

Promoting Farm, Family and *Our Future*



Oklahoma Farm Bureau
Women's **Leadership** Committee

Advocacy Program 2024

2024 WLC CALENDAR

November 2023

10-12 OKFB Annual Meeting
Omni Hotel, OKC

December 2023

8-9 State WLC Meeting

January

19-23 AFBF Convention
Salt Lake City

Ongoing

*Bushels for Books
applications available*

February

12 State WLC Meeting
13 Leadership Conference
TBD Farm Bureau Week

Ongoing

*Bread Day
(at your convenience)*

March

19 National Ag Day
26 State WLC Meeting
27 Farm City Festival

April

11 FCCLA Conference Award
8-12 Washington, D.C. Summit
19-20 WLC Conference
Embassy Suites
Downtown OKC
TBD Ag Day at the Capitol

May

6-9 Ag Tour
7-8 State FFA Convention
31 Oklahoma Youth Leading
Agriculture Application
Deadline

June

3-5 ACE Summit
4-6 On the Road with AITC
10 Bushels for Books due
11-14 Oklahoma Youth Leading
Agriculture
24-27 National AITC Conference
Salt Lake City

July

10 Nurse's Scholarship
deadline
22-23 State WLC Meeting
TBD State AITC Conference

August

8 Women in Ag Conference
9 YF&R Shotgun Shoot

Ongoing

August Area Meetings

September

3-6 Read an Accurate
Ag Book Week

Ongoing

*County Resolutions and
Annual Meetings*

October

10 Report of Events deadline
21 State WLC Meeting
22-23 State Resolutions Meeting

Ongoing

*County Resolutions and
Annual Meetings*

2024 OKFB Annual Meeting – Omni Hotel, Oklahoma City; Nov. 8-10

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The world is changed by your
example, not by your *opinion*.

Letter from the Chair

Dear Ladies,

Promoting Farm, Family and our Future might be the most relatable theme for me, personally. My family defines me and promoting our farm is our livelihood. I hope each of you find ways to connect to the theme, too.

Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization with endless resources. As committee members we have unique opportunities to share in the resources available to ensure we're helping each of our counties.

Because Farm Bureau has such a committed staff to support our work along with district representatives, I would encourage you to reach out often. Together we can promote our Advocacy Program and encourage women and their families.

I find my most creative thoughts centered on advocacy work while driving. Sometimes my drives consist of dusty roads to the farm, and other times they're highway miles to a grandchild's sporting event.

My time is committed to traveling the roads to your counties, too, in hopes to support you and continue the creativity for our family's future.

Thank you for your time and commitment on behalf of the committee, the rural community and Farm Bureau organization.

Mignon

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee program is to help promote and activate the entire Farm Bureau program with emphasis on those activities particularly suited to the talents and interests of women.

Evaluation of Events

(Guidelines)

The Advocacy Program Evaluation of Events is a brief record of county Farm Bureau WLC activities for the year. All annual evaluations must be submitted to the state Farm Bureau office by **Oct. 10, 2024**.

All county women's committee members who have completed the Advocacy Program will be honored at a luncheon at the OKFB Annual Meeting. Awards will be determined from the scoring of your evaluation forms. A monetary award will be given to each county who completes all sections of the Advocacy Program.

All Farm Bureau women are invited to attend the Advocacy Program Luncheon at the OKFB Annual Meeting, even if your county does not have an active committee.

To submit your Advocacy Program evaluation form, visit the website at **okfarmbureau.org**, click on the Program tab and then click on Application Center. You can then fill out your form on the provided PDF. You also will be able to attach photos when emailing your PDF to Marcia Irvin at marcia.irvin@okfb.org.

For questions regarding the PDF submission, contact OKFB Senior Director of Women's Leadership Committee and Safety Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2405 or marcia.irvin@okfb.org.

Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens.
They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most
virtuous, and they are tied to their country and wedded to
its liberty and interests by the most lasting bands.

-Thomas Jefferson

2024 Advocacy Program

Nov. 1 – Oct. 31
(Suggested Ideas)

** A minimum of one activity in each sub-category is required to qualify for the Advocacy Program Award.*

I. DEVELOPING LEADERS

(1) CONFERENCES.....

- a. State Convention
- b. OKFB Women's Leadership Committee Conference
- c. August Area Meetings
- d. Other*

(2) COUNTY MEETINGS.....

- a. County Leadership Committee Meetings
- b. Women's Day (see page 7)
- c. Incorporate Advocacy Program Theme (see cover)
- d. Other*

II. NETWORKING

(1) AWARENESS.....

- a. Fair Booths
- b. Rural-Urban Day
- c. Work convention booth
- d. Other*

(2) SPECIAL PROJECTS.....

- a. AFBF Foundation for Agriculture/White Reinhardt donation
- b. Nurse's Scholarship Fund donation
- c. Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation/OKFB Ag PAC/
Oklahoma Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture donation
- d. State food bank donation or local food bank donation
- e. Bushels for Books donation
- f. Ronald McDonald House Charities donation
- g. Other*

III. FAMILY

(1) HEALTH.....

- a. Health program speakers
- b. Blood pressure awareness/check/door prize
- c. Provide health-related items
- d. Health fairs/nutrition/local food drive
- e. Participate in wellness/fitness
- f. Other*

(2) SAFETY.....

- a. State/county safety seminar
- b. OKFB Safety Services Program (page 11)
- c. ATV/UTV Safety Course
- d. Emergency contact lists (online at okfarmbureau.org/women)
- e. Safety door prizes
- f. Other*

(3) SPIRITUAL HERITAGE.....

- a. Devotions and/or prayers at all meetings
- b. Memorial Service
- c. Other*

IV. INFLUENCING THE POLITICAL PROCESS

(1) RESOLUTIONS.....

- a. Attend County Resolutions Meeting
- b. Attend State Resolutions sessions at convention
- c. Delegate to state convention
- d. Submit resolutions to county
- e. Other*

(2) POLITICAL CONTACTS OR MEETINGS

- a. Local, state or federal issues
- b. Environmental issues
- c. Discover, promote or support agriculture friendly candidates
- d. Voter awareness
- e. Conduct citizenship/patriotism/Veterans Day program
- f. Visits to the Capitol (state and/or federal)
- g. Participate in Farm City Festival
- h. Attend OKFB Ag PAC Evening of Impact fundraiser (Dec. 9, 2023)
- i. Other*

V. COMMUNICATING THE AG STORY

(1) FARM CITY FESTIVAL.....

- a. Donate any amount of money (**REQUIRED*)

(2) CONSUMER EDUCATION.....

- a. County Farm City Festival and/or Bread Day
- b. Door Prizes or promotion/Made in Oklahoma
- c. OKFB Ag Tour
- d. Support FCCLA Star Events
- e. Other*

(3) AG IN THE CLASSROOM.....

- a. Host Farm Tours
- b. Participate in Bushels for Books
- c. Read an Accurate Agriculture Book to Students/Class (Sept. 3-6)
- d. Adoption of Classroom/Club (4-H, FFA, etc.)
- e. Sponsor teacher to On the Road with Ag in the Classroom
- f. Submit student names (incoming high school seniors) for OKFB's Oklahoma Youth Leading Agriculture leadership conference in spring (learn more at okfb.news/agyouth)
- g. Support ODAFF Farm to School program
- h. Other*

AG IN THE CLASSROOM RESOURCES

- a. Ag in the Classroom
agclassroom.org
- b. Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom
ok.agclassroom.org
- c. My American Farm
myamericanfarm.org
- d. American Farm Bureau Federation
fb.org
- e. Oklahoma State University Farm to You
humansciences.okstate.edu

**Other under each category indicates there may be a substitution for a listed activity.*

County Farm Bureau Women's Day

What is the role of the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee?

Our role, as the OKFB Leadership Committee, is to promote agriculture and farm family values, implement Farm Bureau goals and build strong networks.

Who:

All Farm Bureau Women – especially those who have never participated.

Why:

- to achieve Advocacy Program priorities
 - to encourage action for the year
 - to increase membership involvement
 - to increase OKFB membership
-

Rural-Urban Event

What is the role of the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee?

Our role, as the OKFB Leadership Committee, is to inform urban women and men about agriculture and Farm Bureau policy.

Who:

All Farm Bureau women – county officials – all businesses, especially non-ag-related business women and men.

Why:

- to bridge the gap between rural and urban populations
- to educate the public about ag issues
- to inform about Ag in the Classroom

While we try to teach our children
all about life, the farm teaches us what
life is all about.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership

DISTRICT ONE

Robin Bryant
210570 E. 680 Rd.
Camargo, OK 73835
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DISTRICT TWO

Paula Sawatzky
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DISTRICT THREE

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Hydro, OK 73048
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karenkcpa@gmail.com

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Comanche, OK 73527
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DISTRICT FIVE

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Oklahoma Farm Bureau

Women's Leadership

Senior Director of Women's Committee

Marcia
2501 N
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Farm Bureau Leadership Committee

DISTRICT SIX

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DISTRICT SEVEN

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DISTRICT EIGHT

Jan Marie Long
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Ada, OK 74820
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janmarielong13@gmail.com

DISTRICT NINE

Cindy Schoenecke
990324 S. 3460 Road
Sparks, OK 74869
(918) 866-2525
Cell: (405) 615-2410
donschoenecke@icloud.com

STATE CHAIR

Mignon Bolay
6501 Independence
Perry, OK 73077
Cell: (580) 370-0325
mignon@bolayfarms.com



Leadership Committee

Women's Leadership and Safety

Arlene Irvin
Stiles
Tahlequah, OK 73105
Cell: (918) 23-2405
Cell: (918) 323-7602
arlene@okfb.org

Suggested Memorial Service

Let us take this time to pay tribute to our county
Farm Bureau members deceased during the past year.

CLOSE THE GATE

By Nancy Kraayenhof

For this one farmer the worries are over, lie down and rest your head,
Your time has been and struggles enough, put the tractor in the shed.

Years were not easy, many downright hard, but your faith in God transcended,
Put away your tools and sleep in peace. The fences have all been mended.

You raised a fine family, worked the land well and always followed the Son,
Hang up your shovel inside of the barn; your work here on earth is done.

A faith few possess led your journey through life, often a jagged and stony way,
The sun is setting, the cattle are all bedded, and here now is the end of your day.

Your love of God's soil has passed on to your kin; the stories flow like fine wine,
Wash off your work boots in the puddle left by blessed rain one final time.

You always believed that the good Lord would provide and He always had somehow,
Take off your gloves and put them down, no more sweat and worry for you now.

Your labor is done, your home now is heaven; no more must you wait,
Your legacy lives on, your love of the land, and we will close the gate.

Please remind your county secretaries to submit the names of all
deceased Farm Bureau members during the past year to Marcia Irvin at
marcia.irvin@okfb.org to have them added to the In Memoriam book.



Safety Programs

Oklahoma Farm Bureau offers a wide variety of programs including a number of programs that can be presented by county Farm Bureau members.

The following programs can be lead by counties:

Bicycle Safety
Farm Safety
Fire Safety
School Bus Safety

The following programs can ONLY be lead by OKFB staff:

ATV/UTV Safety
Defensive Driving
DUI/Impaired Driving
Cattle Handling
Power Take-off Safety

For scheduling information, contact:

Burton Harmon.....405-205-0074

OKFB WLC Grants

The OKFB WLC is excited to award \$150 grants to all county Women's Leadership Committees – new and existing – to help fund a project that will achieve a portion of the Advocacy Program. Grants are limited to one \$150 grant per county each calendar year. Grants will be awarded throughout the year at the sole discretion of the OKFB WLC Executive Committee.

Grant applications may be requested by contacting OKFB Senior Director of WLC and Safety Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2300 or by email at marcia.irvin@okfb.org. This grant program may be changed or eliminated at any time by a majority vote of the OKFB WLC.

2024 District Farm & Ranch Family Recognition

Recipients of the OKFB WLC's District Farm and Ranch Family Recognition are chosen based on a county rotation within each district. Contact your district OKFB WLC member for more information.

Recognition recipients will be awarded a sign, a monetary gift and a two-night stay at the OKFB Annual Meeting. Families must make their own hotel reservations and send receipts to Marcia Irvin, OKFB Women's Leadership Committee, 2501 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

AFBF Annual Meeting Dates & Locations

Jan. 19-24, 2024	Salt Lake City, Utah
Jan. 24-29, 2025.....	San Antonio, Texas
Jan. 9-13, 2026	Anaheim, California

OKFB WLC Awards 2023

The following counties have completed the 2023 Women's Leadership Committee Advocacy Program and have received a monetary award:

Alfalfa	Mayes
Atoka	McIntosh
Caddo	Noble
Canadian	Nowata
Cherokee	Okfuskee
Comanche	Okmulgee
Craig	Ottawa
Creek	Payne
Custer	Pontotoc
Dewey	Rogers
Garfield	Seminole
Grant	Sequoyah
Greer	Stephens
Hughes	Texas
Kay	Tillman
Kingfisher	Tulsa
LeFlore	Washington
Lincoln	Washita
Major	Woods

The best way to gain *confidence*
is to do what you are afraid to do.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Staff Directory

EXECUTIVE

Executive Director

Thad Doye(405) 523-2438
thad.doye@okfb.org

Senior Executive Assistant/Event Coordinator

Melisa Neal(405) 523-2475
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ACCOUNTING

Staff Accountant

Amy Wilson(405) 523-2309
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Ag Records

Whitney Bender(405) 523-2401
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COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Vice President of Communications and Public Relations

Dustin Mielke(405) 530-2640
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Assistant Director of Media Relations and Advocacy Communications

Rachel Havens(405) 523-2346
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PUBLIC POLICY

Vice President of Public Policy

Steve Thompson(405) 523-2432
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Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs and Director of OKFB Legal Foundation

Marla Peek.....(405) 523-2437
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Senior Public Policy Consultant

Kinsey Westwood(405) 523-2412
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Oklahoma Farm Bureau Staff Directory

FIELD SERVICES

Field Representatives

Justin Whitmore (<i>Director of Field Services, North Central</i>).....	(405) 850-3921 justin.whitmore@okfb.org
Gage Milliman (<i>Northeast</i>).....	(918) 559-2208 gage.milliman@okfb.org
Todd Honer (<i>Northwest</i>).....	(405) 205-0090 todd.honer@okfb.org
Katie Wilkinson (<i>South Central</i>)	(580) 421-5225 katie.wilkinson@okfb.org
Penny Raspotnik-Jones (<i>Southeast</i>)	(918) 916-3616 penny.raspotnik-jones@okfb.org
Haley Curtsinger (<i>Southwest</i>)	(580) 483-5322 haley.curtsinger@okfb.org

FOUNDATION AND MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Director of Membership and OKFB Foundation for Agriculture

Holly Carroll	(405) 523-2402 holly.carroll@okfb.org
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Membership Support and Development

Kelli Beall	(405) 523-2470 kelli.beall@okfb.org
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RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development Coordinator

Amarie Bartel	(405) 523-2344 amarie.bartel@okfb.org
---------------------	--

SAFETY AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Senior Director of Women's Leadership Committee and Safety

Marcia Irvin	(405) 523-2405 marcia.irvin@okfb.org
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Senior Director of Young Farmers and Ranchers

Burton Harmon	(405) 523-2419 burton.harmon@okfb.org
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2024 CALENDAR

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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APRIL

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JULY

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AUGUST

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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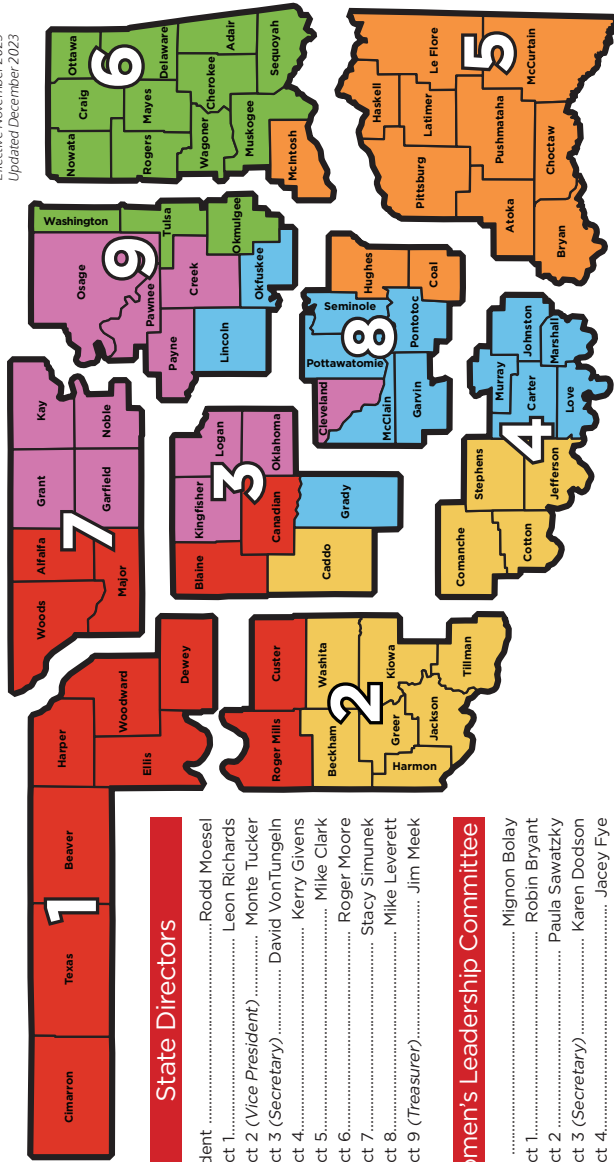
NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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Effective November 2023
Updated December 2023



Field Representative Territories

Northwest	Todd Honer	North Central	Justin Whitmore	Northeast	Gage Millman
Southwest	Haley Cutsinger	South Central	Katie Wilkinson	Southeast	Penny Raspochnik-Jones

YF&R Committee

District 1	.....Katie Richards	District 5	.....Jared & Bay Engler	District 9 (Vice Chair)	..... Tim Taylor
District 2 (Secretary)	..... Gaven & Taylor Harting	District 6	..... Dillon & Katelyn Johnson	At Large	..... Tommy & Chalayna Salisbury
District 3 (Chair)	.....Jacob & Chastity Beck	District 7	..... Garrett Haskins	Collegiate Representative	..... Taylor Pent
District 4	.....Ethan & Allison Theis	District 8	..... LC & Jaclyn Darling		

Women's Leadership Committee

Chair	..... Mignon Bolay
District 1	..... Robin Bryant
District 2	..... Paula Sawatzky
District 3 (Secretary)	..... Karen Dodson
District 4	..... Jacey Fye
District 5	..... Cyndi Mackey
District 6	..... Kelly Blair
District 7	..... Terry Pederson
District 8	..... Jan Marie Long
District 9 (Vice Chair)	..... Cindy Schoenecke

Know that
*God has bigger
and better plans*
for you than
you have for yourself.