

## **NEAFCS Leadership Experience Taking Off**

*Gina Lucas (MO), NEAFCS Mentoring and Leadership Subcommittee Chair*

Leading. Learning. Mentoring. Growing. If you began this New Year with a desire to grow or to make an impact, we have the opportunity for you! The Mentoring & Leadership Subcommittee has been working feverishly developing the 2021 NEAFCS Leadership Experience and the wait is almost over!



The NEAFCS Leadership Experience is comprised of two components. First, a cohort of mentees will participate in four monthly interactive zoom sessions. In the first session, mentees will learn to lead themselves, developing trust in self, identifying strengths and communication styles. Next, mentees will learn to lead in their communities, discussing relationship-building, being vulnerable, and building teams. Mentees will also learn to lead as FCS professionals, focusing on collaborating, measuring impact and developing their brand. Finally, mentees will learn to lead within NEAFCS, learning the structure of NEAFCS, what leadership entails and how to dream bigger, taking steps that may be scary.

The second component of the NEAFCS Leadership Experience is the one-on-one mentoring. Mentors will work with their mentees to determine goals for their relationships and will share their own experiences, challenges and victories as mentor and mentee grow together. Mentors will participate in one of two mentor trainings in August, then the eight-month mentor/mentee portion begins in September. These relationships officially continue until April 2022; however, we hope they last a lifetime!

We are looking for NEAFCS members who are ready to grow as either mentors or mentees. Applications will open on February 1st. For more information, feel free to contact me at [lucasg@missouri.edu](mailto:lucasg@missouri.edu).