



Affiliate Annual Report Form

Please return this form by August 1 of each year to your Region Director.

State/Territory: Montana/Western Region Date: August 9, 2016
Person Completing Form: Lisa Terry Phone: 406-322-8035

Accomplishments: (Please list major accomplishments for the period of August 1 – July 31)

Our affiliate accomplishments for this year include planning for annual session in Big Sky, Montana. The planning process has been tedious due to our small membership numbers, however, we have had success in recruiting additional support from our 4-H and AG Agents state-wide. We believe the event will be highly successful.

Additional State-Wide Accomplishments:

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

PTC has become a sustained MSU Extension program. Since 2006 MSU Extension has trained more than 115 class leaders. The Montana Lifespan Respite Coalition has adopted PTC as the primary educational program for caregivers. They created a professionally made PSA for radio and television promoting PTC with testimonials from former participants.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Montana was ranked in the Top 10 of states providing services and support for grandfamilies. Although there is still work to be done, the collaborations with the Montana DPHHS, OPI and AARP Montana and the Montana GRG Project have made it possible for Montana to be in the top 10.

Montana GRGs save the State of Montana money. Current best estimates from the Montana GRG Project find that Montana grandparents raising grandchildren save the State of Montana more than \$200,000/day in foster care payments. This is because most GRG are doing informally outside of the State child welfare system.

Member Resources:

As the chair-elect of the NEAFCS exhibit sub-committee of the national member resources committee, I was able to help secure three new vendors/exhibitors for the annual session. Those new vendors are: Cream of the West, Western Dairy Association and the Montana Bison Association. Additionally, our membership has grown to one of its largest memberships to date.

Awards & Recognition:

Community Partnership Award

2nd Place Western Region Winner – Sandra Bailey and team, Western, Montana

Communications Award: Photography

3rd Place National Winner – Lisa Terry, Western, Montana

1st Place Western Region Winner – Lisa Terry, Western, Montana

Submit this form to your Regional Director and the
NEAFCS National Office, 325 John Knox Rd. Suite L103 Tallahassee, FL 32303
Fax: (850) 222-3019, Email: djessup@executiveoffice.org

Communications Award: Written Press Releases

1st Place Western Region Winner – Jane Wolery, Western, Montana

Communication Award: Internet Education Technology

2nd Place Western Region Winner – Jane Wolery, Western, Montana

Communications Award: Radio/Podcast

1st Place Western Region Winner – Jane Wolery and team, Western, Montana

Public Affairs:

Other Special Projects: (Anything you would like to brag about):

Montana represents one of the most rural U.S. states, with 76% of its 989,415 people living in “frontier” (less than 6 people per square mile) or rural areas in 2010, where uninsured rates are among the highest in the country. Although Montana’s cardiovascular disease rates have declined similarly to the U.S., CVD remains the leading cause of death in Montana and risk factors are on the rise, including overweight/obesity, high cholesterol, hypertension, and diabetes.

To combat this problem, Montana FCS Agents with the help of Cornell and Tufts University conducted a 6 month long research study entitled, “Strong Hearts for Montana”. This was a pilot program which will be offered nationally as soon as research data has been collected and analyzed by our program leaders.

We were selected to present this program as a poster session at our annual session in Big Sky, Montana in September of 2016.

Concerns from your State: (Concerns for the NEAFCS Board)

The online awards application process has some areas of need of improvement. For example, if one wishes to edit their current award document, they have to resubmit ALL previous documents. We feel this potentially caused some of our award applications not to be submitted. Awards application process is not user friendly.

The state of CES in your state:

Our budget is currently stable and we were given 99% of what our director asked for in the legislative session. We have a few vacancies but those are being filled at an exceptional rate. We are in need of a housing specialist for which a national search is underway.