



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: Colorado Date: 1/29/26
Person Completing Form: Katie Seelhoff Phone: (970) 542-3540

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

Over the past year, our Affiliate made meaningful progress in professional development, member engagement, and regional recognition. A Professional Development Retreat held in Steamboat Springs strengthened connections across the state and supported skill-building and collaboration among members. Twelve members attended, with presentations led by Dianne Christensen, Jessica Clifford, and Anne Kozil, highlighting affiliate expertise and fostering shared learning.

Our Affiliate also achieved strong recognition through Western Region awards. Members earned three first-place awards in 2025: Anne Mason and her team received the Communications Newsletter Award, Janae Naranjo and her team earned the Human Development/Family Relationships Award for Aging Mastery, and Glenda Wentworth received the Mary W. Wells Memorial Diversity Award for the Family Leadership Training Institute in Eagle County. Several additional members applied for regional awards, demonstrating a culture of innovation and continuous improvement across programming areas, even when awards were not ultimately received.

Our affiliation was further strengthened through the recruitment of two new members, Katie Maloney and Ginger Williams. Our Past President, Mary Snow, also improved our impact reporting by tracking programs and making sure that a report was submitted. In addition, she encouraged members to apply for more awards across our affiliation, increasing our recognition both internally and externally.

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

Over the next 12 months, the Colorado Affiliate's primary goal is to strengthen capacity and sustainability. As a small affiliate of 26 members spread across a large geographic area, we face challenges related to distance, limited staffing, and the ongoing loss of FCS positions. In response, we aim to maximize the strengths of our existing members by fostering collaboration, supporting cross-program work under the health and wellness umbrella, and ensuring members remain connected despite geographic barriers.

In addition, the Affiliate will prioritize member recruitment and retention, with an emphasis on clear, consistent communication that reinforces the value of affiliation and professional engagement. Improving both the quality and coordination of impact reporting—within Colorado and in alignment with NEAFCS priorities—is another key goal. By strengthening how we document and communicate our collective impact, we seek to elevate visibility, advocate more effectively for FCS and health-focused work, and position the Affiliate for long-term relevance and growth.

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

Some of the biggest challenges we faced in 2025 were based around capacity and training. We have many specialists that cover very large areas. The geographical distance does not allow these specialists to offer a broad depth of programming to each of the communities they serve or to partner with other specialists to support or co-teach classes. In

addition to needing more FCS positions, we need to support our newest members by providing training on programs, aiding to determine community needs and finding funding for equipment.

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

One concern we would like the NEAFCS Board to address is the concurrent session application process. Currently, the fields within the online application do not align well with the matrix categories used for planning and evaluation. This misalignment creates inefficiencies for applicants, as content prepared to match the matrix sections cannot be easily transferred into the portal and often requires reformatting. Greater alignment between the matrix and the application interface would reduce confusion, save time, and support higher-quality submissions.

Additionally, our Affiliate would welcome more frequent and intentional affiliate officer meetings at the national level. These meetings would be especially valuable for onboarding new officers, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and providing a structured space for shared problem-solving across affiliates. Increased opportunities for officer connection and guidance would strengthen leadership capacity, promote consistency, and enhance overall affiliate effectiveness.