



**Diversity, Recruitment, and Work/Life Division**  
**Office of Human Resources Management**  
**Employee Organizations – Contacts**

Organization/ Agency Name	Group Purpose	Contact Name	Phone Number	E-mail	Address
African American Strategy Group (AASG)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: To provide an African American perspective that assists the Forest Service in achieving its Mission and Vision which includes multiculturalism and diversity in all aspects of organizational life.	Dr. Aurelia “Bea” Harris <i>Lead Facilitator</i>	505-842-3422	<a href="mailto:abharris@fs.fed.us">abharris@fs.fed.us</a>	333 Broadway Blvd, SE Albuquerque, NM 87012
American Indian/Alaska Native Employees Association (AIANEA) for the NRCS	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: The purpose of the American Indian/Alaska Native Association for the Natural Resources Conservation Service is to strengthen the NRCS mission by providing educational opportunities that foster the recruitment, retention, professional development, and career advancement of American Indians and Alaska Natives within NRCS and other federal agencies. Furthermore, the Association provides various training opportunities to improve NRCS services and outreach to American Indians and Alaska Natives and to promote higher educational opportunities by sponsoring a sustaining scholarship program.	Dr. Carol Crouch <i>President</i>	405-612-9331 405-742-1203	<a href="mailto:carol.crouch@ok.usda.gov">carol.crouch@ok.usda.gov</a>	State Tribal Liaison – Oklahoma U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) 100 USDA, Suite 235 Stillwater, OK 74074-2655
Asian Pacific American Network in Agriculture	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: Organized 20 years ago, APANA serves as a conduit through which issues of common interest of the members are addressed. APANA's objectives are to: 1. Promote representation of APA employees in USDA services and programs. 2. Facilitate career employment and advancement of APA within USDA. 3. Expose and reduce racism, sexism and other barriers to fair employment in USDA. 4. Provide resources and sponsor activities to help APA employees in USDA acquire skills and knowledge for career advancement. 5. Ensure that APA Heritage Month is properly observed in the Department. APANA has multiple Chapters throughout the U.S.	Justin Rhee <i>President</i>	202-720-7410	<a href="mailto:justin.rhee@ascr.usda.gov">justin.rhee@ascr.usda.gov</a>	USDA Office of Civil Rights Patriot Plaza III 355 E St., SW 3-W-262 Washington, DC 20024

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Asian Pacific Islander Organization (APIO)	<p><b>Employee Organization</b>  <b>MISSION:</b>                      The Asian Pacific Islander Organization (APIO) was established in May 1998 to provide a forum for employees of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to exchange ideas, network, mentor, train, and add value to the agency by being a linguistic, cultural, and ethnic bridge to our communities and other employee organizations. The APIO will focus attention on the under-representation of API employees and serve in an advisory role to address methods of recruitment, retention, and promotion. In assisting the NRCS to achieve workforce diversity goals, the APIO will help to enhance outreach, as well as promote access and delivery of agency programs to historically under-served communities.</p>	Nick Vira <i>President</i>	651-602-7931	<a href="mailto:nick.vira@mn.usda.gov">nick.vira@mn.usda.gov</a>	Asian Pacific Islander Organization PO Box 6054 Olympia, WA 98507
Association of Christians Reaching Out in Service and Support (ACROSS)	<p><b>Employee Organization</b>                      The purpose of ACROSS is to contribute to employee welfare and morale by supporting and strengthening one another in the practice of a living faith in Jesus Christ, devoted to serving our fellow employees and agency constituents.</p>	Anne Weiskircher <i>Chair</i>	928-245-8679	<a href="mailto:arw225.aw@gmail.com">arw225.aw@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://www.acrossweb.us/">http://www.acrossweb.us/</a>

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Black/Minority Employees Organization (BMEO)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: Enhance awareness of and participation by Blacks and other minorities within USDA by promoting equal opportunity and fairness in recruitment, assignment, and promotion; support increased training opportunities; provide and/or assist with the orientation of summer interns and/or new hires; and support career development. BMEO shall operate in all agencies within the USDA.	Geraldine Herring <i>President</i>	202-720-1637	geraldine.herring@usda.gov	355 E Street, S.W., PP3, Room Wi304.4 Washington, D.C. 20024  https://www.bmeo.usda.gov/bmeoofficers2007.htm
		Linda Bright <i>Vice President</i>	202-690-1193	linda.bright@usda.gov	
USDA Coalition of Minority Employees	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: The Coalition is always willing to working together to gain the support of any administration, USDA officials, and the congress, with the objective of expediting the achieving our goal to bring about justice, fairness and a reprisal free workplace. We are willing to sacrifice popularity to help relieve the pain, suffering and sacrifice of employees and farmers, especially Black Farmers. We feel we must right the wrongs and continued injustices perpetrated against those we represent, people of color, women, persons with disabilities and others. We strive to eradicate the historical and systemic discrimination at USDA, identify issues and concerns and recommend solutions. This includes working to correct the employer practices and agency practices that harm employees and farmers in any way. This is our primary mission.	Ron Cotton <i>President</i>	301-526-2992	rncott1@aol.com	4712 Decatur Street Hyattsville, MD 20781  www.agcoalition.org
		Lesla Donnelly <i>Vice President</i>	530-776-8582	lesa@snowcrest.net	
Blacks in Government (BIG), USDA GWC Chapter	<b>Employee Organization</b> USDA George Washington Carver Chapter is a leader for employees and promotes excellence in professionalism and employee development.	Simone Dedrick <i>President</i>	202-851-2025	<a href="mailto:simone.j.dedrick@aphis.usda.gov">simone.j.dedrick@aphis.usda.gov</a>	P.O. Box 23381 Washington, DC 20026
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Employees in USDA (DHH USDA)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: To provide advice to the Secretary of Agriculture and Departmental Management on all issues related to the needs of Deaf and Hard of Hearing employees within the USDA in their pursuit of career development, civil rights, and privileges as Federal employees.	James Mantooth <i>Acting President</i>	202-888-1874	<a href="mailto:james.mantooth@ams.usda.gov">james.mantooth@ams.usda.gov</a>	USDA, AMS, S&T, Plant Variety Protection Office 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 4512-So Washington DC 20250  USDA, FAS 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 5532-S Washington, DC 20250
		Linda Whitmore <i>DHH USDA Secretary</i>	202-355-7172	<a href="mailto:linda.whitmore@fas.usda.gov">linda.whitmore@fas.usda.gov</a>	

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Federally Employed Women (FEW), USDA New Horizons Chapter	<p><b>Employee Organization</b> Private membership organization working as an advocacy group to improve the status of women employed by the federal and DC government. The FEW organization meets every month on the second Tuesday from 11:30am-12:30pm.</p> <p>MISSION: The New Horizons Chapter of Federally Employed Women supports the mission and activities of USDA Federal Women’s Program (FWP). FEW is a private, nonprofit organization that works as an advocacy group to improve the status of women employed by the Federal Government.</p>	Kimberly Graham <i>President</i>  Chere Shorter <i>Vice President</i>	202-720-0516  202-720-4890	<a href="mailto:kimberly.graham@osec.usda.gov">kimberly.graham@osec.usda.gov</a>  <a href="mailto:chere.shorter@ams.usda.gov">chere.shorter@ams.usda.gov</a>	1400 Independence Ave, SW Rm 4604-So Washington, DC 20024 <a href="http://www.few.org">www.few.org</a>  VP Address: 1400 Independence Ave, SW Room 0719-So Washington, DC 20250
Forest Service Hispanic Employees Association (FSHEA)	<p><b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: The FSHEA is formed for the purpose of collectively addressing issues affecting the Hispanic community by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promoting unity among all Forest Service Hispanic employees and all Forest Service colleagues.</li> <li>2. Assisting each other in achieving individual career goals.</li> <li>3. Taking responsibility for developing our skills to meet current and future needs of the Forest Service.</li> <li>4. Being pro-active with the Forest Service management to ensure that the development and implementation of policy is sensitive to the cultural values of Hispanic employees and the Hispanic community.</li> <li>5. Working with Forest Service management to ensure that the talents and skills of Hispanic employees are recognized and utilized at all levels of the organization.</li> </ol>	Trini Juarez <i>Chair</i>	707-562-8844	<a href="mailto:tjuarez@fs.fed.us">tjuarez@fs.fed.us</a>	FSHEA C/O Trinidad Juarez, Chair USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region 1323 Club Drive Vallejo, CA 94592

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Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Employees Organization (USDA GLOBE)	<p><b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote understanding of issues affecting gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender employees in USDA.</li> <li>Support the USDA policy of nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation.</li> <li>Provide outreach to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in the Department</li> <li>Serve as a resource group to the Secretary on issues of concern to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender employees.</li> <li>Work for the creation of diverse work force that assures respect and civil rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender employees.</li> <li>Create a forum for the concerns of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in the Department.</li> </ol>	William D. Aley <i>President</i>	301-851-2130	<a href="mailto:william.d.aley@aphis.usda.gov">william.d.aley@aphis.usda.gov</a>	<p>William Aley, USDA GLOBE President 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD. 20737</p> <p>301-452-7902 <a href="mailto:waley@aphis.usda.gov">waley@aphis.usda.gov</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/USDAGLOBE/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/USDAGLOBE/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.linkedin.com/groups/USDA-GLOBE-Members-Supporters-Allies-1145777">https://www.linkedin.com/groups/USDA-GLOBE-Members-Supporters-Allies-1145777</a></p>
Hispanic American Cultural Effort (HACE)	<p><b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: Promoting personal and professional growth through diversity.</p>	Benny Seda-Galarza <i>President</i>	202-260-9524	<a href="mailto:benny.seda-galarza@ams.usda.gov">benny.seda-galarza@ams.usda.gov</a>	1400 Independence Ave, SW, Room 2958-So Washington, D.C. 20250
Hispanic Organizations Leadership Alliance (HOLA)	<p><b>Employee Organization</b> USDA Chapter of HOLA</p>	Carmen Nordlund	202-205-5900	<a href="mailto:carmen.nordlund@ascr.usda.gov">carmen.nordlund@ascr.usda.gov</a>	USDA - Hispanic Organizations Leadership Alliances (HOLA) 12403 Salient Lane Spotsylvania, VA 22551
National Association of Federal Veterinarians (NAFV)	<p><b>Association of Managers and Supervisors</b> MISSION: Advance the science of veterinary medicine in federal public affairs; promote continuing education; advocate continuous improvement of animal disease prevention, disease control and disease eradication; improve slaughter inspection procedures to protect public health by reducing meat and poultry origin food borne illnesses; promote veterinary medical research; improve laboratory animal care; promote humane handling of all animals; recognize contributions of uniformed services to public health, biomedical research, and national defense; promote practices that prevent chemical residues in food animals; and promote practices that prevent drug resistant organisms.</p>	Dr. Larry Davis (FSIS) <i>President</i>	601-899-4869	<a href="mailto:larry.davis4@fsis.usda.gov">larry.davis4@fsis.usda.gov</a>	Jackson District Office 713 South Pear Orchard Road Suite 402 Ridgeland, MS 39157

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National Association of Support Employees (FSA)	<p><b>Employee Association</b></p> <p>MISSION: The objectives of NASE are to promote the betterment of the Farm Service Agency; to establish a cooperative relationship with the agency's management and to promote the welfare of members of the Association at all levels.</p> <p>Goals of this Association as pertaining to members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Communication</li> <li>2. Career Enhancement</li> <li>3. Self-Motivation</li> <li>4. Public Relations</li> <li>5. Team effort throughout all FSA</li> <li>6. Assist and be supportive of the mutual concerns of all other FSA employee associations.</li> <li>7. Assist FSA employees at all levels</li> <li>8. Self-Education</li> </ol>	Angela Biester <i>National President</i>	402-564-0506 Ext. 1004  Cell: 402-984-5273	<a href="mailto:angela.biester@ne.usda.gov">angela.biester@ne.usda.gov</a> / <a href="mailto:angelabiester@gmail.com">angelabiester@gmail.com</a>	3276 53rd Ave Columbus, NE 68601
RD's National Association Support Personnel (NASP)	<p><b>Employee Organization</b></p> <p>MISSION: To promote the welfare of members of the Assn., betterment of Rural Development, and establish a cooperative relationship with Area, State, Finance, National Offices, and Centralized Servicing Center.</p>	Laura Weeden <i>President</i>	269-657-7055 Ext. 124	<a href="mailto:laura.weeden@mi.usda.gov">laura.weeden@mi.usda.gov</a>	U.S. Department of Agriculture 1035 E Michigan Avenue Suite A Paw Paw, MI 49079
RD's National Association of Credit Specialists (NACS)	<p><b>Association of Management Officials or Supervisors</b></p> <p>MISSION: To expand, improve and expedite the services of Rural Development (RD) to rural people.</p>	Sharon Johnson <i>President</i>	859-224-7357	<a href="mailto:sharon.johnson@ky.usda.gov">sharon.johnson@ky.usda.gov</a>	771 Corporate Drive, Suite 200 Lexington, KY 40503
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers (RPCV s) and Friends at USDA	<p><b>Employee Resource Group</b></p> <p>MISSION: The objectives of RPCVs and Friends at USDA shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To champion lifelong commitment to national service ideals.</li> <li>2. To facilitate communication and foster a sense of community amongst and between RPCVs and other employees through social events and volunteer opportunities.</li> <li>1. To provide an information-sharing tool for employees worldwide who are interested in the work of RPCVs and Friends at USDA.</li> </ol>	Katherine Braga <i>Co-Coordinator</i>  Chris Hartley <i>Co-Coordinator</i>	N/A	<a href="mailto:PeaceCorps@osec.usda.gov">PeaceCorps@osec.usda.gov</a>	N/A

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National Organization of Professional Hispanic NRCS Employees (NOPHNRCSE)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: To motivate and mentor members for leadership roles to assist NRCS and partners in delivering natural resources conservation. NOPHNRCSE Purpose - To assist NRCS in the delivery of program benefits and services to the Hispanic rural/urban community by strengthening NRCS efforts in the recruitment, retention, development, and advancement of Hispanics.	Bianca Diaz Deliz <i>President</i>	908-483-2354	<a href="mailto:Bianca.Diaz.Deliz@usda.gov">Bianca.Diaz.Deliz@usda.gov</a>	USDA-NRCS-NJ 687 Pittstown Road, Suite 2 Frenchtown, NJ 08825
National Organization of Professional Women in NRCS (WiN)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: To provide women with training, opportunities, and mentoring to develop into their fullest professional potential.  VISION: High performing, diverse, innovative and motivated female employees who transform the workplace.	Karri Honaker <i>President</i>	785-624-3130	<a href="mailto:karri@winrcs.org">karri@winrcs.org</a> / <a href="mailto:karri.honaker@ks.usda.gov">karri.honaker@ks.usda.gov</a>	WiN 194 Beechwood Avenue Staten Island, NY 10301
Organization of Professional Employees of the Department of Agriculture (OPEDA)	<b>Professional Group or Association</b> MISSION: To enhance the effectiveness of our members in the performance of their duties. We exist to represent and inform our members, promote professionalism and serve our country. We provide representation of our membership to the Administration and to other employee groups and organizations that promote efficient and effective management of the agencies of USDA.	Edward Dickerhoof <i>President</i>	202-205-7913	<a href="mailto:opeda@dm.usda.gov">opeda@dm.usda.gov</a> ; <a href="mailto:ed.dickerhoof@yahoo.com">ed.dickerhoof@yahoo.com</a>	OPEDA P.O. Box 23762 Washington, DC 20026-3762  Physical Office: Room 1212-So 1400 Independence Ave, SW Washington, DC 20250 Phone: 202-720-4898  <a href="http://www.opeda.org">www.opeda.org</a>
Pathfinders - Forest Service  <b>Non-Responsive For 2017 Confirmation/ Update</b>	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: To promote and ensure equality for Persons with Disabilities in Forest Service sponsored activities, opportunities, and employment including training and benefits. They work to ensure that Persons with Disabilities are provided a positive and safe work environment that will enhance excellence, dignity, and independence. The organization is formed for the purpose of collectively addressing issues affecting opportunities for Persons with Disabilities.	Jerry Smith <i>Chair</i>	989-739-0728 Ext. 3033	<a href="mailto:gsmith01@fs.fed.us">gsmith01@fs.fed.us</a>	Huron Manistee National Forest Huron Shores Ranger Station 5761 Skeel Avenue Oscoda, Michigan 48750

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National Organization of Black Employees in National Agricultural Statistics Service (BE-NASS)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: BE-NASS is to enhance the awareness of and to expand the full participation of Black employees in the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).	Jackie Ross <i>President</i>	202-720-3400	<a href="mailto:jackie.ross@nass.usda.gov">jackie.ross@nass.usda.gov</a>	1400 Independence Ave., S.W. Room 6340A Washington, DC 20250-2054
USDA Veterans Employee Organization (VEO)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION: 1. Serve as a support arm for USDA Veterans Employees. 2. Promote the recruitment, retention and career development of USDA Veterans. 3. Assist with Veterans Mentoring, Coaching, and assimilation into USDA's Culture.	Tonya Johnson <i>President</i>	703-305-2069	<a href="mailto:tonya.johnson@fns.usda.gov">tonya.johnson@fns.usda.gov</a>	3101 Park Center Drive, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Alexandria, VA 22302
ARS Fort Collins (ARS FoCo) Employee Association	<b>Employee Association</b> MISSION: The Fort Collins Employee Association's mission shall be to facilitate and encourage camaraderie among Fort Collins USDA-ARS personnel and to promote the social, welfare, and recreational interests of the employees; to organize a variety of events and activities for employees to meet and interact in a friendly and welcoming environment; and to offer opportunities to participate in non-profit activities for the welfare of the local community.	Barbra McGraw <i>President</i>	970-492-7062	<a href="mailto:barbra.mcgraw@ars.usda.gov">barbra.mcgraw@ars.usda.gov</a>	2150 Centre Avenue, Building D, Suite 200, Fort Collins, CO 80526
Federal Asian Pacific American Council-USDA (FAPAC-USDA)	<b>Employee Organization</b> MISSION:	Parveen Setia <i>President</i>	301-851-3126	<a href="mailto:parveen.p.setia@aphis.usda.gov">parveen.p.setia@aphis.usda.gov</a>	
FFAS-FSA's National Association of FSA County Office Employees (NASCOE)	<b>Employee Association</b> MISSION:	Name <i>President</i>	000-000-0000	<a href="mailto:first.last@fsa.usda.gov">first.last@fsa.usda.gov</a>	12345 Main Street, Anywhere, US 12345
FFAS-FSA's National Association of Credit Specialists (NACS)	<b>Employee Association</b> MISSION: Note on memo: NACS was formerly a part of the National Association of Farmers Home Administration County Supervisors.	Name <i>President</i>	000-000-0000	<a href="mailto:first.last@fsa.usda.gov">first.last@fsa.usda.gov</a>	12345 Main Street, Anywhere, US 12345



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FFAS-FSA's National Association of Support Employees (NASE)	<b>Employee Association</b> <b>MISSION:</b> Note on memo: <b>NASE was formerly a part of the National Association of Farmers Home Administration County Office Assistants and County Office Clerks.</b>	<b>Name</b> <i>President</i>	000-000-0000	first.last@fsa.usda.gov	12345 Main Street, Anywhere, US 12345
FFAS-FSA's National Association of District Directors (NADD)	<b>Employee Association</b> <b>MISSION:</b>	<b>Name</b> <i>President</i>	000-000-0000	first.last@fsa.usda.gov	12345 Main Street, Anywhere, US 12345
Women in Agriculture (WIA)	<b>Employee Organization</b> <b>MISSION:</b>	<b>Kimberly V. Graham</b> <i>President</i>	202-720-0516	<a href="mailto:kimberly.graham@osec.usda.gov">kimberly.graham@osec.usda.gov</a>	1400 Independence Ave, SW Room 205-E Washington, DC 20250

**Agency Specific Rosters:**

Forest Service Organizations (Contact Pedro M. Nieto at [pmnieto@fs.fed.us](mailto:pmnieto@fs.fed.us))