To: Community Leaders, Agency Representatives, and Extension Friend

From: Family Conference Distinguished Public Service Awards Committee

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Extension) Urban Affairs & New Nontraditional Programs Unit will hold its 2008 Annual Family Conference on October 15-16, 2008 at the Von Braun Center, North Hall in Huntsville, Alabama. We are pleased to announce the call for nominations for our fourth annual Distinguished Public Service Awards to be presented at this conference.

Six awards will be presented this year, and we would like for you to help us find the most deserving nominees. This awards program is designed to recognize and to encourage individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership through service to others.

We know that you have been touched by someone who helps to strengthen families, to guide and protect children, and to promote healthy communities. We need you to help us promote this awards program and to nominate distinguished individuals who unselfishly assist others, especially individuals living in high-risk communities and/or represent underserved populations in Alabama.

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, September 5, 2008 and may be sent via mail, e-mail, or FAX. Awards will be presented during the Distinguished Public Service Awards Luncheon (which begins at 12:00 noon on October 16, 2008) at the Annual Family Conference.

Nomination criteria and Nomination Forms are attached. Please take a few minutes to nominate an outstanding person or organization that you have encountered in your personal or professional life. You may use no more than four pages to support your nomination with no attachments. Additional Nomination Forms are available at www.acesfamilyconference.org.

The Awards Committee thanks you for taking the time to help us to recognize individuals and organizations who have exhibited distinguished service and commitment to Alabama families.

2008 Awards Committee Members

Commissioner, Bob Harrison
Mr. Cedric Wherry
Ms. Liz Corley
Ms. Betty Broman

Ms. Clarene Teague-Johnson
Ms. Juanesta Green
Mr. Daniel Miller

Clarene Teague-Johnson

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Guidelines for the 2008 Distinguished Public Service Award

The Award
Extension is seeking nominations for community leaders and organizations with three or more years of demonstrated experience who represent diverse fields and backgrounds and who have made significant contributions to serving individuals and families from high-risk and/or underserved communities or populations. The purpose of the Distinguished Public Service Awards is to recognize exemplary individuals—ordinary people who have done extraordinary things. They may be your next door neighbor, professionals, or public figures who have made outstanding contributions in strengthening families and family-centered communities across the state of Alabama. Award recipients will receive a complimentary pass to the Annual Family Conference, an award they can proudly display, and recognition at the Annual Family Conference Awards Luncheon on October 16, 2008.

Nominations and Selection Process
Nominations for the Distinguished Public Service Award can be made by the members of the general public, community leaders, agency professionals, or government officials who have been personally inspired by these leaders. To nominate an individual or an organization, please complete the Nomination Form (limited to four pages with no attachments) and submit to the Alabama Cooperative Extension System c/o

johnsct@aces.edu, or by mail to
Ms. Clarene Teague-Johnson
P. O. Box 1088
Normal, Alabama 35762, or by
FAX: 256.372.5734

Forms should be received or postmarked no later than Friday, September 5, 2008. Copies of the Nomination Form may be obtained at the Annual Family Conference website www.acesfamilyconference.org.

For more information, please contact Clarene T. Johnson at 256.372.4976. Note: Documentation will not be returned.
Six Awards to Be Presented

Note: Do not select an award category, but please use the award titles and the award descriptions to guide your discussion of the nominee's accomplishments.

I. Individual Awards:
   - **Visionary Leadership Award:** Has implemented unique and progressive idea
   - **Courage Award:** Has overcome tremendous obstacles (economic, social, etc.)
   - **Grass Roots Award:** Represents a community's unsung hero
   - **Role Model Award:** Leads by example; guides youth toward worthy goals
   - **It Takes a Village Award:** Has impacted a community; motivates others to act

II. Organization Award: Has had far-reaching community impact, organized a tax exempt-501(c) 3 organization, reached numerous youth or adults (how many?), has a functioning board (number of members; frequency of meetings?), paid/volunteer staff

Judging Criteria
Nominations should provide the following information:

   - **Goals:** Describes a worthy purpose for the project (15 points)
   - **History:** Demonstrates that the individual or organization has a solid track record of strengthening families and family-centered communities; tells how long the individual/organization has been serving in this capacity - at least three years is required (15 points)
   - **Need:** Addresses an identified community need (15 points)
   - **Commitment:** Demonstrates passion, determination, and dedication to serve high-risk/underserved populations; addresses quality of life issues (15 points)
   - **Activities:** Describes methods utilized to accomplish goals (15 points)
   - **Impact:** Describes how the community or situation has changed as a result of these efforts (how many affected; how are the people better off; how many cooperating partners assisted; what is the potential for growth?) (25 points)
Part I: Contact Information

Name of Individual or Organization Nominee:
_______________________________________________________________________________
(Please print or type clearly)

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

E-mail: __________________________________________________________________________

Daytime Telephone: ________________________________________________________________

Name of Nominator: ________________________________________________________________

Title: __________________________________________________________________________

Agency/Organization (optional): ______________________________________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

E-mail: __________________________________________________________________________

Daytime Telephone: ________________________________________________________________

Signature of Nominator: _____________________________ Date Submitted: _________________

Nomination Forms & documentation must be postmarked by Friday, September 5, 2008.
Please send completed applications to:

Clarene Teague-Johnson
Alabama Cooperative Extension System
P.O. Box 1088
Normal, Alabama 35762
johnsct@aces.edu
Phone: 256-372-4976    Fax: 256.372.5734
Part II: Criteria
(Describe how the individual or organization has demonstrated excellence in the following areas)

- **Goals:** Describes a worthy purpose for the project or efforts (15 points)

- **History:** Demonstrates that the individual or organization has a solid track record of strengthening families and family-centered communities; tells how long the individual has been working in this capacity (at least three years is required) (15 points)

- **Need:** Addresses an identified community need (15 points)
Alabama Cooperative Extension System
Annual Family Conference

2008 Distinguished Public Service Award

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• **Commitment**: Demonstrates passion, determination, and dedication to serve high-risk/underserved populations; addresses quality of life issues (15 points)

• **Activities**: Describes methods utilized to accomplish goals (15 points)
Impact: Describes how the community or situation has changed as a result of these efforts (how many affected; how participants are better off; how many cooperating partners assisted; what is the potential for growth?) (25 points)