

NEAFCS Endowment Offers Benefits to Members

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There are advantages of a significant and growing endowment to the NEAFCS board officers, fundraiser committee, and our management company. Here is a list of some benefits:



- **Creates an ongoing source of income.** Because a permanent endowment is an invested pool of money that provides a reliable source of income in perpetuity, the organization can count on annual distributions for its members and the scholarships they apply for and receive. The donor or board of directors may design funds for our endowment. Appropriate investment and spending policies will preserve the endowment's purchasing power.
- **Enhances stability and prestige.** A well-managed endowment sends a message of planned long-term stability, fiscal responsibility, and financial viability. It enhances the organization's prestige and credibility.
- **Relieves pressure on the membership funds.** Annual membership costs tend to rise along with the cost of providing services and operating the organization. Still, the ability of the annual budget to meet increasing demand is not limitless. An endowment can provide annual support for the organization's operating budget.
- **Allows program expansion.** NEAFCS program expansion can be funded with distributions from the endowment funds used for scholarships with project proposals due May 15th and Annual Awards and for other purposes designated by individual members or recommended by the board of directors.
- **Provides independence.** Endowment contributions designated for specific purposes can provide a measure of independence from economic, governmental, and political forces. Consider donating your income tax refund or in memory of a former member, friend, or family member.
- **Offers flexibility for NEAFCS management.** Endowments offer options to meet new challenges by providing greater financial flexibility and self-sustaining income streams. Endowments can augment uncertain income sources, broaden the overall revenue mix, and improve the income statement.
- **Builds a pipeline of future gifts.** A growing endowment builds a pipeline of gifts that will mature in the future. An organization that attracts deferred gifts and celebrates the love for our national Extension, FCS organization enhances our future financial security and positions NEAFCS to enjoy increasingly larger gifts.
- **Encourages outright gifts.** Outright gifts and other planned gifts are being encouraged as we build our NEAFCS endowment. Members and retirees who have decided to make an endowment gift to the organization are likely also to make gifts to the organization's other campaigns.

As NEAFCS members contribute to the endowment fund in 2023 and yearly, it provides numerous benefits to members for awards and scholarships, which enhance our professional development and our ability to receive recognition for the excellent Family and Consumer Sciences Extension education work we do in communities that impact families across the US.