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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **Baldwin County Honored with Georgia County Excellence Award**

**ATLANTA (June 7, 2021)** – Baldwin County’s Regional Airport has been recognized with a 2021 Georgia County Excellence Award. Hosted jointly by the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) and Georgia Trend magazine, the awards program honors the innovative and cost-effective work of county governments.

“ACCG is proud to continue this partnership with Georgia Trend to recognize the innovative efforts of our counties,” said ACCG Executive Director Dave Wills. “Each year, the Georgia County Excellence Awards program showcases the versatility of county programs and services and the ingenuity of those elected or appointed to serve.”

This year, the theme for the program was community investment, and counties submitted applications for a variety of projects. Submissions focused on programs ranging from accountability courts, cyber education, and senior services to transportation projects. Recognized for its Regional Airport, Baldwin County is one of five award recipients.

“This awards is a result of collaborating with local education institutions and local citizen groups. Our local airport citizen committee provided our county leaders with opportunities to support the importance of our airport as an integral part of local education opportunities and invest in a local economic generator. ACCG recognition for one of our community programs is a great honor. The Baldwin County Government is proud to be recognized for the work we have done for, and with our citizens. Timely, effective, and innovative support for our community has been our goal,” said Henry R Craig, Chairman of the Baldwin County Commission.

As an economic generator for the County, the Baldwin County Regional Airport implemented an exciting program, the Center for Aviation Promotion and Flight Instruction (CAPFI), in 2020 to promote its value to the area and to advance the aviation industry well into the future. CAPFI not only focuses on the instructional aspect of aviation, but it also promotes the comprehensive value of aviation, trains the next generation of aviation professionals at large, and increases access to aviation training to people in rural areas, women, and people of color. The Airport partnered with minority- and woman-owned business Faithful Guardian to see CAPFI to fruition. Since September 2020, CAPFI’s flight training program at the Airport has grown from zero participants to more than 20. The program currently has six female students, accounting for 35% of total enrollment, and 50% of current participants are in minority groups. Learn more about the award-winning initiative in the [June issue of Georgia Trend magazine](#).

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ACCG is Georgia’s county association and works on behalf of county officials and their communities by providing public policy and legislative advocacy, leadership development, civic and community engagement initiatives, insurance and retirement programs that specialize in local government needs and other cost-saving programs. Formed in 1914 when county officials came together to help fund the state’s first highway department, ACCG today serves as a catalyst for advancing Georgia’s counties. For more information, go to [www.accg.org](http://www.accg.org).