



**The 32nd Annual National Institute on
Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas**

**Celebrating the Textures of
Rural America:
Responding to Individuals and Families
Throughout the Life Cycle**

July 25-28, 2007

*Join us in
Montgomery, Alabama...*

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Celebrating the Texture of Rural America: Responding to Individuals and Families Throughout the Life Cycle

This conference will focus on the needs, resources and public policy in rural America that effect human service practice in rural communities. Rural human service practitioners facilitate multi-generational relationships across micro, mezzo, and macro levels to better meet the changing and diverse needs of our rural areas. Practitioners need a transdisciplinary understanding of rural communities and their diverse populations. As practitioners, educators, and policy makers, we are challenged to promote positive change that will strengthen the rural family and extended systems. Participation in this conference will promote the discussion, evaluation and study of rural communities, families and individuals.



For more information please contact:

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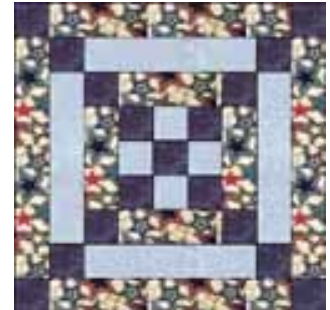
School of Human Services

Department of Social Work

104 McCartha Hall

Troy, Alabama 36082

334-670-3366



Travel Information

Where are we staying?



Conference Hotel Reservation Information:

**The Lexington Hotel (formerly the
Holiday Inn East I-85)**

**1185 Eastern Bypass and I-85
Montgomery, Alabama 36117**

334-272-0370

Cost:

\$65.00 + tax

(Single/Double Occupancy)

\$85.00 + tax

(Triple/Quad Occupancy)



How do I get to Montgomery?



By Air?

The Montgomery Airport is located 25 minutes southwest of the Lexington Hotel. If you are arriving by air, you may rent a car at the airport or use taxi service. Arrangements have been made with the Enterprise Rent A Car location at the Montgomery Airport to provide a special rate to attendees who wish to rent a car during their trip. Simply call 334-284-9504 and make a reservations using Corporate Account code 55E8005 to received the special rate on compact through full size cars (specialty vehicles such as minivans and suvs are available at higher rates).

By Car?

From the North:

I-65 South to I-85 (towards Atlanta). Take exit 6 and make a left turn onto Eastern Boulevard. Hotel is on right side of boulevard about 1/4 up.

From the South:

I-65 North to I-85 (towards Atlanta). Take exit 6 and make a left turn onto Eastern Boulevard. Hotel is on right side of boulevard about 1/4 up.

From the East (Atlanta)

I-85 to exit 6 and make a right turn onto Eastern Boulevard. Hotel is on right side of boulevard about 1/4 up.

[*Montgomery Visitors Information link*](#)

www.montgomeryvisitors.com

Program at a Glance

Wednesday, July 25, 2007 Pre-Conference Institute

7:00 AM-4:00 PM	Registration
8:00 AM	Departure from Hotel
8:30-11:30 AM	Tour Downtown Montgomery Civil Rights Landmarks
Noon	Luncheon at Hotel with Guest Speaker Mrs. Johnnie Carr
1:30 PM	Departure from Hotel
2:30-5:30 PM	Tour Selma Civil Rights Landmarks
5:30-6:30 PM	Return to Hotel

****Continuing Education Credits Available with Pre-Conference Institute**

Thursday, July 26, 2007 Conference

8:00 AM-4:00 PM	Registration
8:00-9:00 AM	Breakfast
9:00-10:00 AM	Opening Welcome/General Session
10:00-11:00 AM	General Session-Compassion Fatigue-BC Farnham/Dr. Denise Green
11:00 AM-5:00 PM	Exhibits Open
Noon-1:00 PM	Luncheon-Guest Speaker-Barry Locke
1:00-2:00 PM	Breakout Sessions A, B, C, D
2:15-3:15 PM	Breakout Sessions E, F, G, H
3:15-3:45 PM	Break
3:45-4:45 PM	Breakout Sessions I, J, K, L
6:00 PM	Montgomery Biscuits Baseball Excursion

Program at a Glance

Friday, July 27, 2007

Conference

7:30-8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:00-Noon	Registration
8:30-9:30 AM	Breakout Sessions A-D
9:45-10:45 AM	Breakout Sessions E-H
11:00 AM-Noon	Breakout Sessions I-L
12:00-1:30 PM	Luncheon
1:30-2:30 PM	Breakout Sessions M-P
2:45-3:45 PM	Breakout Sessions Q-T
3:45-4:15 PM	Break
4:15-5:15 PM	Breakout Sessions U-X
6:45 PM	Alabama Shakespeare Festival Excursion

Saturday, July 28, 2007

Conference

7:30-8:30 AM	Breakfast
8:30-9:30 AM	General Session-Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina-Dr. Denise Green
9:45-10:45 AM	Panel Discussion
11:00 AM-Noon	Closing Remarks
Noon	Have A Safe Trip Home!!

Pre-Conference Institute

In honoring the role of Alabama citizens in the American Civil Rights Movement, we will be offering a tour of Civil Rights landmarks in both Montgomery, Alabama and Selma, Alabama. The morning portion will offer landmarks in Montgomery while the afternoon portion will offer landmarks in Selma. Attendees may elect to participate in the entire day, the morning portion, or the afternoon portion. Continuing Education Credits will be provided at the close of the conference. Luncheon with guest speaker, Mrs. Johnnie Carr, will be included with all options.

Schedule

8:00 AM	Departure from Hotel
8:30-11:30 AM	Tour Downtown Montgomery Civil Rights Landmarks Southern Poverty Law Center Rosa Parks Museum Dexter Avenue Baptist Church-King Memorial
Noon	Luncheon at Hotel with Guest Speaker Mrs. Johnnie Carr
1:30 PM	Departure from Hotel
2:30-5:30 PM	Tour Selma Civil Rights Landmarks Lowndes County Interpretive Center National Voting Rights Museum Slavery to Freedom Museum (Footprints to Freedom)
5:30-6:30 PM	Return to Hotel

Fees

Full Day	\$95.00 per person
Morning Session	\$65.00 per person
Afternoon Session	\$65.00 per person

Continuing Education Credits

Full Day	8 CEU's
Morning Session	4 CEU's
Afternoon Session	4 CEU's

Evening Excursions

Thursday, July 26, 2007



A recipe for fun!

Join us in the Whistle Stop Grille as we cheer on the Montgomery Biscuits (Class "AA" Affiliate of the Tampa Bay Blue Devils) in their game against the Mobile Bay Bears at 7:05 PM.

Price: \$25.00 / Person

Price of admission includes ticket and food for the evening! The Whistle Stop Grille is a terraced, picnic-style seating with private attendants to serve food hot off the grill and assist with the buffet style setting. Bar service is available (but not included in cost).

Seating is limited, so reserve your spot early!!

Evening Excursion

Friday, July 27, 2007



Fair & Tender Ladies

(Adapted from the novel by Lee Smith, Script by Eric Schmeidl with Music and Lyrics by Tommy Goldsmith, Tom House and Karren Pell)

Meet Ivy Rowe, a strong-willed and passionate Appalachian woman in love with words, life, and her home on Blue Star Mountain. The story and music of this ASF favorite celebrates the traditions of the Virginia mountains and Ivy's vibrant spirit. Discover one of the most loved Southern Writer's Project World Premieres.

Price: \$29.50 / Person

Seating is limited, so reserve your spot early!!

Speakers and Breakout Topics

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Debbie Favel, RN—Pain Management
Steven Hartsock—Group Treatment of Sexual Offenders Living in Rural Communities—In search of anonymity and isolation, the movement of sex offenders is a concern of rural communities. The premise of this workshop is that treatment must be designed to serve perpetrators of different age groups, offenses, types of victims, and behavioral disorders. Group treatment provides a system for confrontation, psycho-education, social support, peer group interaction, and existential factors which enhance success. Modalities emerging as best practices include Cognitive, Problem Solving, and Social Learning approaches. Victimization of children, youth, and elderly in familiar settings raises challenges in change and healing processes. Case illustrations will supplant lecture and discussion.
Dr. Peggy Pittman-Munke—Law Enforcement and Child Protection in Kentucky—Differing Perspectives—A local Citizens Review Panel did a study of the relationship between law enforcement and child protection workers in western rural Kentucky. Results were interesting: there was great variation among counties in terms of the relationship. It was clear that both were understaffed and that this affected the relationship in a number of areas. Since child protection workers often are at considerable risk, this relationship is an important one. In light of the recent death of a child protection worker in Kentucky, it is important for child protection works and law enforcement to develop protocols and mutual concern that will lead to prompt response.
Kala Chakradhar—My Space/My Face: Electronic Social Networking as a Form of Social Support—Mapping social networks of individuals and families is both an important assessment tool and a valuable intervention strategy for social workers. It sets the stage for assessing available social supports and the purpose they serve in enhancing individual and family functioning. The online community created by the electronic revolution has opened the doors to the phenomenon of online social networking serving varying purposes foe different age groups across the life span. Of particular concern is the “digital lifestyle” created by network services like Myspace and Facebook among the academic community, particularly undergraduate college populations. This presentation will examine the value of this form of social networking in a rural university sample supported by a review of the available literature from a social, academic and technological perspective. This medium of social interaction supposedly has its pros and cons. The academic literature is somewhat sparse on this topic as it may have been perceived more as a teenage fad. In essence, does this technology have the potential to create a favorable holistic educational and socially positive experience, that may form part of the agenda in network analysis or does it carry the risk of long-term ill effects by creating a generation of social anomalies at risk? Is it a

challenge to the small to mid-size campus, which prides itself on the length and frequency of student-faculty face-to-face contacts? Is it a potential adjunct to conventional social supports? This presentation hopes to seek some answers.

Evelyn Tomaszewski—Addressing Ethical Dilemmas in an Era of Complex Practice Issues—Scarce resources, confidentiality protections, end of life issues, mandatory reporting requirements, as well as clients’ issues such as homelessness, substance use and abuse, and challenges presented by adherence to medical treatments, often present providers with difficult decisions. All of these issues can raise ethical questions or dilemmas for the practitioner—both at the micro and macro level of practice. Through the use of case studies, lecture, and guided discussion, this workshop seeks to help social workers and allied health and mental health providers to better respond to ethical dilemmas that arise in providing services across fields of practice.

Dr. Freddie Avant—The Freedman’s Bureau: The Forgotten Origin of Rural Social Work—Much of the social welfare history and the literature on the origin of the social work profession posit the beginning of social work in urban communities primarily with clients of European descent. The often forgotten history of social welfare and the profession is the origin of both as they relate to rural people and persons of African descent. This lack of attention to the contribution of the rural experience and persons of color leaves a major gap in the social work literature. This presentation will discuss the development of the social work profession with special attention to the Freedmen’s Bureau for its services and contributions to social welfare history and the social work profession in rural areas.

Sheryl Matney—Volunteer Coordination in Rural Areas

Brenda Moore—The Benefits of Drug Courts in Rural Communities—Drug use, especially methamphetamines, is a growing problem in rural communities. Alternative approaches to providing treatment and rehabilitation are being sought, including the use of Drug Courts. This presentation will provide an overview of the purpose and key components of Drug Courts with particular attention to the effectiveness of Drug Courts in rural communities. Quantitative and qualitative results from an evaluation of a Drug Court program in a rural community in Northwest Texas will be presented. Implications for human services agencies will be explored.

Dr. Michael R. Daley—Re-Visiting the Concept of Rural Social Work—As long as social workers have considered rural social work as unique from other fields of social work there has been a search to capture the essence of rural social work. Is it a rural-urban dichotomy, is it geographically or community bound, and what are the principles that guide rural practice? Answers to these questions are important to education for future social workers and rural practice. The author will examine key issues in rural social work and their influence on rural social work as a means of engaging the audience in a discussion about the nature of rural social work.

Dr. Nancy Sidell—Necessary Traits for Successful Rural Social Work Practice: A Follow-Up Study—In 2005, rural MSW’s residing in Pennsylvania identified several traits considered “very important” to successful rural social work practice, such as being a self-starter and possessing a sense of humor. This session will describe a 2006 follow up study, in which the same practitioners defined and provided examples of the ten most critical traits earlier identifies. Qualitative findings and their

implications for preparing future rural social workers will be discussed.

Dr. J. Chris Adams—Anticipatory Grief

Speakers and Breakout Topics

Friday, July 27, 2007

Bonnie Cannon—
Joanne Riebschleger—Voices of Women in Rural India: Education and Entrepreneurship—Women in rural India describe the challenges of living with persistent poverty and social inequality. To meet these challenges, intergeneration teams of youth and adult women are assembled by a grassroots organization; the women advocate for increased community status and opportunity. The women work together to generate new sources of income. A program to increase access to quality education is suggested. The model of mutual aid, empowerment, and community organization actively demonstrated by the women can be applied to the situations of rural people, especially women and families, living in poor rural areas across the world.
Dr. Harriett Means--Southern Rural Educational Social Settlements in African American Communities during the Progressive Era: 1890-1920
Lucia Grantham—MAPPS
Dr. Richard K. Freer—BEW Admission Procedures Pilot Project: Ethical Issues and Lessons Learned—Social work education programs face many competing demands. These at time take the form of ethical dilemmas. For example, limited program resources often require limiting student enrollment. At the same time, social problems in rural areas call for an increase in the number of professionally trained social workers. This workshop informs participants of a pilot project in a BSW program in the Delta Region of Arkansas which is facing this dilemma. Questions for discussion will include giving weight to rural sensitivity in the admissions process.
Bob Rich—Civilian Conservation Corps in the Rural South: Lasting Impacts—The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was enacted into law during the Great Depression in March, 1933. By August, 68,200 volunteers were living in 341 camps in the Southern States, engaging in work, education, and job training. During its 10 year existence, approximately 4,000,000 volunteers assigned to 4,000 camps, participated in the CCC throughout the United States (Cohen, 1980). Through personal interviews, official records, photos, and music, this presentation will examine how the CCC empowered its volunteers, their families, and the rural communities in the Southern States in which they worked.
Dr. Michelle E. Blake—Facilitating Client Bereavement Following Early Term Miscarriage—This presentation will focus on helping clients recognize and resolve grief surrounding early term miscarriage. The stages of grief proposed by Kubler-Ross will be applied to early pregnancy loss, and practical strategies for facilitating client movement through the stages will be explored.

Dr. Joseph Davenport/Dr. Judith Davenport—The National Rifle Association: Targeting Social Problems in Rural Communities—Rural communities often possess many problems with few tradition resources. Often overlooked by social workers, members of the NRA are present in most rural locales and the NRA can provide some valuable resources. These include “Hunters for the Hungry”, which provides much needed meat to food pantries; social/recreational opportunities for disabled hunters; self-protection programs for isolated women; and group activities for youths. Working with local NRA members results n clients receiving valuable services while giving the worker entry into the power structure for other social work objectives.

Dr. Monte Miller—Writing Strategies to Develop Critical Thinking for Rural BSW Students—This presentation will focus on the use of writing intensive courses as well as writing assignments to assist rural BSW students to develop their critical thinking skills. Successive assignments that assist students in utilizing critical thinking in assessment, intervention selection, and evaluation will be presented. The use of Bloom’s taxonomy of learning to develop and evaluate critical thinking at the application, synthesis and evaluation level will be demonstrated. The presentation will also focus on how rural social work educators can choose formats for their assignments that promote the writing skills that are needed in social work practice.

Dr. Alana B. Atchison—Voices of Rural Poverty: Case Studies from Vermont—This qualitative research study describes the lived experiences of 40 Vermont families who were receiving Aid to Needy Families with Children, Vermont’s version of AFDC, at the onset of the investigation. During the data collection period, September 1994 through November 2005, all families were experiencing various impacts of welfare reform. The focus of this investigation was on the day-to-day lives of the research participants with particular attention given to poverty survival strategies used by the families. This presentation will focus on what women had to say about their experiences surviving rural poverty in the face of numerous obstacles as well as on policy implications.

Linda Openshaw—Linking Community Agencies with University Faculty to Ensure Student Success—Discipline problems in rural universities are increasing. Students with behavior problems may be suspended, or lose the opportunity for an education. This presentation will explain the results of a qualitative study in which faculty described the types of student discipline problems they encounter. It proposes an intervention model using university faculty in combination with community human service professionals. Community human service workers could identify at-risk students and provide social skills training, then the students could be assigned faculty mentors who will help them adjust to school. Coordination between the university and community would eliminate discipline problems and prevent student suspensions.

Elissa Madden—Rural Response to Domestic Violence Policy and Service Provision—This workshop examines the current state of research on domestic violence in rural America. The provision of domestic violence services presents several challenges for rural communities. Barriers to service provision include the financial cost of services, geographic isolation of the community and traditional values of residents. State, community and organizational lever responses designed to engage communities, as well as social service and health care providers, are reviewed.

Dr. Brenda Moore—The Influence of Evidence Based Practice in Rural Human Service Agencies—There is an increasing emphasis on teaching and using evidence-based practice in social work education and practice. This presentation will explore the extent to which evidence-based practice is understood and used by rural human service providers. Findings from an exploratory study will be presented which examined the prevalence of evidence-based practice by rural practitioners. Implications for linking university resources with human service agencies will be discussed.

Dr. Michael R. Daley—Music: An Important Medium for Communicating Rural Culture—Rural culture is communicated to community members in a number of traditional ways, and music is one of the more significant ways transmitting these cultural norms. The authors will use examples of rural music to illustrate rural themes and cultural norms, and discuss the importance of music in transmitting rural culture. Behavioral themes addressed by the authors include family, importance of spirituality, hard work, and connection to the land.

Dr. Maureen Newton—Senior Citizens Self Reports of Emotional, Social, and Physical Well-Being—This presentation will examine self-reports of emotional well-being, social and physical functioning among senior citizens receiving congregational meal services at senior centers in a 10-county region of northwest Alabama. Seniors will be compared on demographic characteristics including residence (city, suburbs, or rural areas), living arrangements, age, gender, race, etc. It is hypothesized that seniors reporting frequent social contacts and increased physical functioning will report higher levels of emotional and physical well-being. It is also hypothesized that seniors who report satisfaction with current social activity will have higher levels of emotional well-being even with less social activity and poor health status.

H. Steve Cooper—RETHN: Improving Behavioral Healthcare Services Through Regional Partnerships—The SFASU School of Social Work, in collaboration with the regional mental health authority and two regional hospitals, received a network planning grant in 2006. The grant supported the development of RETHN, which was created to improve delivery of healthcare and behavioral healthcare services in 12 rural East Texas counties. Specifically, the network is working to develop an infrastructure for screening and assessment, health education, professional consultation, training, and delivery of services to the region. Presenters will discuss rural network development activities, including a comprehensive needs assessment, regional strategic planning, recruiting the core membership, and creating a framework for governance.

Dr. Linda Harris—Role of Rural African-American Church in Social Change—Historically, the church has been a haven for members of the African American community to experience not only spiritual renewal but also a sense of community not found in any other strata in society. Impacted by very visible community problems and coupled with incidences of social and economic injustices, impoverishment and a sense of promises unmet; the rural African American church has been a hub for individuals and families needing help and a catapult for entities seeking social change.

Dr. Baxter Wright—Adventures and Challenges of Teaching Rural Content Online—At a time when universities are encouraging the increased utilization of the electronic medium to enhance the educational process for students and faculty, there is a growing concern amongst some faculty that certain disciplines are better suited than others for the utilization of this medium. This workshop will provide important information for those interested in exploring the appropriateness of this medium for training students in the human services areas, especially social workers being trained to work in rural areas. Information on the two most prominent platforms being utilized will be discussed as well as some the plus and delta's experienced in using this pedagogical approach.

Dr. Susie A. Spence—Critical Issues Facing Rural Elderly African-American Caregivers: An Overview—This presentation will discuss a number of critical issues facing rural elderly African American caregivers who assume major responsibility for providing assistance to family members. Specifically, the discussion focuses on physical, psychological, and social issues confronting these elders. Selected strategies to address the respective issues are also discussed.

BC Farnham—

Brandi Speigner—

Dr. Denise Davis-Maye—KEMET Academy: A model of Rural Outreach Targeting Youth—This lecture presents a model for serving middle school students in rural communities with a goal of increasing the numbers of rural dwellers pursuing post-secondary educations with the plan of returning to their home communities. KEMET (Knowledge and Excellence in Mathematics, Equilibrium, and Technology) Academy is an enrichment program targeting students residing in 5 communities where over 35 % of the students failed to meet the state's educational standards. Further, in these counties, fewer than 30% of the high school graduates pursued post-secondary education. The program staff created a multi-disciplinary curriculum centering on content relative to the students' rural contexts.

Speakers and Breakout Topics

Saturday, July 28, 2007

Session A—Dr. Denise Green
Session B—Open Panel Discussion
Session C—Closing Remarks

Call for Exhibitors

The Conference will be hosting an exhibit area. The Conference committee of the rural conference is seeking exhibitors for July 25-28. Space is limited and filling fast, so early registration is encouraged.

Who might want to exhibit?

Social Work Agencies
Artisans
Professional Organizations
Book Sellers
Retail Organizations
Universities

For more information please contact: **Tim Kimbrough, Conference/Event Manager**
334-670-3369
tkimbrough@troy.edu

Exhibitor Application/Registration

32nd Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas
*Celebrating the Texture of Rural America: Responding to Individuals and Families
Throughout the Life Cycle*

July 25-28, 2007
The Lexington Hotel
Montgomery, Alabama

Join us with your exhibit or display. Tables/Single Display spaces are \$150.00 for the first space and \$75.00 for each additional table/space. Please register early as space is limited and on a first come first serve basis.

Name of Agency/Organization _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ **Fax** _____ **Email** _____
Services Provided _____
Name(s) of Person(s) Attending Exhibit: _____
Number of Table/Single Display Requested: _____

Deadline for Exhibit Registration is June 8, 2007
Payment MUST accompany Exhibit Registration

Payment Method:

Personal Check/Money Order/Agency Check (made payable to Troy University). On memo line, please note Social Work Rural Conference

Mail Payment and registration to: Rural Conference, Troy University, Department of Human Services, Social Work and Rehabilitation, 104 McCartha Hall, Troy, Alabama 36082

32nd Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas

**Celebrating the Textures of Rural America:
Responding to Individuals and Families Throughout the Life Cycle
July 25-28, 2007**

Registration Form (please print Page 15 and submit by mail or fax as indicated below)

Name: _____ Title: _____
 Employer/Affiliation: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____
 Telephone: Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____
 Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

Rooms are to be reserved on an individual basis. Please contact the Lexington Hotel, Montgomery, Alabama (334) 272-0370. Special needs and accommodations are available.

Seeking CE credits for? SW ___ Nursing ___ LCP ___ CHES ___

CONFERENCE FEES

(Early Bird registrations must be postmarked on or before June 8, 2007)

Conference Participants	Early	After June 8	Total
Full Registration (does not include Pre-Conf)	\$185.00	\$200.00	_____
Single Day Registration Thur Fri Sat	\$100.00	\$100.00	_____
Wednesday Pre-Conference Institute			
___ Morning (Montgomery Area only)	\$ 65.00	\$ 65.00	_____
___ Afternoon (Selma Area only)	\$ 65.00	\$ 65.00	_____
___ Full Day Civil Rights Tour`	\$ 95.00	\$ 95.00	_____
Students (does not include Pre-Conf)	\$100.00	\$100.00	_____
Excursions (prices per person)			
Montgomery Biscuits Baseball Game	_____ X	\$ 25.00	_____
Alabama Shakespeare Festival	_____ X	\$ 29.50	_____
One Conference T-Shirt is included with paid Registration			
Size: ___S ___M ___L ___XL ___XXL			
Additional T-Shirts available for \$20 each			
Size: ___S ___M ___L ___XL ___XXL	_____ X	\$ 20.00	_____

Payment Method

___ Check/Agency Check/Money Order Payable to Troy University (write on memo line "Rural Conference)

___ Credit Card ___ MasterCard ___ Visa ___ Discover

Credit Card # _____ Exp ___/___ month/year

IVC# _____ (last 3 digits in signature block on back of card) X _____ Signature

**If cardholder is different from registrant include address and phone below:

Mail Payment & Registration to: Rural Conference, Troy University, 104 McCartha Hall
Troy, AL 36082

QUESTIONS??? Phone Tim Kimbrough (334) 670-3366 TKimbrough@troy.edu