

Terry Lynn Holley

Vice President for Programs and Rural Development

East Tennessee Foundation

Terry Lynn Holley is Vice President for Programs and Rural Development for the East Tennessee Foundation. The East Tennessee Foundation is a community foundation serving 24 counties of East Tennessee with a mission to build permanent resources to enrich lives and strengthen communities in East Tennessee. The Foundation's total assets are in excess of \$54 million with annual grantmaking activities for the year 2001 totaling over 14 million dollars from its 290-plus funds and supporting foundations. The main areas of interest include community development, arts and culture, youth at risk, and education.

Terry began her tenure with the Foundation in 1991 as a Program Officer. Over the course of the last ten years, she has managed the Foundation's grantmaking activities and the following national initiatives: Neighborhoods and Rural Communities Small Grants Programs, a program initiated through a partnership with the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation which provides technical assistance and project funds to low-income community-based neighborhood organizations and rural communities; the Rural Development and Community Foundations Initiative, an initiative in partnership with The Ford Foundation and Aspen Institute that focuses on building the capacity of community-based groups to plan and implement strategies for increasing the economic security of disadvantaged families while enhancing community viability; and the East Tennessee Collaborative on Violence Prevention, an initiative in partnership with the National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention.

In her current capacity, Terry has responsibility for management and oversight of the Foundation's grantmaking activities, the coordination of technical assistance programs, the development of regional affiliate funds for rural communities and donors, and the management of the Community Partnerships for Cultural Participation Initiative in partnership with the Wallace-Reader's Digest Funds.

Other professional activities that capture Terry's imagination include her work as a consultant for The Ford Foundation's Africa Foundation's Learning Groups which provides for endless adventures on the "Dark Continent," and her service as a faculty member of the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute, a project of the Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University under the direction of John McKnight and Jody Kretzmann.

Prior to joining the staff of the East Tennessee Foundation, Terry served for 13 years as executive director of Project Art Builds Learning Experiences, Inc. (Project ABLE). Project ABLE, a nonprofit venture, collaborated with Head Start programs and public schools in twenty-six rural Appalachian counties of East Tennessee to provide an integrated approach to early childhood education through the use of the performing arts.

Terry is Louisiana born, South Carolina raised and a self-declared Tennessean. She lives on a farm where she enjoys the companionship and comic relief of her dogs Yankey and Shoemaker. A lover of the great outdoors, Terry can be found embracing her "seasonal favorites", splitting firewood, critter watching, hiking, kayaking, and swimming.

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