

**North Central Farm
and Ranch Stress Assistance Center
Webinar Series**

Presented by
 **AgrAbility**

African American Farmers: Stress Issues and Solutions

May 27, 2021

John Jamerson

Legacy Taste of the Garden LLC and Legacy Farming and Health Group

North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center Webinar Series



Basic Webinar Instructions

- Audio available through computer or phone.
- Adjust sound via the Audio & Video menu at top left
- Closed captions: use arrow to expand or contact the Media Viewer window. You may need to enter the event number **4796240**. You may also need to click Continue to access the captioning.

Presented by



North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center Webinar Series

Basic Webinar Instructions

Questions and comments

- Go to the Chat option in the right-hand column. Please send to “All Panelists.” Enter message in box below TO and hit enter/return. You may enter questions about the presentation at any time.

North Central Farm
and Ranch Stress Assistance Center
Webinar Series



Basic Webinar Instructions

- Please let me know if more than one person is viewing at your computer
- 5 quick survey questions prior to Q&A
- Session recorded and archived with PowerPoint files at www.agrability.org. Specific link will be sent to all registrants.
- Problems: use chat window or email jonesp@purdue.edu

North Central Farm
and Ranch Stress Assistance Center
Webinar Series



USDA/NIFA Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN)

- Section 7522 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, 7 U.S.C. 5936, authorizes USDA/NIFA to establish a Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network.
- To establish a nationwide Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network that provides stress assistance programs to individuals who are engaged in farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related occupations on a regional basis.
- 4 regions covering all U.S. states and territories
- www.agrability.org/resources/frsan



USDA-sponsored program that assists farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers with disabilities.

- Partners land-grant universities with disability services organizations. Currently 20 state projects
- National AgrAbility Project: Led by Purdue's Breaking New Ground Resource Center. Partners include:
 - Goodwill of the Finger Lakes
 - The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance
 - Colorado State University
 - Washington State University
- More information available at www.agrability.org

The North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Center is supported by USDA-NIFA Project 2020-70028-32728. The National AgrAbility Project is supported by USDA/NIFA Project 2016-41590-25880.



AFRICAN AMERICAN FARMERS

Stress Issues and Solutions

Know and Understand who you're working with

Stress sources common to all Farmers

Natural:
Weather
and climate

Loss: Crops
and
Livestock

Finances:
Costs,
Income and
Succession



ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL WOULD HAVE EQUAL EFFECT .

Tom Vilsack: Why debt relief for Black and minority farmers is major civil rights victory

For Black and minority farmers, the American Rescue Plan could represent one of the most significant pieces of civil rights legislation in decades.



SYSTEMIC

Black farmers have experienced a long history of state-sanctioned discrimination that has robbed them of millions of acres of farmland and billions of dollars in lost wealth.

For years, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) systematically denied and delayed loans to Black farmers. As a result, the number of Black farmers fell from a peak of nearly 1 million in 1910 to less than 40,000 today.

The record of racial discrimination in agriculture is not in dispute. A 1994 report commissioned by the USDA itself confirmed that the largest loans and disaster payments flowed to large white farmers. Black farmers [sued](#) the USDA. And though a settlement was reached, an [investigation](#) by the National Black Farmers Association and the Environmental Working Group (EWG) showed that the USDA made matters worse by withholding funds.



CULTURAL

The American Rescue Plan became law two months ago.

For Black and minority farmers, the American Rescue Plan could represent one of the most significant pieces of civil rights legislation in decades. That's because deep within the law is a provision that responds to decades of systemic discrimination perpetrated against farmers and ranchers of color by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The [law directs USDA to pay off the farm loans of nearly 16,000 minority farmers](#) and begin to address longstanding racial equity challenges that have plagued farmers of color for generations.

Today, after months of planning, USDA begins this historic debt relief program.

STRESS AMONG AFRICAN AMERICAN FARMERS KNOWING IS HALF THE BATTLE.

SYSTEMIC



At their peak in 1910, [African American farmers](#) made up around 14% of all U.S. farmers, owning [16 million to 19 million acres of land](#). By 2012, black Americans represented just 1.6% of the farming community, owning 3.6 million acres of land. Another study shows [a 98% decline](#) in black farmers between 1920, and 1997

The U.S.D.A. ascribed this decline to a long and “well-documented” history of discrimination against black farmers, ranging from New Deal and USDA [discriminatory practices](#) dating from the 1930s to 1950s-era exclusion from legal, title and loan resources.



American Rescue Plan/ under attack

Cries of Discrimination from white lawmakers filing lawsuits in Texas and Wisconsin.

Banks crying foul due to loss income of loan payoffs.

White citizens claims of discrimination and treats to sue to change their racial status.

\$23-\$29 BILLION GIVEN TO FARMERS IN 2020. ESTIMATED \$80 MILLION WENT TO BLACK FARMERS. LAWMAKERS ENSURE FUTURE FUNDS ARE WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION 2008 BAD LOAN PRACTICES \$100S OF BILLIONS GIVEN TO BAILOUT BANKS. BLACK FARMERS TAX MONEY USED.

ENSURE NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION 14% OF FUTURE

Norman Greer: 83 years old Generational farmer- 300 Acres Heirs

Working the Land



USDA Experience

- Lost over 150 acres of land- delayed/denied USDA loans, interest
- Lost crops and cattle-denied insurance with USDA
- Denied Pigford Settlement
- Has OCPD- currently on a waiting list (3 years) to receive assistance with farming.
- Has great concerns using USDA and extension programs. Due to his experiences- Lost in the shuffle
- No Computers/ Non tech



Joe "Collard" Tuttle

53 yrs. old

Farming 8 yrs.

211 acres

USDA Experience:

- Delayed inspections
- 2 month delay on paperwork
- No reply phone calls
- Email sat in junk mail for 6+ weeks
- **Recommends** a database to get needed information when staff refuses requests or makes grossly false statements



DeAnthony Jamerson,
Age 28; farming 5 yrs
TSU Senior Agri-Business
Produce/Urban farmer

USDA Experience

- 7 months to complete loan
- Non/Misinformed of SDA Farmer benefits in programs. (% of front \$ for to new SDA Farmers)
- In office visit requested info was told go to USDA.gov
- Delayed in getting in a program/benefits until mid or end of season.
- Accelerated loan terms- Micro \$25k pay back in 1 year no term options allowed/farm as collateral.
- Felt set up for failure
- <https://my-indiana-home.com/.../my-indiana-home-summer-2021/>

EQUITY VERSUS EQUALITY

Equity is the quality of being fair and impartial

Involves treating each individual according to his or her needs

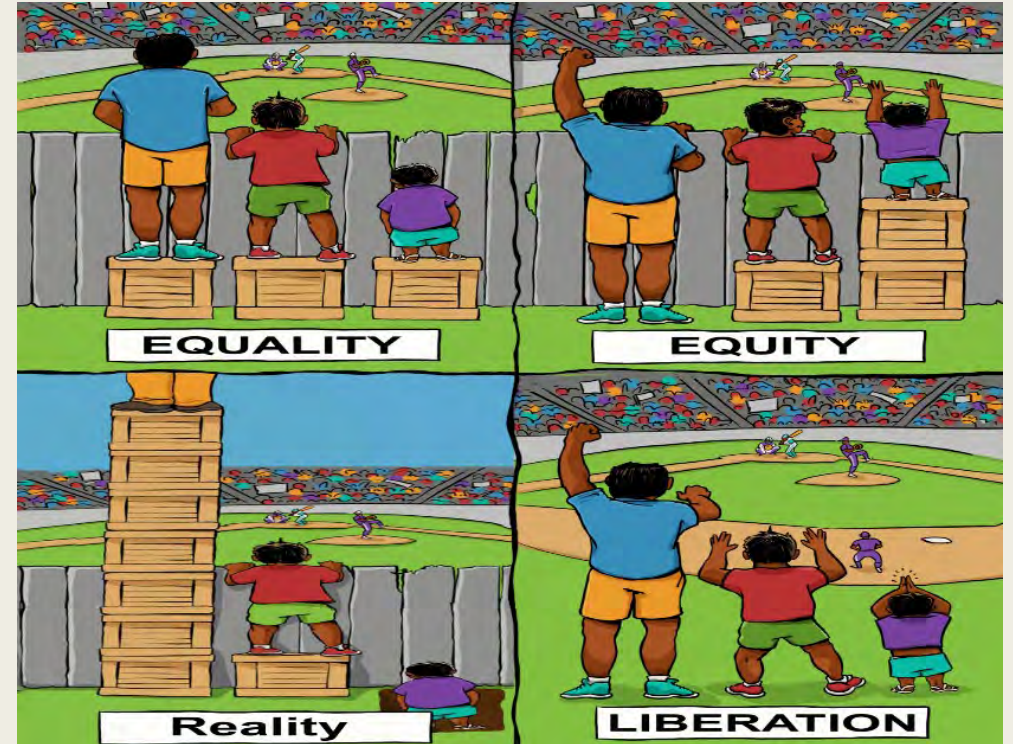
Considers individual needs of people

Pediaa.com

Equality is the state or quality of being equal

Involves treating every individual in the same manner, irrespective of their differences

Does not consider needs and requirements of people



THE PURSUIT OF EQUALITY (MYTH)



Myths about African American Farmers



USDA resolved Civil Rights complaints that have fallen to record lows

USDA has resolved funding disparities between Black and White Farmers

The Pigford settlement closed a "Painful chapter in our collective history"

The United Nations Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations describes five formal categories of reparations: **restitution**, **compensation**, **rehabilitation**, **satisfaction**, and **guarantees of non-repetition**.

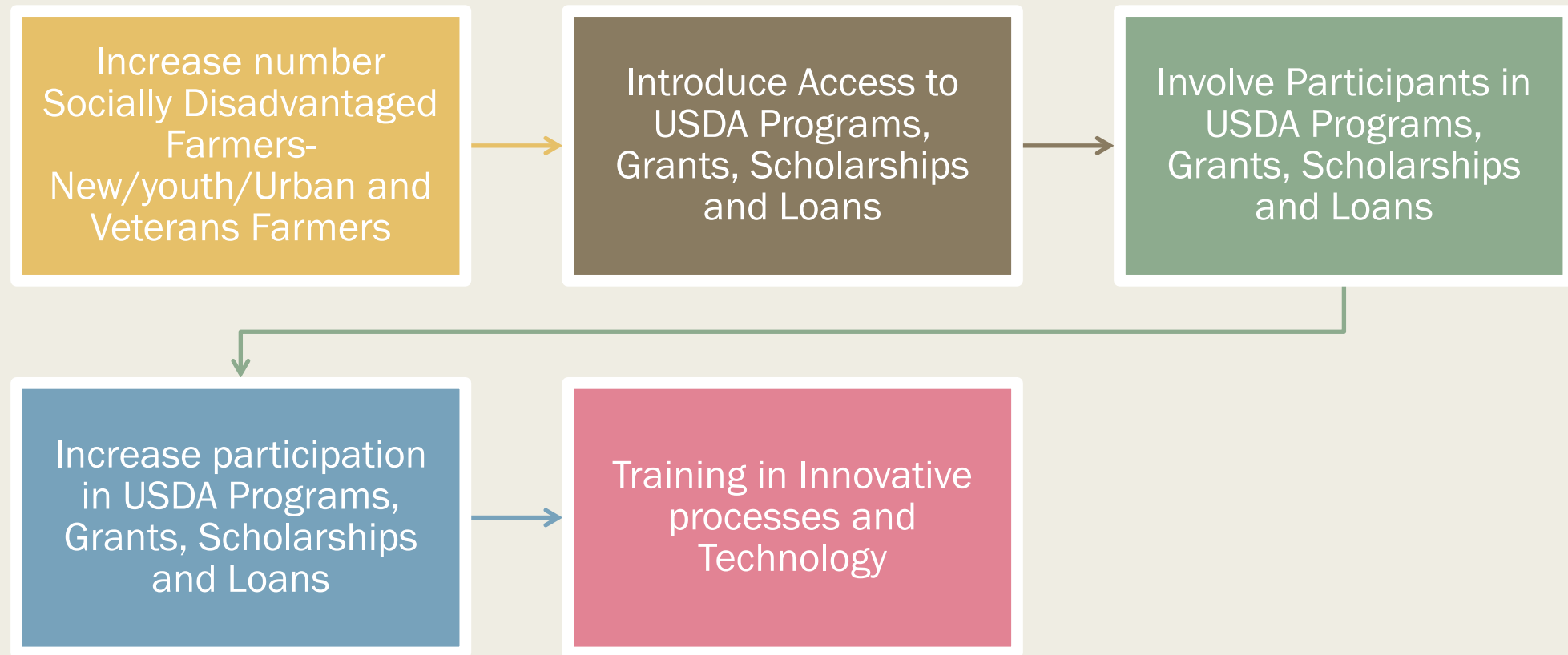
1. **Restitution** – measures which serve to "restore the victim to the original situation before the gross violations occurred". This can include: restoration of liberty, enjoyment of human rights, identity, family life and citizenship, return of one's place of residence, restoration of employment, and return of property.
2. **Damages Compensation** – the provision of compensation "for any economically assessable damage, as appropriate and proportional to the gravity of the violation and the circumstances of each case". Such damage includes: physical or mental harm, lost opportunities, material damages and loss of earnings, moral damage, cost of legal, medical, psychological, and social services.
3. **Rehabilitation** – medical, psychological, social services, and legal assistance
4. **Satisfaction** – various measures which include the cessation of human rights violations and abuses, truth-seeking, searches for the disappeared, recovery and reburial of remains, judicial and administrative sanctions, public apologies, commemoration, and memorialization.
5. **Guarantees of non-repetition** – reforms ensuring the prevention of future abuses, including: civilian control of the military and **security** forces, strengthening an independent **judiciary**, protection of civil service and **human rights** workers, the overall promotion of human rights standards, and the establishment of **mechanisms to prevent** and monitor social conflict and conflict resolution.[3]

LEGACY FARMING AND HEALTH GROUP



- FORMED IN 2017
- NETWORKING TO SUPPORT OUR FARMERS AND COMMUNITIES
 - MEMBERS IN 35 STATES
- ZOOM MEETINGS 1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY EACH MONTH
- **COLLABORATIONS TO GAIN ACCESS TO RESOURCES**

OBJECTIVES: for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers



MAKING IT WORK

- Grass Roots
- You are a Tool
(Education is Key:
Teach them to Fish)





EMPOWERING THE LEADER IN US ALL

- Keep Ownership (LEGACY) with Community Members as active participants in Designing, Decision making and Development of programs.
- Build a Trustworthy Relationship: Know Your Why; Humble Your Opinion; Listen/Respect Their Point of View and Be Open to Root Causes.
- Connecting our farmers to our communities





PARTNERSHIPS

- NBFA National Black Farmers Assoc.
- Legacy Farming and Health Group
- AgrAbility/Purdue Extension
- Human Agriculture Co-operative
- Federation of Southern Cooperatives
- Local Organizations: Churches, Groups and Hospitals
- NCOBRA
- NC A&T FAMU 1890-HBCUs



FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
**COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION**
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SCIENCES



the village square







SELF REFLECTIONS

- [Corey McDaniel](#)

- I'm getting to point where it's hard to have "normal" conversations with people. My emotions seem so logical...and my logic seems to control my emotions....so I'm standing at a point of awareness that is beautiful and painful at the same time. At this state I can see the lies of reality. It really doesn't exist, just our own individual perceptions of it does. That perception is simply a collection of the experiences we have encountered, meaning without the same experience as someone else, you could never understand someone else's reality. When I hear people speak, the volume of the words spoken are drowned out by the intentions to do so. This is where compassion and the ability to understand, value and appreciation people where they are, and for who they are is needed. Awareness is not something you can turn off. The older I get the more separated and disconnected I feel, and the louder her call gets. Jamaica Jamaica....I hear you calling me in the daytime, and I see you every night when I sleep. "One day you will look for me, and I'll be gone."

- [Www.thefoodarchitectindy.com.](#)

THERE'S ALWAYS A WHY FOR BLACK FARMERS

By Denise Jamerson

THERE IS ALWAYS A WHY

- WHY THE APPLICATION WAS LATE
- WHY THERE IS NO MORE FUNDS
- WHY NO LOANS FOR THAT
- WHY THERE IS NO ASSISTANCE
- WHY WE DIDN'T GET INVOLVED
- WHY PROGRAMS FOR THE UNDERSERVE ARE NOT MADE KNOWN

WHAT IS YOUR WHY?

- WHY WE DON'T GET THOROUGH ASSISTANCE TO GET THE APPLICATION IN ON TIME
- WHY WE DIDN'T GET EXPLAINED WHAT IS NEEDED TO OBTAIN THE FUNDS,
- WHY WE DIDN'T GET EXPLAINED WHAT LOANS WERE AVAILABLE AND HOW TO USE THEM.
- WHY WE ARE NOT INVOLVED IN PROGRAMS
- WHY WE NOT AWARE OF PROGRAMS FOR UNDERSERVED

WHAT DO WE DO

DEVELOP THE SAME CUSTOMER SUPPORT SYSTEM INDEPENDANTLY FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN FARMERS

SPENT WITH BLACK BUSINESSES

SUPPORT BLACK ORGANIZATIONS

FUNDING FOR HBCU'S

ADVERTISE IN BLACK MEDIA

PARTNERSHIP WITH BLACK BUSINESS



TIME TO
MAKE YOUR
WISH COME
TRUE





Lyles Station, Indiana

Legacytasteofthegarden@gmail.com
www.LegacyTasteOfTheGarden.com



THANK YOU

legacyfhg@gmail.com
www.the-lifeproject.com