

Faculty

Henry M. Cothran is an Extension community resource development specialist with the University of Florida; he has 25 years experience working with state and local governments. He was certified as a BRE Consultant in 2000, certified as a Master Consultant in 2003, and recertified as a Business Retention and Expansion Professional in 2007. He is the author of the BREI Basic Course and has taught BREI Certification Courses 16 times to over 450 participants; additionally, he has led or consulted on 14 BRE programs throughout the United States and Canada. He is a board member and president of BREI. In 2007, he received the BREI Distinguished Service Award. He has made BRE presentations to numerous organizations, including: the National Association of Community Development Professionals; the Rural Conference; the Rural Community College Alliance; the Department of Trade and Industry, South Africa; and the Association of Town Centre Managers, United Kingdom.

Alan Barefield is the associate director of the Southern Rural Development Center and extension professor with the Mississippi State University Extension Service. His primary roles are to facilitate economic and community development educational programming efforts with the Extension Service and the Southern region. Specific areas addressed include business and entrepreneurship development in the areas of value-added agriculture, tourism, light manufacturing and retail; leadership; community economic and social analysis; and community infrastructure development and analysis.

Gae Broadwater is a state specialist for community and economic development with the Cooperative Extension Program at Kentucky State University. Her primary areas of emphasis are community capacity building, facilitation methods, and organizational effectiveness. Gae is a member of the KY Cooperative Extension Business Retention & Expansion team in partnership with the KY Cabinet for Economic Development and is the founder of the KSU Entrepreneurship Roundtable.