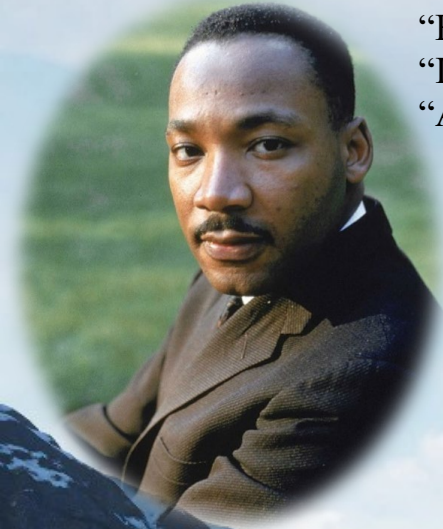


ARKANSAS LAND AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

# THE ADVANCER



“Because I’ve been to the mountaintop.  
“I just want to do God’s will.”  
“And I’ve looked over.”

A Reason  
For Hope



NEWS BULLETIN WINTER EDITION  
SPECIAL ISSUE!!!

ALFDC-ALCDC 41st Annual Community Economic  
Development and Winters Farmers Conference  
FEBRUARY 24th – 25th, 2022

**Subject:** Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (**VIRTUAL**) 41<sup>st</sup> Community Economic Development and Winter Farmers Conference Hosted by Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation **February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.**

Dear Members, Farmers, Landowners, Supporters and Partners:

This letter is a recall of all previous communication regarding the schedule date for Arkansas Land and Farm Development Corporation (ALFDC) 41<sup>st</sup> Community Economic Development and Winter Farmers Conference hosted (**VIRTUALLY**) by Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC).

My sincere apology, but the published dates of January 27 and 28 2022 for the conference are incorrect. *The correct dates are February 24th and 25th as it has always been.* Again, we are regretful of this error. The COVID-19 impact on staff tele-serving, office protocol, and related stresses contributed to a miss communication. Again, the previously published dates of January 27 and 28, 2022 are incorrect. *The correct dates are February 24 and 25, 2022.* I have provided below a summary agenda for the (**Virtual**) conference.

As we enter into a promising New Year, the board of directors and staff for Arkansas Land and Community Development Corporation (ALCDC) would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your continued support. We have enjoyed being a part of the process of providing your access to information and services' over the years, and extraordinarily proud to have you as members, supporters, and partners. It's you who make our jobs for service delivery such an enriching rewarding experience.

This year's 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference for program service delivery has been structured to be up lifting as we venture into our new year. The conference theme: **A Reason for Hope** will be highlighted by state and national speakers, focusing on equity, equality and resources opportunities for our rural and urban population. The structured agenda for this event will be delivered in the following:

**Day-1 (Virtually) February 24, 2022, Youth Day**

Opening Morning Session-----10:am  
Youth Speak -----10:30 am  
Luncheon Speaker-----12: noon  
Closing ----- 1:00 pm

[Registration Link:](#)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtdeyuqjspGdOE\\_%20%20Mo9x9Pb6tImWINqlwOw](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtdeyuqjspGdOE_%20%20Mo9x9Pb6tImWINqlwOw)

**Day- 2 (Virtually) February 25, 2022, General Feature Day**

Opening Morning Session----- 9:30 am  
Opening Speaker----- 10:00 am  
Panel Workshop ----- 10:30 am  
Luncheon Speaker----- 12: noon  
Recognition Award-----1:00pm  
Closing ----- 1: 30

[Registration Link:](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpde-vpj0qHdK3KgolE0IOPJV5uT1b0j4V>

We are looking forward to you joining us for our Forty First (41<sup>st</sup>) annual conference, as we bring to you, **A Reason for Hope** for our destination into 2022 and beyond.

Sincerely

*Dr. Calvin R. King, Sr.*

President





**Save the Date February 24th & 25th**

**ALFDC-ALCDC 41<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Community Economic Development  
& Winters Farmers Conference**

**Early Registration Now Open**

**Please Call (870) 734-3005 or use the link(s) below**

**February 24th**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtdeyuqjspGdOE\\_%20%20Mo9x9Pb6tlmWINqlwOw](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtdeyuqjspGdOE_%20%20Mo9x9Pb6tlmWINqlwOw)

**February 25th**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpde-vpj0qHdK3KgoIE0IOPJV5uTlb0j4V>



**THEME:**

**A Reason for Hope**

**Our faith sustains us, and our  
mission and vision guide us**

## Drones in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for East and Central Arkansas Vegetable Growers

Agricultural growers are striving to find alternatives to crop management that will allow them to protect their plants without harming the people who will eventually eat them. Chemical pesticides can be toxic for both people and the environment. ALCDC is working with vegetable growers using drones to augment IPM strategies. Drone can help growers identify pests earlier, remediate them faster, and use less pesticides. The ALCDC project includes training for project participants on Biotic stresses (living organisms including fungi, bacteria, insects, and weeds, and viruses) and Abiotic stresses (water, temperature, wind, agrochemicals). The Biotic and Abiotic training is essential for facilitating the drone flight data analysis.

In a typical application, ALCDC staff manually flies a field as illustrated in the adjoining picture and save individual waypoints (GPS position and altitude changes) along the path so that the same path can be replicated in future flights, facilitating comparative analysis. ALCDC will fly instrumentation packages for early detection, whole field surveillance, edge of field coverage, normalized difference vegetative index (NDVI) as well as thermal temperature analysis

Waypoints can also be used to mark exact location of points of interest for precise pesticide application, as well as for Abiotic stress factors remediation. High resolution cameras for collecting imagery of pests in the early stages of infestation will allow for precision application of mitigation methods, resulting in minimizing pesticide application and environmental damages in urban farm communities.

A major output of the project will be a Manual/Guidelines for Drones in Pest Management for East Central Arkansas Vegetable Growers.



## Biden Administration Appoints Doris Washington to Serve as State Executive Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency in Arkansas

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 2022— The Biden Administration recently appointed Doris Washington as the new State Executive Director (SED) for the USDA Arkansas Farm Service Agency (FSA). Washington joined the Arkansas FSA team on Jan. 3, 2022.

“Individuals selected to serve as FSA State Executive Directors are incredible public servants who have a proven track record when it comes to their commitment to advance their states and communities,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “Each will serve on the frontlines, carrying out USDA’s mission at the state level and ensuring the voice of each and every USDA customer is heard. We are fortunate to have each of these talented individuals at this critical time for farmers and producers and rural communities across America.”

Washington previously served as the Acting Deputy Chief for Management and Strategy for USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service. Prior to serving as the Acting Deputy Chief, she served as the USDA Director for the National Water Management Center in Little Rock. Washington has over 34 years with USDA as an expert in crops and natural resources science. She has hands on experience serving as a District Conservationist, Acting State Conservationist and National Team Leader for Administrative Transformation for NRCS. She has received many awards throughout her career including the USDA Honors Award for change management within the federal agency. Washington is a United States Army National Guard Veteran with over 10 years of service as an Officer in the Arkansas Army National Guard.



As SED, Washington will be responsible for overseeing the delivery of FSA programs to agricultural producers in Arkansas. These commodity, conservation, credit, and disaster assistance programs ensure a safe, affordable, abundant, and nutritious food, fiber, and fuel supply for consumers.

“The State Executive Director is a pivotal leadership position for the Agency and for the agricultural producers we serve,” said Marcus Graham, FSA Deputy Administrator for Field Operations. “These leaders, appointed by the Biden-Harris Administration, bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to their respective states. We are happy to have them on board and wish them much success.”

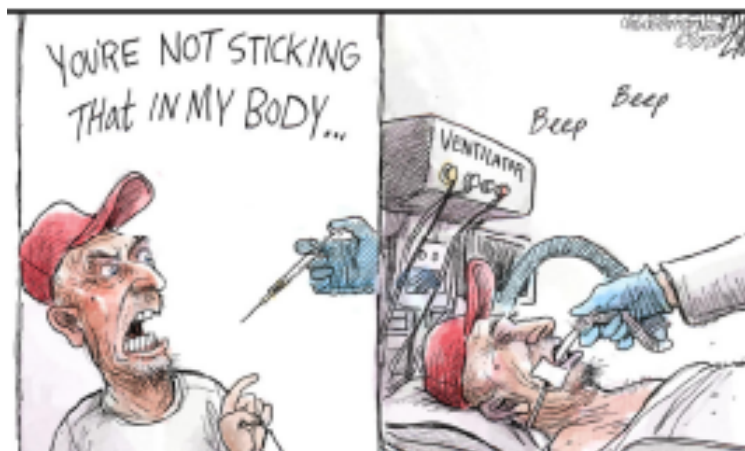
Farm Service Agency serves farmers, ranchers, foresters, and agricultural partners through the effective, efficient, and equitable delivery of federal agricultural programs. The Agency offers producers a strong safety net through the administration of farm commodity and disaster programs. Additionally, through conservation programs, FSA continues to preserve and protect natural resources and provides credit to

agricultural producers who are unable to receive private, commercial credit, including targeted loan funds for beginning, underserved, women and military veterans involved in production agriculture.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender

## COVID-19



Sometimes we really speak before we know the consequences of what we say. NO!! means “no” when it comes to dying or living. I have family and friends that continually say ‘NO’ to taking the Covid vaccine, despite the fact that 95% of the virus stricken those that continually say no to its 95% effectiveness.

Those who know me know that I very seldom go to funerals regardless of family or friends. I have taken both shots and continue to wear my mask. I continually encourage family and friends to get their vaccine shot and wear their mask especially in large gatherings. The virus is deadly and especially the Delta Virus so please don’t be like the man in the picture above that says “NO” when he should have said “YES”. OK, Tooooo Late!!

If you think that this poster has real meaning, past it on to your family and friends. I just did.

~Bobby



# 2022 Annual Conference Registration Form

(Please Print)					
Date:			Office Use:		
<b>Participant/Agency information</b>					
Last name:	First:	Middle:	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Ms.	
Agency:			Email:		
Street address:			Fax:		Home Phone:
			(   )		(   )
P.O. Box:	City:		State:		ZIP Code:
					(   )
Please Fill out and mail to P.O. Box 743, Brinkley, AR 72021					





## ALFDC/ALCDC Partnership Membership Renewal Form

**October 1, 2021- September 30, 2022**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Individual Membership \$25**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Partnership Membership \$40**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Organizational Membership \$200**

### **Member Benefits**

**Advocacy and Public Relations** -ALCDC/ALFDC participates in federal and state hearing sessions that focus on policy development for it's 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 and local levels.

**Marketing Opportunities** -ALCDC/ALFDC offers cooperative marketing opportunities for farmers, rural businesses interested in enhancing the lives of rural Americans. 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 to affordable housing, home ownership education business development, assistance in accessing farm financing and federal resources, and training on conservation practices, youth leadership development, education enrichment, and workforce readiness.

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

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return your application and tax-deductible contribution to:  
ALCDC/ALFDC Membership Program• P.O. Box 743 • Brinkley, AR 72021**

ALCDC/ALFDC program and services 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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BRINKLEY, AR  
72021

## 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 [alcldc1934@yahoo.com](mailto:alcldc1934@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

Dr. Calvin R. King Sr., President and Chief Executive Officer  
LaShica Miller, Vice-President, Chief Financial Operation Officer  
J.D. Davis, Vice President for Program and Policy  
Albert Jones, Farm Program Director  
Barbara Erby, Housing Director  
Mary Harris, Farm Administrative Assistant, Office Administrator  
Ashley Crockett, Farm Advisor  
Michael Tucker, Farm Advisor  
Tomyra Privett, Accounts Receivables, Assistant Farm Advisor  
Diamond Smith, Accounts Payables, Farm Financial Analyst  
Breanna James, Administrative Assistant for Farm Program  
Mykela Sparkman, Administrative Assistant  
Nelson Hubbert, Environmental Engineer

### Multi-Family Housing (off-site)

Barbara Erby, McNeil Apartments, Phase I: Crawfordsville; Earle & Pinewood Apt.  
Dev: Brinkley  
Shannon Barnes, Chapel Ridge, Phase I and II: Forrest City, Resident Manager  
Keisha Caffey, Meadowbrook: Marianna, Helena-West Helena, Resident Manager  
Amanda Rogers, Stone Brook: Forrest City and Wynne, Resident Manager

## 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 poverty, enhance 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.

**For Additional Information:**  
**Phone:** (870) 734-3005  
**Website:** <https://alfdc.webs.com>  
**Email:** [alcldc1934@yahoo.com](mailto:alcldc1934@yahoo.com)