally in nearly every

State, the long-term trends for U.S. industrial hemp are uncertain. Lack of reliable, transparent data and peer-reviewed research and market information continues to be a challenge. Market dynamics will change quickly, especially during development of a new industry, as producers enter and increase production and demand patterns shift. Hemp is an international market and competition with alternative crops for acreage, relative competitiveness, market transparency, and the ability to manage regulatory and market risks will determine patterns of development in the emerging U.S. hemp industry.

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/amber-waves/2020/june/hope-for-hemp-new-opportunities-and-challenges-for-an-old-crop/>

In 2020, eligible hemp producers will be eligible for multiple **NRCS conservation programs**, including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, and Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

Also in crop year 2020, hemp producers may be eligible for **FSA farm loans**, such as operating, ownership, beginning farmer, and farm storage facility loans.. Additionally, qualifying hemp producers in 2020 will be eligible for multiple **NRCS conservation programs**, including the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, and Regional Conservation Partnership Program. Hemp producers growing in accordance with Section 7606 of the 2014 Farm Bill will not need to modify their conservation program contract for their continued participation. While hemp producers cannot receive financial assistance from NRCS if they do not meet requirements, they can receive technical assistance for conservation plans on fields not under unauthorized hemp production.

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=4b9624bb-20bb-445c-a718-20928a269f01>

ALFDC Former Board Member Publishes Autobiography

The Outspoken Arkansas Judge

Judge Olly Neal autobiography has been added to the Central Arkansas Library System. Judge Neal is the former board chairman for Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC). He was also among the many supporting land owners who started the organization. During ALFDC early years, as an attorney, he provided volunteer legal support for ALFDC and its member black farmers to stop the loss of black owned land. He also, participated in an award winning documentary for the organization entitled, “Black Farmers in Arkansas” a Tradition disappears. Now you can read his story and get a full understanding of this legendary Judge and ALFDC member.

The Central Arkansas Library System (CALS) has added a new book to its publishing catalog. OUTSPOKEN: The Olly Neal Story is the autobiography of civil rights activist Olly Neal Jr., Arkansas’s first black district prosecuting attorney. OUTSPOKEN was published by Butler Center Books, the nonprofit publishing project of the CALS Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, and is available for purchase at stores and online retailers.

Born in 1941 in rural eastern Arkansas, Neal started and led the Lee County Cooperative Clinic in Marianna during the 1970s. He went on to become the first black district prosecuting attorney in Arkansas and served as a circuit court judge and on the Arkansas Court of Appeals. Historian Grif Stockley has characterized Neal as a civil rights activist, political agitator, Arkansas Delta advocate, and “black devil incarnate” to many of Marianna’s whites.

Neal also led the National Demonstration Water Project, which funded water and sewer systems in impoverished rural counties. During these years, he became a charismatic force of nature and a powerful community organizer.

Marianna and the clinic made national news, with Neal and other activists leading a boycott against white merchants in the downtown business district. At one point, he had a price on his head. The small town saw violent incidents and suffered economic damage during the boycotts, which ended without the activists’ goals being fully achieved, and this set the stage for further unrest. In 1972, soon after precarious integration of the public schools, black students staged a sit-in at the local high school. They requested a program to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday and the removal of their “unqualified” white principal—another stand that was met with violence.

After earning his law degree in 1979 from what is now the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law, Neal kept a modest local law practice with significant success in the courtroom defending criminal cases, then later became a deputy prosecutor, and was appointed the state’s first black district prosecuting attorney in 1991. Neal was elected circuit court judge for the First Judicial District and appointed to the Arkansas Court of Appeals, where he served with distinction for eleven years before retiring in 2007. When the First Judicial District fell into disarray in 2010, both the white and black lawyers of eastern Arkansas requested that Judge Neal step in, and he was called back to a popular temporary appointment.

In weekly conversations over several years, Neal told the story of his life to his friend and former colleague Jan Wrede, who captured his words and shaped them into what became his autobiography. Neal tells his unique story, with humor, candor, and hard-earned wisdom, explaining his rocky journey from humble beginnings in rural Lee County to public health champion and brilliant community organizer, prosecuting attorney, and appellate judge.

The book is available at bookstores; in the Galleries at Library Square inside the CALS Roberts Library; from online retailers; and through the University of Arkansas Press (via University of Chicago Press) at 800-621-2736 or <https://www.uapress.com/product/outspoken/>.

About CALS

The Central Arkansas Library System includes 15 branch libraries located in Little Rock, Perryville, and throughout Pulaski County. CALS has the largest research collection in central Arkansas. Most of its more than one million items may be reserved online and picked up at any branch that is convenient to the patron. Library Square, the library system’s downtown Little Rock campus, includes the Main Library, as well as the Ron Robinson Theater, the Bobby L. Roberts Library of Arkansas History & Art, and the Bookstore at Library Square.

FARMERS' GUIDE TO 2018 USDA FARM BILL PROGRAMS

This guide describes assistance for farmers, ranchers, and forest managers available through the 2018 Farm Bill.

To learn more, visit your local USDA Service Center or farmers.gov.



Farm Service Agency (FSA)












Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)








Risk Management Agency (RMA)



FUND — Opportunities to access capital to fund your operation.

 Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)	Provides incentives that help farmers grow bioenergy feedstocks (crops well suited for conversion to energy) and connect with qualified biomass conversion facilities.
 Down Payment Loans	Provide a low-interest Government loan, made in conjunction with a loan from a commercial lender and borrower down payment, to help beginning, minority, veteran, and women farmers purchase a farm or ranch.
 Farm Operating Loans	Help producers pay for normal operating expenses, including machinery and equipment, seed, livestock feed, and more. Direct (up to \$400,000) and guaranteed (up to \$1.75 million) operating loans are available.
 Farm Ownership Loans	Help producers become owner-operators of family farms as well as improve and expand current operations. Direct (up to \$600,000) and guaranteed (up to \$1.75 million) ownership loans are available.
 Farm Storage Facility Loans	Provide low-interest loans to build, purchase, or upgrade facilities and equipment used to store, handle, or transport eligible commodities.
 Marketing Assistance Loans	Provide interim financing at harvest time for producers to meet cash flow needs without having to sell their commodities when market prices typically are at harvest-time lows.
 Microloans	Provide farm loans for annual operating expenses, equipment, livestock, and real estate tailored to small, beginning, underserved, and veteran farmers and diversified farming operations serving local markets. Farm Operating and Farm Ownership Loans of up to \$50,000 each are available.
 Organic Certification Cost Share Assistance	Provides up to 75 percent of organic certification costs for producers, not to exceed \$750 per certification scope.
 Youth Loans	Provide operating loans of up to \$5,000 to youth ages 10 to 20 to finance income-producing, agricultural projects that are developed and carried out through Future Farmers of America, Tribal youth organizations, or similar agricultural-affiliated groups.








MANAGE — Opportunities to mitigate risk on your operation.

 Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs	Protect farm revenue from changes in market conditions. Provides a safety net to farmers and ranchers when there is a substantial drop in revenue or prices for covered commodities.
 Conservation Stewardship Program Grassland Conservation Initiative	Provides financial assistance to conserve grasslands through a single opportunity to enroll in a 5-year contract. Eligible lands are limited to cropland for which base acres have been maintained under FSA's ARC/PLC and were planted to grass or pasture, including idle or fallow, during a specific period. Enrolled acreage must be managed consistently with a grassland conservation plan.
 Dairy Margin Coverage Program (DMC)	Replaces the Margin Protection Program for Dairy. Offers protection to dairy producers when the difference between the all-milk price and the average feed cost (the margin) falls below a certain dollar amount selected by the producer.
 Federal Crop Insurance	Offers hundreds of different insurance products. Product offerings include coverage for production loss, revenue loss, and price decline. Insurance covers row crops, livestock, specialty crops, organics, dairy, grazing land, and more.
 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)	Provides financial assistance to producers of certain eligible crops for which catastrophic risk protection plan of insurance is not available when low yields, loss of inventory, or prevented planting occur due to an eligible cause of loss.

CONSERVE — Opportunities to implement conservation on your operation.

 Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)	Helps landowners, land trusts, and other entities protect, restore, and enhance wetlands, grasslands, and working farms and ranches through conservation easements.
 Agricultural Management Assistance Program (AMA)	Helps agricultural producers manage financial risk through diversification, marketing, or natural resource conservation practices. NRCS administers the conservation provisions while USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service and RMA implement the production diversification and marketing provisions.
 Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG)	Awards competitive grants that drive innovation and develop the tools, technologies, and strategies for next-generation conservation efforts on working lands. Grantees leverage the Federal investment through matching requirements. Through CIG's new On-Farm Trials, partners provide incentive payments to producers to offset the risk of implementing innovative approaches.
 Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)	Protects soil, water quality, and habitat by removing highly erodible or environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production through long-term rental agreements.
 CRP - Transition Incentives Program	Encourages landowners to sell or lease long term to beginning, socially disadvantaged, and veteran farmers and ranchers willing to implement sustainable practices or transition to organic production by providing 2 years of additional payments for expiring CRP-enrolled land.
 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority natural resource concerns. Participants earn CSP payments for conservation performance—the higher the performance, the higher the payment.
 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits, such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, and improved or created wildlife habitat.
 Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP)	Helps landowners restore, enhance, and protect forestland resources on private lands through easements and financial assistance. Through HFRP, landowners promote the recovery of endangered or threatened species, improve plant and animal biodiversity, and enhance carbon sequestration.
 Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)	Promotes coordination between NRCS and its partners to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners. Under partnership agreements, NRCS and its partners leverage and target their respective resources to deliver conservation assistance to producers and landowners to address priority natural resource concerns.
 Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP)	Provides State and Tribal governments with funding or incentives to expand or improve habitat in existing public access programs.

RECOVER — Opportunities to help your operation recover from a natural disaster.

 Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish program (ELAP)	Provides assistance to eligible owners of livestock, and producers of honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, not covered by LFP and LIP.
 Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)	Provides funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to restore farmland damaged by natural disasters and for emergency water conservation measures in severe droughts.
 Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)	Provides funding to restore privately owned forests damaged by natural disasters.
 Emergency Loans	Provide loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to drought, flooding, other natural disasters, or quarantine.
 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)	Provides compensation to eligible livestock producers that have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on land that is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or that is planted specifically for grazing.
 Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)	Provides benefits to livestock owners for livestock deaths or injuries in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather or by attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the Federal Government or protected by Federal law. Benefits also are available for reduced sale prices for owned livestock due to injury caused by eligible loss conditions.
 Tree Assistance Program (TAP)	Provides financial cost-share assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines damaged by or lost due to a natural disaster.

Being Counted in The Census Matters

<https://2020census.gov/community-impact.html>

Impact in Your Community

School lunches. Plans for highways. Support for firefighters and families in need. Census results affect your community every day.

Shaping Your Future

The results of the 2020 Census will help determine how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding flow into communities every year for the next decade. That funding shapes many different aspects of every community, no matter the size, no matter the location.

Think of your morning commute: Census results influence highway planning and construction, as well as grants for buses, subways, and other public transit systems.

Or think of your local schools: Census results help determine how money is allocated for the Head Start program and for grants that support teachers and special education.

The list goes on, including programs to support rural areas, to restore wildlife, to prevent child abuse, to prepare for wildfires, and to provide housing assistance for older adults.

Did you know

Census results affect planning and funding for healthcare-including programs such as Medicaid, Medicare Part B, State Children's Health Insurance, and the prevention and treatment of substance abuse.

Helping Communities

Did you know that census data helps communities respond to natural disasters and secure funding for hospitals and fire departments?

Importance of the Data

The 2020 Census will inform hundreds of billions in federal funding and provide data that will impact communities for the next decade.

Responding to the Census

Please complete your form online, by phone, or by mail when your invitation to respond arrives.

Visit my- 2020census.gov to begin.

Questions Asked on the Form

Responding to the 2020 Census is easy. Learn more about the questions that are asked and how your answers will be used.

Spread the Word

Everyone can play a part in ensuring a complete and accurate count in 2020.

ALCDC and USDA FSA Staff Provides Partnership Outreach Support to Beginning Farmer

The New and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Program is an initiative developed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). This program was developed to ensure that those who decide to enter the agriculture farming field would have all the necessary tools needed for a successful introduction and hopefully long and productive career in farming.

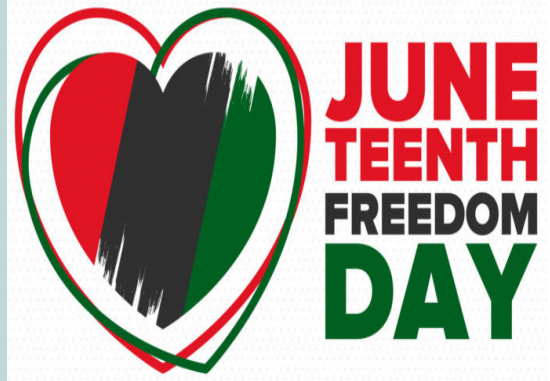


Left to Right: Christopher Armstrong, USDA, FSA; Michael Tucker, ALCDC; McArthur Driver, Farmer

Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC) is a community-based organization with roots embedded in the well-being for the underserved family farmer and rural communities. ALCDC program service delivery has been in the business of providing training, technical assistance and advocacy support for limited resource and minority farmers for 40 years. Besides serving as advocates for underserved farmers and ranchers, ALCDC also serves as an outreach link between the farmer and the USDA. ALCDC provides technical assistance to its farming clients with one-on-one counseling for program service delivery to qualified beginning farmer participants. ALCDC also provides direct technical assistance to individual farm clients for farm business plan application preparation assistance for farm operating loans from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). ALCDC services are provided at no cost to the participant. Training is also provided on USDA program policies and requirements; USDA programs that would prove most beneficial to an individual operation, including but not limited to, conservation program participation, forecasting potential yields, operating costs, and income capability. Pictured above is Michael Tucker with ALCDC and Christopher Armstrong with USDA FSA both staff are working with McArthur Driver a beginning farmer in Woodruff county. Due to COVID-19 these one on one sessions are conducted by appointment only, while adhering to CDC safety requirements. This partnership meeting with the client is to make sure that his farm operating plan has an inclusion of all USDA program service opportunities for conservation program support practices and risk management.

“The Race for Justice”

Juneteenth One Step Forward



From Wikipedia

Ashton Villa, is where General Order No. 3 was read on June 19, 1865, also called Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Liberation Day, Emancipation Day. This solemn day is Observed by Americans (especially African Americans) in 49 states of the United States. Its historical significance is the Emancipation of remaining enslaved African Americans in the Confederacy.

The observances

Juneteenth (a portmanteau of June and nineteenth) (also known as Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, and Liberation Day, is an unofficial American holiday and an official Texas state holiday, celebrated annually on the 19th of June in the United States to commemorate Union army general Gordon Granger’s reading of federal orders in the city of Galveston, Texas, on the 19th of June 1865, proclaiming all slaves in Texas were now free. Although the Emancipation Proclamation had formally freed them almost two and a half years earlier, and the American Civil War had largely ended with the defeat of the Confederate States in April, Texas was the most remote of the slave states, with a low presence of Union troops, so enforcement of the proclamation had been slow and inconsistent.

Celebrations date to 1866, at first involving church-centered

community gatherings in Texas. It spread across the South and became more commercialized in the 1920s and 1930s, often centering on a food festival. During the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, it was eclipsed by the struggle for postwar civil rights but grew in popularity again in the 1970s with a focus on African American freedom and arts. By the 21st century, Juneteenth was celebrated in most major cities across the United States. Activists are campaigning for the United States Congress to recognize Juneteenth as a national holiday. Juneteenth is recognized as a state holiday or special day of observance in 49 of the 50 U.S. states.

Modern observance is primarily in local celebrations. Traditions include public readings of the Emancipation Proclamation, singing traditional songs such as “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” and “Lift Every Voice and Sing”, and reading of works by noted African American writers such as Ralph Ellison and Maya Angelou. Celebrations include rodeos, street fairs, cookouts, family reunions, park parties, historical reenactments, and Miss Juneteenth contests. The Mascogos, descendants of Black Seminoles, of Coahuila, Mexico, also celebrate Juneteenth.

General Order No. 3, June 19, 1865

During the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation

Proclamation on September 22, 1862. It was formally issued on January 1, 1863, declaring that all enslaved persons in the Confederate States of America in rebellion and not in Union hands were to be freed. More isolated geographically, planters and other slaveholders had migrated into Texas from eastern states to escape the fighting, and many brought enslaved people with them, increasing by the thousands the enslaved population in the state at the end of the Civil War. Although most lived in rural areas, more than 1,000 resided in both Galveston and Houston by 1860, with several hundred in other large towns. By 1865, there were an estimated 250,000 enslaved people in Texas.

The news of General Robert E. Lee’s surrender on April 9, 1865, reached Texas later in the month. The western Army of the Trans-Mississippi did not surrender until June 2. On June 18, Union Army General Gordon Granger arrived at Galveston Island with 2,000 federal troops to occupy Texas on behalf of the federal government.[citation needed] The following day, standing on the balcony of Galveston’s Ashton Villa, Granger read aloud the contents of “General Order No. 3”, announcing the total emancipation of those held as slaves:

The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of

the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere. Although this event is popularly thought of as “the end of slavery”, the Emancipation Proclamation did not apply to those enslaved in Union-held territory, who would not be freed until a proclamation several months later, on December 18, 1865, that the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified on December 6, 1865. The freedom of formerly enslaved people in Texas was given legal status in a series of Texas Supreme Court decisions between 1868 and 1874.

Early celebrations **An early celebration of Emancipation Day (Juneteenth) in 1900**

Formerly enslaved people in Galveston celebrated after the announcement. The following year, freedmen in Texas organized the first of what became the annual celebration of “Jubilee Day” on June 19. Early celebrations were used as political rallies to give voting instructions to newly freed slaves. Early independence celebrations often occurred on January 1 or 4.

In some cities black people were barred from using public parks because of state-sponsored segregation of facilities. Across parts of Texas, freed people pooled their funds to purchase land to hold their celebrations. The day was first

celebrated in Austin in 1867 under the auspices of the Freedmen’s Bureau, and it had been listed on a “calendar of public events” by 1872. That year black leaders in Texas raised \$1,000 for the purchase of 10 acres (4 ha) of land to celebrate Juneteenth, today known as Houston’s Emancipation Park.

The observation was soon drawing thousands of attendees across Texas; an estimated 30,000 black people celebrated at Booker T. Washington Park in Limestone County, Texas, established in 1898 for Juneteenth celebrations. By the 1890s Jubilee Day had become known as Juneteenth.

Emancipation Day celebration in Richmond, Virginia, 1905

In the early 20th century, economic and political forces led to a decline in Juneteenth celebrations. From 1890 to 1908, Texas and all former Confederate states passed new constitutions or amendments that effectively disenfranchised black people, excluding them from the political process. White-dominated state legislatures passed Jim Crow laws imposing second-class status. Gladys L. Knight writes the decline in celebration was in part because “upwardly mobile blacks were ashamed of their slave past and aspired to assimilate into mainstream culture. Younger generations of blacks, becoming further removed from slavery were occupied with school and other pursuits.” Others who migrated to the Northern United States could not take time off or simply dropped the celebration.

The Great Depression forced many black people off farms and into the cities to find work. In these urban

environments, African Americans had difficulty taking the day off to celebrate. The Second Great Migration began during World War II, when many black people migrated to the West Coast where skilled jobs in the defense industry were opening. A revival of Juneteenth began right before World War II began. From 1936 to 1951 the Texas State Fair served as a destination for celebrating the holiday, contributing to its revival. In 1936 an estimated 150,000 to 200,000 people joined the holiday’s celebration in Dallas. In 1938, Texas governor J. V. Allred issued a proclamation stating in part: Whereas, the Negroes in the State of Texas observe June 19 as the official day for the celebration of Emancipation from slavery; and Whereas, June 19, 1865, was the date when General Robert [sic] S. Granger, who had command of the Military District of Texas, issued a proclamation notifying the Negroes of Texas that they were free; and Whereas, since that time, Texas Negroes have observed this day with suitable holiday ceremony, except during such years when the day comes on a Sunday; when the Governor of the State is asked to proclaim the following day as the holiday for State observance by Negroes; and Whereas, June 19, 1938, this year falls on Sunday; NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES V. ALLRED, Governor of the State of Texas, do set aside and proclaim the day of June 20, 1938, as the date for observance of EMANCIPATION DAY in Texas and do urge all members of the Negro race in Texas to observe the day in a manner appropriate to its importance to them.

Seventy thousand people attended a “Juneteenth Jamboree” in 1951.

From 1940 through 1970, in the second wave of the Great Migration, more than five million black people left Texas, Louisiana and other parts of the South for the North and the West Coast. As historian Isabel Wilkerson writes, “The people from Texas took Juneteenth Day to Los Angeles, Oakland, Seattle, and other places they went. In 1945, Juneteenth was introduced in San Francisco by an immigrant from Texas, Wesley Johnson.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the Civil Rights Movement focused the attention of African Americans on expanding freedom and integrating. As a result, observations of the holiday declined again (though it was still celebrated regionally in Texas). It soon saw a revival as black people began tying their struggle to that of ending slavery. In Atlanta, some campaigners for equality wore Juneteenth buttons. During the 1968 Poor People’s Campaign to Washington, DC, called by Rev. Ralph Abernathy, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference made June 19 the “Solidarity Day of the Poor People’s Campaign”. In the subsequent revival, large celebrations in Minneapolis and Milwaukee emerged as well as across the Eastern United States. In 1974 Houston began holding large-scale celebrations again, and Fort Worth, Texas, followed the next year. Around 30,000 people attended festivities at Sycamore Park in Fort Worth the following year. The 1978 Milwaukee celebration was described as drawing over 100,000 attendees.

Official recognition

Governor Tom Wolf signing legislation to officially recognize Juneteenth in Pennsylvania
In the late 1970s the Texas

Legislature declared Juneteenth a “holiday of significance [...] particularly to the blacks of Texas”. It was the first state to establish Juneteenth as a state holiday under legislation introduced by freshman Democratic state representative Al Edwards. The law passed through the Texas Legislature in 1979 and was officially made a state holiday on January 1, 1980. Juneteenth is a “partial staffing” holiday in Texas; government offices do not close but agencies may operate with reduced staff, and employees may either celebrate this holiday or substitute it with one of four “optional holidays” recognized by Texas. In the late 1980s there were major celebrations of Juneteenth in California, Wisconsin, Illinois, Georgia, and Washington, D.C.

In 1996 the first legislation to recognize “Juneteenth Independence Day” was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, H.J. Res. 195, sponsored by Barbara-Rose Collins (D-MI). In 1997 Congress recognized the day through Senate Joint Resolution 11 and House Joint Resolution 56. In 2013 the U.S. Senate passed Senate Resolution 175, acknowledging Lula Briggs Galloway (late president of the National Association of Juneteenth Lineage) who “successfully worked to bring national recognition to Juneteenth Independence Day”, and the continued leadership of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation.

Activists are pushing Congress to recognize Juneteenth as a national holiday. Organizations such as the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation are seeking a Congressional designation of Juneteenth as a national day of observance.

In 2020, state governors of Virginia and New York both signed an executive order recognizing Juneteenth as a paid day of leave for state employees.

Subsequent growth

Since the 1980s and 1990s, the holiday has been more widely celebrated among African American communities and has seen increasing mainstreaming in the US. In 1991 there was an exhibition by the Anacostia Museum (part of the Smithsonian Institution) called “Juneteenth ’91, Freedom Revisited”. In 1994 a group of community leaders gathered at Christian Unity Baptist Church in New Orleans to work for greater national celebration of Juneteenth. Expatriates have celebrated it in cities abroad, such as Paris. Some US military bases in other countries sponsor celebrations, in addition to those of private groups. In 1999, Ralph Ellison’s novel Juneteenth was published, increasing recognition of the holiday. By 2006, at least 200 cities celebrated the day.

Although the holiday is still mostly unknown outside African-American communities, it has gained mainstream awareness through depictions in entertainment media, such as episodes of TV series Atlanta (2016) and Black-ish (2017), the latter of which featured musical numbers about the holiday by Aloe Blacc, The Roots, and Fonzworth Bentley. In 2018 Apple added Juneteenth to its calendars in iOS under official US holidays. In 2020, several American corporations including Twitter, the National Football League, Harvard University, and Nike announced that they would treat Juneteenth as a company holiday, providing a paid day off to their workers, and Google Calendar

added Juneteenth to its US Holidays calendar.

Recognition

Date of recognition:

- Recognized before 2000
- Recognized between 2000 and 2009
- Recognized in 2010 or after

After Texas recognized the date in 1980, many states followed suit. By 2002, eight states officially recognized Juneteenth and four years later 15 states recognized the holiday. By 2008, nearly half of US states observed the holiday as a ceremonial observance. Forty-nine of the 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia have recognized Juneteenth as either a state holiday or ceremonial holiday, a day of observance. The only state that does not recognize Juneteenth is Hawaii. United States congressional representative Sheila Jackson campaigns for Juneteenth to be a national holiday.

State

Year of recognition

Alabama 2011, Alaska 2001, Arizona 2016, **Arkansas 2005**, California 2003 Colorado 2004, Connecticut 2003, Delaware 2000, Florida 1991, Georgia 2011, Hawaii N/A ,Idaho 2001, Illinois 2003, Indiana 2010, Iowa 2002, Kansas 2007, Kentucky 2005, Louisiana 2003, Maine 2011, Maryland 2014, Massachusetts 2007, Michigan 2005, Minnesota 1996, Mississippi 2010, Missouri 2003, Montana 2017, Nebraska 2009, Nevada 2011, New Hampshire 2019, New Jersey 2004, New Mexico 2006, New York 2004, North Carolina 2007, North Dakota 2020, Ohio 2006, Oklahoma 1994, Oregon 2001, Pennsylvania 2001, Rhode Island 2012, South Carolina

2008, South Dakota 2020, Tennessee 2007, Texas 1980, Utah 2016, Vermont 2007, Virginia 2007, Washington 2007, West Virginia 2008, Wisconsin 2009, Wyoming 2003

American and Juneteenth flags and celebrations

The holiday is considered the “longest running African-American holiday” and has been called “America’s second Independence Day”. It is often celebrated on the third Sunday in June. Historian Mitch Kachun considers that celebrations of the end of slavery have three goals: “to celebrate, to educate, and to agitate”. Early celebrations consisted of baseball, fishing, and rodeos. African Americans were often prohibited from using public facilities for their celebrations, so they were often held at churches or near water. Celebrations were also characterized by elaborate large meals and people wearing their best clothing. It was common for former slaves and their descendants to make a pilgrimage to Galveston. As early festivals received news coverage, Janice Hume and Noah Arceneaux consider that they “served to assimilate African-American memories within the dominant ‘American story’”. “Observance today is primarily in local celebrations. In many places Juneteenth has become a multicultural holiday. Traditions include public readings of the Emancipation Proclamation, singing traditional songs such as “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” and “Lift Every Voice and Sing”, and reading of works by noted African-American writers such as Ralph Ellison and Maya Angelou. Celebrations include picnics, rodeos, street fairs, cookouts, family reunions, park parties, historical reenactments,

blues festivals, and Miss Juneteenth contests. Strawberry soda is a traditional drink associated with the celebration. The Mascogos, descendants of Black Seminoles, of Coahuila, Mexico also celebrate Juneteenth.

Juneteenth celebrations often include lectures and exhibitions on African American culture. The modern holiday places much emphasis upon teaching about African-American heritage. Karen M. Thomas wrote in *Emerge* that “community leaders have latched on to [Juneteenth] to help instill a sense of heritage and pride in black youth.” Celebrations are commonly accompanied by voter registration efforts, the performing of plays, and retelling stories. The holiday is also a celebration of soul food and other food with African American influences. In *Tourism Review International*, Anne Donovan and Karen DeBres write that “Barbecue is the centerpiece of most Juneteenth celebrations”.

ALFDC/ALCDC Information Survey for Service

We are requesting that you complete the following survey and provide the requested information. This will give us added options for providing you valuable service during these challenging times.

Name: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
County: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____ Home Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Is your phone a landline or a mobile? Landline _____ Mobile _____

Do you have access to the internet? Yes _____ No _____

Please check yes or no to the following that apply:

Landowner: Yes _____ No: _____ Heir Prosperity Interest Holder: Yes: _____ No: _____

Row Crop Farmer: Yes: _____ No: _____ Gardner: Yes: _____ No: _____ Small Farmer: Yes: _____ No: _____

Vegetable Farmer: Yes: _____ No: _____ Rancher (Livestock Operation): Yes: _____ No: _____

Small Business Owner: Yes: _____ No: _____ Veteran: Yes: _____ No: _____ New/Beginning Farmer: Yes: _____ No: _____

Are you presently receiving any service from USDA? Yes: _____ No: _____ FSA: _____ NRCS: _____

USDA Rural Development: _____ Forestry _____ Other: _____

Do you have any conservation program service contracts? Yes: _____ No: _____

Are you aware of the new government program opportunities resulting from the COVID-19 Stimulus package? Yes: _____ No: _____

Are you aware of the COVID-19 Stimulus Grant and other governments program benefits that will be made available? Yes: _____ No: _____

Please mail the information provided in the survey to:

Mary Harris

P O Box 743

Brinkley, Arkansas 72021



Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation

533 Floyd Brown Drive • P.O. Box 907 • Brinkley, AR 72021

Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation

484 Floyd Brown Drive P.O Box 743 Brinkley AR. 72021



Re: Your Membership Contribution and Support

Dear Member:

On behalf of the board of directors and staff, thank you for your membership/contribution to Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC)/Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC). Your membership contribution is greatly appreciated and meaningful for ALCDC's/ALFDC's efforts to meet its mission. Your contribution is a tax-deductible expense for your support. ALCDC/ALFDC are nonprofit 501(c) (3) historical land-based community economic development organization, serving and/or impacting 42 counties in the Arkansas Delta. At ALCDC and ALFDC, sustainable rural community development is our highest value. Our work is guided by the belief that progressive social, economic change and land ownership are the basis for self-determination and self-reliance.

Your contribution along with others greatly enhances our ability to continue providing valuable services to our members and clients. Your generosity provides direct and tangible support to our ongoing efforts for sustaining our communities as we continue our war against poverty, social injustice, equality, and access to equity for wealth and economically sustainable communities.

September 18, 1980 represents the incorporation date for ALFDC. The corporation acquired the historical Fargo site as its home base in 1984. Since 1920, the site history has been known for serving as an educational institution place for black youth, annual farmers, and rural community conference events along with other community meeting to foster outreach education and training. The site was founded by Dr. Floyd Brown in 1919 as the Fargo Agriculture Training School. As a former student of Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee University, Dr. Brown structured the schools K-12 curriculum to follow the philosophy of his formal educational training. His work has served as a major contribution for education and economic development in the African American community. Today, contribution of his work and the land site represents a legacy and a vital part of our nation's history and ALCDC/ALFDC's work.

Thank you for your membership and support of this legacy and our work. If you have any questions about ALCDC or ALFDC's work and services, please let me know.

Respectfully

Calvin R. King, Sr.

Dr. Calvin R. King, Sr.
President/CEO

ALFDC/ALCDC Partnership Membership Renewal Form

October 2019 - September 2020

_____ Individual Membership \$25 _____ Partner Membership \$40

_____ Organization Membership \$200

Membership Benefits

Advocacy and Public Relations - ALCDC/ALFDC participates in federal and state hearing sessions that focus on policy development for its members, farmers, youth and rural residents.

Member Opportunities - ALCDC/ALFDC offers leadership opportunities within the organization for our youth, farmers and rural residents. Members are also recommended for advisory boards at the federal, state local levels.

Marketing Opportunities - ALCDC/ALFDC offers cooperative marketing opportunities for farmers and rural businesses interested in collective marketing. We also offer the opportunity to present or set up an exhibit during our Annual Conference. We offer facility rentals at a discounted fee to all ALCDC members.

Access to Housing, Farming and Youth Services - ALCDC/ALFDC offers rural residents the opportunity for affordable housing, home ownership education, business development, assistance with accessing farm financing, training on conservation program practices, youth leadership development, education enrichment and workforce readiness.

Information and Communication - ALCDC/ALFDC members are able to communicate with ALCDC representative via phone or website concerning their farming, housing, or youth service's needs. Members receive ALCDC updates and news through our quarterly newsletters and weekly e-letters.

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Please return your application and tax-deductible contribution to:

ALCDC/ALFDC Membership Program

P.O. Box 743, Brinkley, AR 72021

ALCDC/ALFDC services and programs are available without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or familial status.



P.O. Box 907
Brinkley AR
72021

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ABOUT THE ADVANCER

The Advancer is a publication of the Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation. It is printed and circulated as a public service and communication resource for our membership and constituents. This publication is also circulated to a broad range of organizations and residents throughout the Delta and the United States.

The Advancer reflects the nature of our work - providing self-help opportunities and support services to our farmers and others of limited resources in our 42-county service area. Our work is dedicated to helping people become more productive and self-sufficient. Your comments and suggestions are appreciated. Direct all comments and inquiries regarding this publication by phone to (870) 734-3005 or e-mail to mary_harris15@yahoo.com.

You may correct your mailing address on the label above and fax back to (870) 734-4197 or call Mary Harris at (870) 734-3005.

ALCDC Staff

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Albert Jones, Farm Director
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Amanda Rogers, Stone Brook, Forrest City and Wynne, Resident Manager
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ALCDC Mission Statement

The mission of ALCDC is to provide advocacy outreach, technical assistance and training to limited resource small farmers and all rural residents to alleviate sustainable farming and strengthen communities' economic sustainability and workforce readiness.

ALCDC services and programs are available without regard to age, race, religion, gender or physical handicap.