

## Central Region Update

*Vanessa Hoines (ND), Central Region Director*

Greetings from the Central Region! Check out the updates from a few of the central states. It's time to register for Annual Session. You won't want to miss it.

Indiana - Jay Christiansen

Purdue Extension has been able to dramatically increase the number of Hoosiers participating in Extension Programming through virtual and in-person events. In the Health and Human Sciences Program Area, we are swiftly responding to the evolving needs of Hoosiers. During the last year, our educators and specialist have created new programs focusing on foods and nutrition, health and wellness, human development, and financial resource management. One of our recent highlights is a new Podcast offered by our colleagues called "Bite by Bite, Nutrition for Life."



Nebraska - Lynn DeVries

The Nebraska affiliate met this past summer for a professional development day over zoom, as we continued to navigate working from home during the pandemic. The day included the following topics:

- Communications & Media Designing Tips with Seth Teager - Seth showed us new ways to design eye catching marketing materials to help enhance and promote programs
- UNL Print, Copy, Merchandising, & Mail Service
- Photography Tips with Dave - A picture is one of the best ways to tell our stories in Extension. Dave Ostdiek helped us learn how to take the best pictures to better tell our stories and capture our programs

Nebraska is also working to update their constitution. We will meet in October for our annual meeting, hopefully in person this year.

Kansas - Teresa Hatfield

Kansas is working on ways to promote Family and Consumer Science to our youth. We have formed a small task force to explore ways to encourage young people to consider FCS as a career path. The group will be looking for ways to better connect FCS with 4H, including participating in special programs and update judging contest kits. We are also looking at ways to connect K-State University to our association to better get the message out about the career opportunities that are available.

Missouri – Amy Bartels

The Missouri Affiliate has been busy this year updating our bylaws to better reflect the structure of NEAFCS, including some changes in our nomination process. We have also included mentoring opportunities by adding an apprentice to each committee. The apprentice serves one year under the committee chair learning the role of that committee with the purpose of growing individuals into leadership within our affiliate.