



Rural Partners Network Staff Directory

As of January 17, 2025

NAME	TITLE	EMAIL	COMMUNITY NETWORK	PHONE NUMBER
National Team				
Lee Jones	Executive Director	lee.jones@usda.gov	National Office	318-473-7903
Christine Sorensen	Lead-Engagement	christine.sorensen@usda.gov	National Office	202-568-9832
Michelle Moore	Lead-Operations/Admin	michelle.moore2@usda.gov	National Office	515-729-4651
Angela Richardson	Engagement	angela.richardson@usda.gov	National Office	469-678-3711
Jaclyn Leyva	Operations/ Communications	Jaclyn.Leyva@usda.gov	National Office	575-430-3728
Alaska				
Colleen Dow	Deputy State Director	Colleen.dow@usda.gov	Statewide	907-761-7704
Theresa Johnson	Senior Community Liaison	Theresa.johnson@usda.gov	Statewide/ Nome	907-761-7741
Emily "Emma" Miller	Community Liaison	Emily.Marr@usda.gov	Southeast Alaska	907-796-9154
Lauren Hurst	Community Liaison	Lauren.Hurst@usda.gov	Interior Alaska	907-347-9045

Arizona					
Alesia Stanley	Deputy State Director	alesia.stanley@usda.gov	Statewide	480-276-3578	
Jared Raymond	Community Liaison	jared.raymond@usda.gov	Statewide	602-826-2647	
Gary Magrino	Community Liaison	magrinog@cocopah.com	Cocopah Indian Tribe	928-627-2102	
Georgia					
Kenneth Smith	Deputy State Director	Kenneth.smith@usda.gov	Statewide	706-843-4152	
Alaina Sykes	Community Liaison	Alaina.Sykes@usda.gov	Southwest Georgia Regional Commission CN (Early, Miller, Seminole and Terrell counties)	478-721-3150	
Jyles Zellner	Community Liaison	jyles.zellner@usda.gov	Southwest Georgia Regional Commission CN (Baker, Calhoun, Decatur, and Lee counties)	470-388-2459	
Amy Wilkie	Community Liaison	amy.wilkie@usda.gov	Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (Ben Hill, Emanuel, Worth and Dougherty counties)	478-412-1767	
Kentucky					
Traci Vaught	Deputy State Director	traci.vaught@usda.gov	Statewide	859-327-1787	
Rachel Chambers	Senior Community Liaison	rachel.chambers@usda.gov	Statewide	606-910-3338	
Bradford Rodgers	Community Liaison	bradford.rodgers@usda.gov	Fulton County CN	270-727-0190	
Connie Sturgill	Community Liaison	connie.sturgill@usda.gov	Kentucky Highlands CN	606-548-0926	
Paul Dengel	Community Liaison	Paul.dengel@usda.gov	Kentucky Highlands CN	606-231-7758	

Maine					
Tommy Higgins	Deputy State Director	Tommy.higgins@usda.gov	Statewide	207-990-9160	
Morgan Hotham	Community Outreach Coordinator	Morgan.hotham@usda.gov	Isle and Edge Partnership CN: Matinicus Island and Town of Danforth	207-990-9101	
Mississippi					
Nicole Barnes	Deputy State Director	nicole.barnes@usda.gov	Statewide	228-263-0498	
Monica Smith	Senior Community Liaison	monica.smith@usda.gov	Statewide	769-203-1363	
Gwendolyn Woodson	Community Liaison	gwendolyn.woodson@usda.gov	Lake District Partnership CN	601-710-1063	
Juliet Thomas	Community Liaison	Juliet.Thomas@usda.gov	Washington County Economic Alliance CN	662-537-3316	
Michelle Webster	Community Liaison	michelle.webster@usda.gov	Tri-County North Delta CN	662-54-1039	
Nevada					
James Park	Deputy State Director	james.park@usda.gov	Statewide	775-720-1884	
Rachel Dahl	Senior Community Liaison	Rachel.dahl@usda.gov	Statewide	775-870-2639	
Elias Askins	Community Liaison	elias.askins@usda.gov	Moapa Valley CN and Southern Clark County CN	702-333-3942	
Jacqueline Cashmere	Community Liaison	jacqueline.cashmere@usda.gov	Southern Nevada CN	702-830-3257	
Lorena (Sunny) Brothers	Community Liaison	lorena.brothers@usda.gov	Nevada 95-80 Regional Development	775-444-2209	
New Mexico					
Eric Vigil	Deputy State Director	eric.vigil@usda.gov	Statewide	505-270-1488	
Michael Rivera	Senior Community Liaison	michael.rivera@usda.gov	Statewide	505-761-4956	

Patricia Villalobos	Community Liaison	patricia.villalobos@usda.gov	Doña Ana County CN	575-323-4307
Kristina Ortiz	Community Liaison	kristina.ortiz@usda.gov	Southwest New Mexico CN	575-654-5788
Raul Hurtado	Community Liaison	raul.e.hurtado@usda.gov	Northern New Mexico Community Network	575-781-7404
North Carolina				
Mel Ellis	Deputy State Director	mel.ellis@usda.gov	Statewide	919-302-5569
George Vital	Senior Community Liaison	george.vital@usda.gov	Statewide	919-208-1128
Floria Oates-Williams	Community Liaison	floria.oateswilliams@usda.gov	Robeson Bladen Columbus CN	919-300-4860
Angela Washington	Community Liaison	angela.washington@usda.gov	Albemarle Roanoke	252-624-3425
Puerto Rico				
Danna Quiles	Deputy State Director	Danna.quiles@usda.gov	Island wide	787-766-5346
Monica Rodriguez-Rivera	Senior Community Liaison	monica.rodriguez-rivera@usda.gov	Island wide	787-766-5155
Johnny Lopez Alvarado	Community Liaison	Johnny.lopezalvarado@usda.gov	Central Mountains Region	787-456-4683
Sonya Matos	Community Liaison	sonya.matos@usda.gov	Southwest Region	787-766-5144
Juan Santiago Rivera	Community Liaison	Juan.santiago@usda.gov	TBD	787-837-4450 ext 105
West Virginia				

Travis Wilfong	Deputy State Director	Travis.wilfong@usda.gov	Statewide	304-284-4881
Kayleigh Kyle	Senior Community Liaison	kayleigh.kyle@usda.gov	Statewide	304-284-4875
Adam Stollings	Community Liaison	adam.stollings@usda.gov	Southern West Virginia CN	304-776-5256, 119
Kent Walker	Community Liaison	kent.walker@usda.gov	Southern West Virginia CN	681-220-5740
Carrie Decker	Community Liaison	Carrie.decker@usda.gov	West Virginia Pioneer CN	681-533-2367
Wisconsin				
Michelle Wallace	Deputy State Director	Michelle.wallace@usda.gov	Statewide	715-345-7662
Laura West-Kralcik	Senior Community Liaison	Laura.west-kralcik@usda.gov	CNs of Greater Menominee and the Northern Network	715-345-7626
Sarah Sippl	Community Liaison	sarah.sippl@usda.gov	Northwestern Wisconsin CN	715-619-3128
Jerry Exterovich	Community Liaison	Jerry.Exterovich@usda.gov	Adams Co. Visionary, Forest CN	715-345-7617