



Affiliate Annual Report Form

Submit this form to your Regional Director and the
NEAFCS National Office, 325 John Knox Rd. Suite L103 Tallahassee, FL 32303
Fax: (850) 222-3019 Email: djessup@executiveoffice.org

**Please return this form by December 31st of each year to your Regional Director and a copy to the National Office.
This report should cover anything that has occurred between January 1 and December 31 of the current year.**

State/Territory: Iowa Date: 12/10/25

Person Completing Form: Danielle Day, Affiliate President Phone: 641-229-6563

What accomplishments/progress has your Affiliate made in the past year? (Consider member resources, awards and recognition, public affairs, etc.)

- Many members were part of teams/individuals that won Iowa State University Extension and Outreach awards at the March 10th awards ceremony
- March 10th the Iowa Affiliate board met to discuss the year's activities, potential state dues increase recommendations and changes to the Donna Donald complimentary state membership scholarship to be inclusive of all roles in extension tied to Health and Human Sciences.
- May 2nd the affiliate held a "Kentucky Derby" themed virtual social via Zoom with southern recipes mailed to participants, derby hats encouraged, member social time and derby trivia. Active, student and life members were invited.
- 7 newsletters were sent out to members highlighting state and national happenings encouraging members to get involved. Newsletters are sent to active, life and student members. Many life members have emailed throughout the past two years to say thank you for including them and keeping them up-to-date on all that is happening.
 - This includes sharing current webinars and webinar archives that may be of interest.
- We had 34 Active members including 2 new members and 1 student member.
- After the loss of Barbara Woods, a collection in Barbara's name was taken and donated to the NEAFCS Endowment fund.
- Spring/summer affiliate meeting was held to vote on changes to the Donna Donald complimentary state membership Scholarship to include availability to all staff with Health and Human Sciences duties in their job description and the scholarship was extended to be able to be claimed anytime within the first 3 calendar years of employment.
 - Proposal to increase state dues was made and potential future fundraisers were discussed. Potential fundraisers discussed included a state sales table with NEAFCS stationary and notecards available to purchase based on created designs from Mackenzie DeJong Schelling.
- Fall educational social was held the afternoon before Health and Human Sciences Professional Development Days in Ames. The group toured the Iowa State University Student Innovation Center including touring the makerspaces and attendees completed an activity where they were innovative and created something to represent their work. A social dinner was held after the event.

- The fall business meeting was held in person at Health and Human Sciences Professional Development Days. New officer positions were elected for President Elect and VP of Awards and Recognition. The affiliate voted to increase state dues in 2027 from \$60 to \$100.
- 17 individuals attended the 2025 Annual Session in Grand Rapids
 - State's Night Out Dinner was held at Bistro Bella Vita
 - Lori Korthals received Distinguished Service award and was part of the 1st place Multi-State Collaboration Award Team
 - *Presentations:*

"My Wellbeing: Enhancing Quality of Life for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities"

Presenter(s): Debra Sellers, Kimberly Wellauer Cavalier, Jeannette Mukayisire

"A Collaboration Between Extension and the State Department of Health and Human Services: Responding to Calamitous Rural Weather Events"

Presenter(s): David Brown, Danielle Day, Tammy Jacobs

"Connecting the Dots from 1862 to 2025"

Presenter(s): Chris Kniep, Donna Donald (Iowa Life Member)

"Partnering with Employers to Address Family Financial Security"

Presenter(s): Suzanne Bartholomae, Jenny Abel, Barbara Wollan, Jeannette Mukayisire, Jeanne Walsh, Carol Bralich, Jonathon Ferguson, Beverly Doll

Showcase of Excellence Poster—"Improving Teamwork for a Virtual Setting"

Presenter(s): Joy West, Lisa Peterson, Halie Corbit, Rick Griffiths, Lori Korthals, Carrie Elsen, Roxie Price, Gina Lucas

- *National Board Members:*

Barb Wollan completed her final year of a two-year term as Central Region Director

Cindy Thompson serves as National Secretary

- *Central Region Planning Committee Members*

Leadership Event Committee: Danielle Day, Chair and Cindy Thompson

Pre-Conference Workshops Committee: David Brown

- Awards Virtual Coffee Break was held December 4th to discuss applying for awards, assistance available for reviewing applications, state deadlines and processes.

What are your Affiliate's goals for the next 12 months?

- Continue regular communication with all members. We've had a lot of positive feedback from life members that appreciate seeing what we are up to and engaging with them.
- Continue hosting virtual learning/social opportunities for members
- We are also looking into ideas for fundraising for our affiliate.
- Reach out to county employed staff sharing the option for the state affiliate complimentary membership to hopefully recruit more county staff to join the affiliate and invest in their professional development around FCS. Also, considering reaching out to others that may be in other units; however, do work that crosses over into FCS.
- Our largest goal is to support our current members, continue to invite new members, better include student members, and work to recruit associate members!

What challenges do Cooperative Extension and/or Family & Consumer Sciences face in your state?

- Professional development funds are limited and many organizations are vying for membership from our Health and Human Sciences staff. This means we are competing with other professional organizations for membership and are continually identifying ways to "sell" the importance of NEAFCS as a professional organization that staff should want to belong to.

- Changing landscape for funding means evaluating and exploring new funding options and models to sustain Health and Human Sciences programming. In addition to limited state and federal funding, we are seeing more private, for-profit and non-profit entities entering the educational programming realm and competing with similar opportunities that extension offers. People are also wanting bite-size educational pieces and not necessarily wanting to commit right away to multi-session educational programs without a “taste” first.
 - In turn this means positions are looking different and encompass more roles that our members may not feel as comfortable with. Educators are also now “salespeople” selling extension programs, data entry, marketing professionals, etc. Additional training in these areas or webinars/meetings discussing different strategies in these areas could be of assistance for educators.
- Natural disasters and economic impacts across the state continue to affect our staff and communities. This influences the focus and direction of some of our programming based upon funding available to reach these communities with financial and mental wellbeing programming.

To assist NEAFCS in future planning and communication, please list concerns your Affiliate has for the NEAFCS Board to address:

- Knowing that there are budget cuts all over, finding ways to allow networking time to form collaborations across states to access some larger pools of funding or work together on larger impact with educational programming would be helpful. (We've seen some of this over the past year and welcome more opportunities.) Allowing these types of connections by educational program area (nutrition, mental health, parenting, finance, etc.) could be helpful in creating multi-state collaboration or expansion.
- Some states have limits on who has creative licenses to create educational opportunities. We've seen some additions of skill building concurrent sessions throughout the past couple of years but would welcome more of those concurrent sessions as we navigate the ever-changing landscape and program development is limited in some states.
- We appreciate the tough decisions that have been made and the advancements that have been made the past few years.