



# AARON STEWART

SENIOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST – MIDDLE TENNESSEE

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## Facilitating Growth in Middle Tennessee

**Aaron Stewart doesn't settle for good enough. "Economic development is about constant improvement. We have to keep moving forward, because what is the alternative? It's like Will Rogers once said, 'Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there!'"**

Aaron Stewart is a senior regional development specialist with TVA Economic Development and serves 15 counties in the Middle Tennessee area. This region is experiencing tremendous growth across many business and industry sectors. Stewart's responsibilities include assisting prospective and existing industries, facilitating financial assistance and helping communities support and grow local businesses. He also works with regional partners to implement community preparedness programs, deliver resources and technical assistance, and coordinate TVA's marketing and business development efforts.

Stewart was previously executive director of the Magnolia Economic Development Corporation in Magnolia, Ark., and executive director of the Cross County Chamber of Commerce in Wynne, Ark. Prior to that he worked for the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the Clark County Industrial Council. He has worked with companies and economic development partners to help close more than 100 business development projects that will create or retain more than 26,000 jobs and nearly \$3.4 billion in new capital investments. Stewart is a certified economic developer and has also achieved certifications as an economic development finance professional and a professional community and economic developer. He earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of Arkansas and a bachelor's in political science from Henderson State University.

Stewart served as chairman of the Southern Economic Development Council's External Affairs Committee and on the board of directors of the Arkansas Economic Developers Association. He was named an Outstanding Young Executive by Northeast Arkansas Business Today. He and his wife, Faith, have three children, Jackson, Ashton and Ainsley, and the family resides in Nashville, Tenn.

## Economic Development Team Achievements

Site Selection Named TVA One of Top Utilities for ED Nine Years in a Row

Nashville Business Journal Named TVA ED One of Nashville's Best Places to Work

## Personal Achievements

Stewart holds the Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) and Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) certifications.

## Five Fast Facts

1. **Passionate Arkansas Razorback fan**
2. **Loves the outdoors – camping, fishing, hunting and hiking**
3. **Fifth consecutive generation of his family to hold elected office**
4. **President of his college fraternity, Theta Xi**
5. **Played Fred Flintstone in high school production**