



Candidate Application for National Office

What you can expect when applying for a National Board Position:

- Newly elected individuals will receive training from board members, and materials related to the position will be passed down.
- Candidates will be invited to join the Pre-National Board Meeting as an observer to become familiar with board business (will not be reimbursed by National to attend)
- Newly elected Executive Board members may be reimbursed for one night's lodging for post board meeting (at a rate of ½ of double room) but are not reimbursed for additional travel costs. Meal reimbursement for day of post board meeting will follow Policy Manual and current approved budget.

Office Applied for: Western Regional Director _____ Date: 1/20/2022 _____

This form should be used as a guideline. When typing your own form, add more space as necessary.

Dianne		Dorothy		Christensen	
First Name		Middle Name		Last Name	
NMSU Assistant Professor/Bernalillo County FCS Agent			New Mexico State University		
Job Title			Employer		
1510 Manual Ext Blvd NW		Albuquerque		NM	87107
Work Mailing Address		City		State/Territory	Zip
dianne@nmsu.edu			diannedchristensen@gmail.com		
Work Email Address			Home Email Address		
505-243-1386		505-243-1545		505-228-2183 cell	
Work Phone/Extension		Work Fax		Home Phone	

I. Education Background

BS/BA BS Family and Consumer Sciences CA Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo 1979 _____

Major	Institution	Year
MS/MA MS Family and Consumer Sciences CO State University 1981	_____	_____
Major	Institution	Year

PhD	_____	_____	_____
Major	Institution	Year	

II. NEAFCS Experience

Office	Year(s)
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National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)

- Served on the Bylaws Committee, 2021
- Served as a National Awards Judge, 2021
- Served on Member Resources Committee, 2017-2021

Please email one copy of your completed application to the National Nominating Committee Chair (NEAFCS Immediate Past President).

Committee Chair

Year(s)

- Served as Membership, Leadership, Mentoring & Life Members Subcommittee Chair of Member Resources, 2018-2019

Other Assignments Representing NEAFCS

Year(s)

Annual Sessions Attended (list years)

2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

Submissions for Awards, Webinars and/or Annual Session Proposals (concurrent session, poster, ignite)
Submission did not have to be accepted.

Check all that apply:

Webinar Submission Year(s): _____

Annual Session Proposal Year(s): 2021_____ Proposal Type: Session/Poster

Award Submission Year(s): 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

III. State/Territory Affiliate Experience

Office

Year(s)

New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

- Served as President, 2021
- Served as President Elect, 2020
- Served as Vice President of Member Resources, 2018-2020

Committee Chair

Year(s)

Committee

Year(s)

- Served on Public Affairs Committee, 2017-2018

IV. Non-Association Extension Leadership Assignments

(Annual conference committees, search committees, etc.)

Assignments: Elected (E) or Appointed (A)

Year(s)

University Service

Served on the New Mexico County Cooperative Extension Service Director's Advisory Board, 2021 (A)

Served as Bernalillo County Extension Association (BCEA) Advisor, 2021 (A)

Served on New Mexico Education Designed to Generate Excellence (EDGE) Curriculum Development Committee, 2020-2021 (A)

Served on New Mexico Education Designed to Generate Excellence (EDGE) Faculty, 2021 (A)

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Served as a member of the Extension Family and Consumer Sciences strength training program curriculum development committee, 2020, 2021 Las Cruces, New Mexico (A)

Served in the Extension Service Mentoring program, April 2019-March 2020 (A)

Served on the 2019 ACES Open House Committee, October 2018-April 2019 (A)

Served on the publication review committee for “Why and How To Do Aerobic Training” by Raquel Garzon, DHSC, RDN, August 2018 (A)

Served as a member of Kitchen Creations curriculum revision committee, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 Las Cruces, New Mexico (A)

V. Membership/Leadership in Other Organizations

(Professional, civic, service, religious or agency related organizations)

Organizations, Leadership role

Year(s)

Community Service

Serve as President of the Los Cerritos Area Homeowners Association, 2021 (E)

Served as a member of the DairyMax Nutrition Roundtable Council, 2021 (A)

Served as a board member for the HealthInsight Advisory Panel for Native American Material, 2018, 2019 (A)

Served as a Board Chair of the New Mexico Diabetes Advisory Council, 2018-2020 Albuquerque, New Mexico (E)

Serve as a board member of the New Mexico Diabetes Advisory Council, 2017-2021 Albuquerque, New Mexico (E)

Served as a member of the Road Runner Food Bank Healthy Food Council, 2017-2021 Albuquerque, New Mexico (A)

VI. Work Experience Other Than Extension (if applicable)

Positions

Year(s)

NMSU Assistant Professor/Bernalillo County FCS Agent

2016-present

Women's Ministry Director, Hoffmantown Church

2005-2016

VII. Awards and Honors

- Innovation in Programming Award – First Place Western Region Winner National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Grand Rapids, Michigan, November 2021
- Family Health and Wellness Award – Third Place Western Region Winner National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Grand Rapids, Michigan, November 2021
- College of Agricultural, Consumer, Environmental Sciences (ACES) Team Award, Las Cruces, New Mexico, May 2021
- Family Health and Wellness Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2021
- Innovation in Programming Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2021

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2020

- Past Presidents' New Professional Award – Second Place Western Region Winner National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Virtual National Conference, September 2020
- College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES) Team Award for the National Diabetes Prevention Program, Las Cruces, New Mexico, August 2020
- Past Presidents' New Professional Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2020
- New Mexico Early Career Excellence Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2020
- Annual Chili Pepper Award – New Mexico Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Albuquerque, New Mexico, March 2020

2019

- Television and Video Award – First Place National and First Place Western Region National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Hershey, Pennsylvania, October 2019
- Television and Video Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2019
- Family Health and Wellness Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2019
- Innovation in Programming Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2019

2018

- Family Health and Wellness Award – First Place National and First Place Western Region National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, San Antonio, Texas, September 2018
- Innovation in Programming Award – First Place Western Region National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, San Antonio, Texas, September 2018
- Family Health and Wellness Award - First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2018
- Family Health and Wellness Award - Second Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2018
- Innovation in Programming Award – First Place New Mexico Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Las Cruces, New Mexico, March 2018
- Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD) First Timers Scholarship (\$300) – National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Washington DC, March 2018

Position Statement

A. Why would you like to be a candidate for this office?

I very much enjoyed my term as the President of the New Mexico State affiliate last year and I would like to serve the western state affiliates at the national level. I value using my relational, leadership, and organizational skills to serve others and move an organization forward in meeting their goals and objectives. Last year, under my leadership, it was fulfilling to see our annual goals realized. Officers and members were more connected relationally and professionally

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through communication and team building via regular zoom meetings. It was gratifying to see our affiliate submit strong NEAFCS awards and session/poster submissions. Our members served as award judges for the state and nationally. They were also active in national NEAFCS committees. Our membership had good attendance at the national conference, JCEP, and PILD.

The position of the Western Regional Director is that of a liaison between the national Board and the state affiliate presidents. It would be a privilege to use my leadership skills to serve them in being effective and impactful in reaching their own state affiliate goals through strong and regular communication from the national Board. I would also value influencing more participation in national NEAFCS positions from members by providing information on the opportunities. I would be responsive to questions and concerns raised by the presidents and communicate the needs of the Board, as well.

Having experience in planning and executing a number of large conferences, I would enjoy being part of the JCEP ELC planning committee.

B. If you were elected, what would be your top priority/goal for your term?

My top priority, if elected as Western Regional Director, would be strong and timely communication between the Board and the state affiliate presidents in the western region. I would make attendance at all Board meetings a priority and utilize my organizational abilities to communicate with the affiliates quickly and efficiently. I would also prioritize addressing any needs from the western affiliate presidents as well as from the Board.

Are you willing to be considered as a candidate for a different office? The national nominating committee chair would contact you first as to your preference and willingness to serve in any other position. Yes X No Maybe

Are you willing to leave your application on file for three (3) years in the event of a position vacancy or for reconsideration for office for the next election? Yes X No

Your signature below confirms that you have read the current NEAFCS Policy Manual and agree to the duties and qualifications for the position in which you are applying for as well as additional policies outlined in the Manual.

Dianne D. Christensen
Signature of Applicant

February 28, 2022
Date

Letters of support and recommendation from the following individuals must accompany the application.

- ▶ State Director of Extension (required)
- ▶ State Program Leader or immediate supervisor (one required)
- ▶ NEAFCS board member or state/territory affiliate president (optional)

Applications are due to the National Nominating Committee Chair by May 1st. Please include with your application a high resolution headshot photo for the candidate display at Annual Session.

NEAFCS is an equal opportunity/affirmative action association. NEAFCS values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation. Membership is not by invitation. (Strategic Plan 1993-97)

Please email one copy of your completed application to the National Nominating Committee Chair (NEAFCS Immediate Past President).



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Bernalillo County Extension Service
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
1510 Menaul Ext. NW
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Phone: (505)243-1386
Fax: (505)243-1545

25 Feb 2022

Diane Gertson, Nominating Committee Chair
National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)

Re: Dianne Christensen – Western Regional Director Application

Dear Chairwoman Gertson,

I am pleased to recommend and write this letter in support of Dianne Christensen, who is applying to be the NEAFCS Western Regional Director.

Dianne is currently the Family and Consumer Science Agent for Bernalillo County serving the Albuquerque Metro area population. She started in 2016 and tenaciously developed timely programs in the areas of chronic disease prevention and management as well as health and wellness. She has worked collaboratively with agents and specialists across the state to share her knowledge and bring knowledge into various diverse communities including tribal populations. She has also broadened the scope of creative programming ideas to reach new audiences in the metro area. She has been active in curriculum development as well as seeking and implementing many grants for programming.

Dianne is active in the NM affiliate of the NEAFCS, in which she has served in various leadership roles. She has also served on various NEAFCS regional and national committees. Locally, she chaired the New Mexico Diabetes Advisory Council, providing strategic planning and programming.

I have worked with Dianne since she started and now as her immediate supervisor since 2021. Dianne has shown flexibility in her outreach during the pandemic as well as collaborative leadership in unique times. Dianne is dependable and communicative. Dianne is a pleasant person to work with and I believe she would do a great job as the NEAFCS Western Regional Director. I am pleased to recommend Dianne Christensen for the position.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me via email garlisch@nmsu.edu or phone 505-243-1386

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Garlisch".

John R. Garlisch
Bernalillo County Extension
Program Director & Agriculture Agent



College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences

Cooperative Extension Service
Mora County Extension Office
P.O. Box 390
Mora, NM 87732
Tel/Fax: 575-387-2856
mora@nmsu.edu
moraextension.nmsu.edu

February 25, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Gertson,

As President of the NEAFCS New Mexico State Affiliate, it is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation and support for Dianne Christensen as she pursues her candidacy for the NEAFCS Western Regional Director.

Dianne has been active in the NEAFCS state affiliate, serving on the Public Affairs Committee and Vice President of Member Resources. Last year, she served as the President and I appreciate how she mentored and included me in this role. As a result, I felt very prepared to assume the presidency this year. During her tenure, she leveraged Zoom to have more frequent member and officer meetings, with the goal of creating stronger communication and relational connections between the agents across our large state. Dianne continued to encourage submissions for awards and national conference sessions. She has also encouraged JCEP, PILD and national conference attendance by taking the time to share her experience at each. She encourages leadership service in the state affiliate as well as at the national level. She is very good at educating new FCS agents regarding the benefits of joining NEAFCS and why they need these in their roles. She has served in several leadership roles on the national Member Services Committee, the Bylaws Committee, and as a national awards judge.

Dianne is collaborative in her leadership style and inclusive of all members. She has strong leadership facilitation skills and rich experience in planning programs and events. She is creative and visionary, which served her well in leading our affiliate during the pandemic. Lastly, Dianne is fun and I enjoy working with her as do the other officers in our state. I appreciate Dianne's organizational skill – for example, she set up our year affiliate ZOOM meetings at the beginning of the year. This enabled members to plan their schedules so they could attend and contribute to every meeting. Dianne is warm and caring person. She brought a personal dimension to the role of President. Members felt appreciated and heard.

Based upon Dianne's personal and professional qualities, her experience, and her strong prior involvement in NEAFCS both at the state and national levels, I support and recommend her to you for the candidacy as the NEAFCS Western Regional Director. If you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne DeVos-Cole'.

Suzanne DeVos-Cole

President NEAFCS New Mexico Affiliate



College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences

Cooperative Extension Service
Office of the Associate Dean and Director
MSC 3AE
New Mexico State University
P.O. Box 30003
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8003
575-646-3015, fax: 575-646-7042

February 25, 2022

Diane Gertson, Nominating Committee Chair
National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences

Dear Chairwoman Gertson,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation and support on behalf of Dianne Christensen as she submits her application for the candidacy of NEAFCS Western Regional Director.

Dianne is currently serving as the Family and Consumer Sciences Agent in Bernalillo County, located in Albuquerque, the largest urban county in our state. Dianne joined Extension in 2016 and has developed a very robust FCS program with her Plans of Work focused on chronic disease prevention and management as well as health and wellness.

Dianne has been active in the NEAFCS state affiliate, serving on the Public Affairs Committee, and Vice President of Member Resources. Last year, she served as the NMEAFCS President and was part of my Director's Advisory Board. On the national level, she has served consecutive years on the Members Resources sub-committee and oversaw the New Members and Lifetime Events in 2018. She also serves nationally on the Bylaws Committee and is a national awards judge. She has encouraged national conference attendance in addition to PILD and JCEP. She also encourages service from the state affiliate at the national level. Dianne has been active in attending these important conferences and has won numerous NEAFCS awards during her NMSU tenure.

Dianne is relational, collaborative, organized, and has demonstrated leadership among her FCS colleagues and in her roles with NEAFCS at the state and national levels. She has been active at NMSU on several curriculum development teams reflecting her creativity and ability to generate new ideas and processes. She has oversight of several grants in her county. She also chaired a community organization, New Mexico Diabetes Advisory Council, for two years providing needed stability and strategic planning towards growth.

In my opinion, Dianne demonstrates the initiative, abilities, and a sincere interest in serving NEAFCS. I believe she would do an excellent job as the NEAFCS Western Regional Director, and it is my pleasure to give Dianne my full support in her effort to run for this office.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at 575-646-3015 or jboren@nmsu.edu.

Sincerely,


Jon C. Boren

New Mexico State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator.
NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.

Cindy Schlenker Davies
Retired NMSU FCS Agent/County Director
5309 Queens Way NE
Albuquerque NM, 87109
csdavies@nmsu.edu

February 15, 2022

Re: Dianne Christensen

I am writing this letter on behalf on my colleague and friend, Dianne Christensen, from the New Mexico Affiliate (NMEAFCS).

I was fortunate to have been the Bernalillo County Extension office supervisor when Dianne applied for the FCS agent position. Hands down she was more than qualified for the position and has proved herself over and over to be an excellent FCS agent. In addition to supervising Dianne, I also work alongside her delivering FCS programing. Before joining CES Dianne had an interesting career and used her Home Economics degree in some creative and interesting ways.

I was the NMEAFCS affiliate president when Dianne began working as a FCS agent. Dianne joined me in my efforts to serve our affiliate and was eager to learn what NEAFCS was all about. Dianne attended the first national meeting she could in Montana. Dianne signed up and became active in the Membership subcommittee. The next year at the Annual Session in Nebraska Dianne helped lead the New Members and Lifetime Member event and was in charge of the event in Hershey PA.

Dianne is an efficient, organized, a team player, and a passionate leader. She truly cares for people and isn't afraid to go the extra mile to help out. When Dianne takes on a project she does her best and sticks with it until the end. These qualities are just a few reasons I think Dianne would make an excellent Western Regional Director.

In addition, to the above mentioned qualities, Dianne has lived in three of the western states.

As past Western Region Director and VP of Member Resources I know the work commitment involved. Dianne will be an excellent board member.

Sincerely,

Cindy Schlenker Davies



NM
STATE
UNIVERSITY

Bernalillo County
Cooperative Extension Service
College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences