



**2024 Bonnie Teater**  
**Lifetime Achievement Award**  
**Recipient**

**Dr. Stacey McCullough**

**University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture  
Cooperative Extension Service**

The Southern Rural Development Center is proud to honor Dr. Stacey McCullough as the 2024 recipient of the *Bonnie Teater Community Development Lifetime Achievement Award*. Dr. McCullough currently serves as an Assistant Vice President for Community, Professional and Economic Development at University of Arkansas System-Division of Agriculture (UADA) Cooperative Extension Service (CES) and the Director of the Public Policy Center at UADA. She has over 20 years of experience working with community and economic development at the local, regional, institutional, and national levels.

Dr. McCullough's career is characterized by a servant-leadership, data-driven approach to program development and institutional change that are people and impact focused; leadership driven by investment in people; and research designed to strengthen local community investment and capacity for quality of life. Leading by example, Dr. McCullough mentors, supports, and uplifts her team to continue the work she initiated through UADA Extension.

As Dr. Hunter P. Goodman, Assistant Professor, Community, Workforce, and Economic Development at UADA, stated, "Dr. McCullough embodies the Land Grant mission to higher education and the unique calling of Extension to impact the lives of people and communities through research and best practices along with community voice." Since 2005, Dr. McCullough has been a program associate, instructor, assistant professor, director, interim associate department head, and currently assistant vice-president.

In addition to her service, she has assisted with development or collaboration with the following initiatives: Ag. Marketing Service Grant Writing Workshop and Technical Assistance (AMSTA); Arkansas Community and Economic Development Alliance (ACEDA); Arkansas Ballot Issues Education Program; Capacity Building through Grant Writing; Celebrating REtail, Accommodations, Tourism, and Entertainment by Building Rural Innovations and Developing Growth Economies (CREATE BRIDGES); Coming Together for Racial Understanding; Future Opportunities for Rural Workforce and Rural Development through Extension (F.O.R.W.A.R.D.); Infrastructure Investment; and Stronger Economies Together (SET). She has served in active roles within Joint Council of Extension Professionals; National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals; National Digital Extension Education Team; Southern Rural Development Center efforts; Southern Region Program Leaders' Network; and Community Development Society.

Dr. McCullough's extensive grantsmanship experience has benefited the community and economic development she serves with over \$500,000 secured. Within the last four years, amidst the pandemic, she secured funding for extramural projects for "Advancing Digital Access," "Strategic Plans for Downtown Communities," "CREATE BRIDGES," and "MS4 Stormwater Education for the City of Pine Bluff."

In support of Dr. McCullough's nomination, Mr. Steven M. Mosher, Southern Region Coordinator at U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), stated, "Stacey has a vision that is hard to come by...Community Development is not just Stacey's work but her life." Dr. Deacue Fields, Vice President of Agriculture at UADA, stated, "She always puts her team first, stands beside her team, and...inspires others to achieve greatness while making a lasting impact that matters."

Without a doubt, the work of Dr. McCullough in the field of Community Development demonstrates the spirit of this prestigious award. Therefore, it is most fitting that Dr. Stacey McCullough be honored as the Southern Rural Development Center's 2024 recipient of the *Bonnie Teater Community Development Lifetime Achievement Award*.