Before We Begin

• Audio is streaming through your computer.

• Questions should be submitted via text in the Chat box Feature.

• This session is being recorded and will be posted to www.fsa.usda.gov/outreach after it’s been captioned.
Welcome and Agenda

**Cynthia Cuellar:** Overview of FSA County Committees (COC)
- National Outreach Specialist

**Jan Joannides:** Stakeholder Engagement Perspectives
- Executive Director and Co-Founder of Renewing the Countryside

**Judy Kahn:** COC Member Perspectives
- Current COC Member in Minnesota

**Craig Turner:** COC Member Perspectives
- Previous COC Member in Texas
What is a County Committee?

• Authorized by Congress in 1930s

• Critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA

• More than 7,700 committee members serve on more than 2,200 committees nationwide
Who serves on a County Committee?

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county committee.

- Be a producer with an interest in farming or ranching operations
- Participate or cooperate in any FSA program provided for by law
- Be a U.S. Citizen
- Be of legal voting age
- Meet the basic eligibility requirements
- Reside in the county or multi-county jurisdiction in which they will be serving.
Why is Outreach important?

- Increase Diversity on County Committees
- Ensure a variety of perspectives

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.
## Demographics of COC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voting Members by Percent</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>SDA (Race)</th>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>African American or Black</td>
<td>American Indian or Native Alaskan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>83.5%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
<td>82.7%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>17.8%</td>
<td>82.2%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>18.16%</td>
<td>81.84%</td>
<td>2.15%</td>
<td>2.49%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How does FSA encourage Outreach?

- County Committee Members
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Webinars and Meetings
Stakeholder Engagement

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Executive Director and Co-Founder of Renewing the Countryside
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Questions?
And for more information...

Find Your Local FSA Service Center at:
http://offices.usda.gov

Find out more about Renewing the Countryside at:
www.renewingthecountryside.org

Find out more about Farmer Elected Committees at:
www.fsacountycommittees.org

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Thank you for joining!

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