

Candidacy Announcement for MWA Alternate Executive Mary Roberts

For those of you who I haven't met, my name is Mary Roberts. I am running for MWA Alternate Executive and would greatly appreciate your support.

A bio about me would include that I've worked for the USDA for 15 years and am currently the CED in Calhoun County in NW Iowa. My USDA experience includes 5 years with the NRCS and 10 years with the FSA. I started my career with FSA as a TO in the days of LDPs and the Columbus Day massacre, but was hired full time as an NRCS technician in Storm Lake where I worked until I was fortunate to get accepted into the COT program. I will say that the experience working on both sides has been a huge benefit.

I have been an IASCOE/NASCOE member since I started working full time with FSA. For the past 3 years, I have served as NASCOE's MWA NAFEC representative and have been Iowa's NAFEC chairperson for 6 years. I have been a Director on the IASCOE board for one year, but been an active member attending state conventions for the past 8 years. In addition to attending state conventions, I've attended 4 MWA Rallies and 5 National conventions. I will tell you that once you drink the juice at National Convention you will never miss another one. I have been very blessed to meet some very amazing people in NASCOE. I'm fortunate to call them some of my closest friends. It is because of these friendships and opportunities that I've been able to be part of that I feel that the next step in my journey is running for MWA Alternate Executive. The other thing that has become obvious is that the Midwest Area has some of the most hard-working and outgoing members in NASCOE. You are all amazing and I plan to make sure all NASCOE knows this.

I know the role will be challenging and I have put a lot thought and consideration into this decision. I am married and have 3 kids at home who are actively involved in middle school and high school activities. They miss me when I'm away but know that I'm working for my fellow FSA employees and they understand. I have their full support and that was key to taking this next step. I hope you will consider voting for me and giving me the opportunity to serve our amazing Midwest Area. Thank you!!!