## What is the Leadership Experience? Why Should I Care?

Joy West (AR), Mentoring and Leadership Committee Chair and Elizabeth Martin (LA), Mentoring and Leadership Committee Member

The NEAFCS Leadership Experience application is open! Now is the time to strengthen your leadership skills by applying to become a mentee or mentor.

Of the many opportunities NEAFCS offers, participating in the Leadership Experience may be the most beneficial to you. This program helps you develop the skills and confidence you need to improve your leadership skills or to impact the career of someone else.

## The Need for the Leadership Experience

The Mentoring and Leadership Committee mission is to address the need for more leaders in NEAFCS. **Through interviews and** 

research, the committee noticed a common problem, lack of confidence in leadership abilities. As a

result, the Leadership Experience program was developed to combat this issue and grow leaders from within the association.

This program enhances the opportunities and skills for Mentees by providing guidance, support, encouragement, and empowerment needed for a successful career. A mentee is a member of NEAFCS who desires to grow as an individual, as an FCS professional, and as a leader within NEAFCS and Extension. This is done by focusing on developing skills in self-confidence, self-esteem, job satisfaction, work-life balance, and more. A mentor is a leader within NEAFCS who desires to share their knowledge and passion for NEAFCS, FCS, and the Extension land grant mission.

It provides valuable networking opportunities and encourages personal and professional growth by outlining practical and valuable leadership skills in the areas of:

- Leading Yourself
- Leading in Your Community/Others
- Leading in Family and Consumer Sciences
- Leading in NEAFCS

Mentees are matched with an experienced Mentor. A mentor is a leader within NEAFCS who desires to share their knowledge and passion for NEAFCS, FCS, and the Extension land grant mission. They often find they are also renewing their own inspiration to grow as Extension professionals by

gaining new insights from their Mentee.

The NEAFCS Leadership Experience encourages networking, personal and professional growth, boosting one's confidence level, and learning from experience. Are you ready to strengthen your leadership while also strengthening our profession? Now is the time to apply for the NEAFCS Leadership Experience! **The application portal will close on March 1**st.

NEW: For more information on the NEAFCS Leadership Experience, visit:

**Leadership Experience Booklet.** 

To apply, visit: NEAFCS Leadership Experience Application



