

COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 2020 COMMUNITY AWARDS

N.C. Cooperative Extension, Nash County Center
Community and Rural Development Program

December 17, 2020

The Community and Rural Development (CRD) Council of Nash County encourages citizens to participate in their local neighborhood organization to enhance the welfare and quality of life for Nash County residents. The Council also promotes education, and inspires leadership within the community.

The CRD Council is supported by the N. C. Cooperative Extension, Nash County's Community and Rural Development Agent, Traci Dixon. Ms. Dixon works along with the Council to conduct programs, provide resources and educational opportunities in Nash County. The N.C. Cooperative Extension also works with each community to set personalized goals.

This year many of the Council's in-person programming had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. We could not end the year without recognizing some of our community leaders who have demonstrated outstanding community leadership and achievement over the years for their community and Nash County as a whole with a spirit of service.

2020 CRD COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARDEES



Rev. David L. Bowens of
Drake Community



Anna Deans of Nashville
Willing Workers Community



George Jefferies of
Winwood Community



Lena Sessoms of Brooklyn
Community

2020 Community and Rural Development Council Communities

Drake Community Development, Inc.

Marvin Arrington – President

Little Easonburg Community

James Parker – President

Nashville Willing Workers

Carolyn Williams – President

Peachtree Community

Brenda Foster – President

Swift Creek Community

James Alston – President

Winwood Community

George Jefferies - President

All About Our Champions



Rev. David L. Bowens

Reverend Bowens became the President of Drake Community Club in 1972 and served for 35 years. He presently serves as a Board of Director for Drake Community Development, Inc. He was involved in community leadership work in Nash County with both former Extension Agents in formation of the Community and Rural Development annual banquet with Frank Wright. He also worked with John Gibson with Community Voices. For over 50 years Rev. Bowens has been heavily involved with the CRD Council and Drake Community by working on projects and caring for his neighbors, community, county, state and country.

Anna Deans

Anna spearheaded and pushed to have the first Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast (now dinner) in Nashville that brings the community together. She has also helped coordinate and work with the Nashville Day in the Park. Anna is the former President of the Community and Rural Development Council, and Vice-President of Nashville Willing Workers. She was a member of the Brooklyn Community Watch, and continues to work in many community activities. Anna keeps in touch with Nashville families with cards and phone calls. She has a heart of gold, and is such a loving person.

George Jefferies

George has always been willing to assist the Winwood Community and Nash County as a whole. As the current Community and Rural Development Council Vice President, and a Nash County Extension Advisory Board member George frequently works across the county to assist communities with their individual needs. For example, he recently provided resources and information to assist the Peachtree Community with getting needed repairs to driveways. He never complains, and always says "I got your back". No matter what is asked of him, George is always willing to lend a helping hand. He is the ultimate community leader and gentleman.

Lena Sessoms

Lena started the Community Fun Day in Nashville with proceeds going to the Boys and Girls Clubs. She was instrumental in organizing vendors and recruiting volunteers from Brooklyn and other community groups to conduct this very successful event for local youth. Lena made sure to also connect with local leaders in Nashville for the Fun Day event. Lena is the past president and faithful member of both the Brooklyn Community and the Community and Rural Development Council before she retired. She is a great asset to the community of Nashville and Nash County.

Each of the 2020 CRD Community Champion awardees will receive a plaque and a \$50 monetary gift from the Community and Rural Development Council of Nash County.



Created by:
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Community and Rural Development
N.C. Cooperative Extension

