



National Extension Association  
of Family and Consumer Sciences

# IMPACT 2020

Through Extension programs across the nation, Family and Consumer Science Extension Educators provide a multitude of educational opportunities to meet the needs of diverse audiences.

## Healthy Homes Environments

### Indoor Air Quality and Pollutants

**Radon Education** - Radon is astonishingly under-recognized as a health hazard. **Georgia** has no regulations related to radon. We need to educate the public about the risk of lung cancer and actions they can take to reduce the risk. In 2019, we distributed 2,100 test kits, 65% of which were used.



State	Radon-Induced Lung Cancer Deaths per Year	Rank
Georgia	822	1
Tennessee	693	2
Florida	668	3
Kentucky	600	4
North Carolina	435	5
Alabama	391	6
South Carolina	221	7
Mississippi	113	8

*"Please educate as many people as you can. Very important information." "You have a great resource that a lot of people don't know about." - University of Georgia, Radon Education Participant*



### Home Safe Homes

**Youth Safety Day in Oklahoma** - The most common household chemical exposures in children under six are cosmetics, personal care products, and analgesic drugs.

Through seven Youth Safety Days reaching 1,450 students, evaluation data show that 83% of youth know how to properly store chemicals in the home.

### Conserving Resources and Money

**Energy Efficiency in a Backpack:** **Florida** offered 32 workshops reaching 320 participants with simple and economical ways to evaluate their home energy and water usage, decrease consumption, and save money. A post-class test indicated that 93% (287 of 309) of the participants learned two new ways to conserve home energy such as raising thermostats in the summer to 78 degrees and checking homes for proper insulation.

*Common knowledge should not be assumed - communication is key. - RentWise Client*

**Minnesota's** RentWise curriculum trainings were taught to professionals representing 94 communities and 25 agencies. The curriculum helps individuals be successful renters, highlighting the importance of communication. From 2017-2019, 98% of participants indicated they felt prepared to teach renter education to their clients.

Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart



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**Collective Impact** - has been widely adopted as an effective form of cross-sector collaboration to address complex social problems. In 2019 FCS convened various stakeholders to implement five of the key elements to improve safe, affordable housing in Marion, **Ohio**.

Whitney's programming formed strategies to build countywide collaborations. She was the driving force behind the "Impact Assembly" that was attended by over 100 people and a key leader in educating community partners on the principles of the collective impact framework.



### Healthy Home Practices

**Mississippi** State Extension received requests from communities to receive contact hours for Healthy Home Solutions. 100% of the sixty participants indicated that they gained knowledge and will help support children, youth, and families.

*"A must have educational course providing necessary information." - Partner Agency Quote about Healthy Homes Solutions*

As part of the Hepatitis-A outbreak across **West Virginia**, WVU Extension partnered with local health departments to teach proper handwashing skills. Over 50 citizens were reached with this information.

### **Minnesota -Cottage Food: Keep it Safe! Keep it Legal!**

From pickles to cakes, 4100 Minnesota cottage food producers find niche markets for homemade food. Because of Extension's food safety course, 86% vow to implement positive safe food handling practices to reduce foodborne illness or food allergic reactions.



*"I found this course to be very informative. I especially found the resources most helpful. I had some questions coming into the course, but feel I gained way more understanding about things that I hadn't thought of yet!"*

*This report was compiled by Sonya McDaniel, CFLE, Oklahoma State University Extension, Public Affairs Education Subcommittee member, and Mary Liz Wright, MS, University of Illinois Extension, Vice President for Public Affairs. For more information, email [maryliz@illinois.edu](mailto:maryliz@illinois.edu).*

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