



Affiliate Annual Report Form

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

Please return this form by December 31st of each year to your Regional Director and a copy to the National Office.
This report should cover anything that has occurred between January 1 and December 31 of the current year.

State/Territory: Minnesota Date: 3/2/21
Person Completing Form: Suzanne Driessen Phone: 320-203-6057

What accomplishments/progress has your Affiliate made in the past year? (Consider member resources, awards and recognition, public affairs, etc.)

With the new Minnesota Active membership option available to SNAP-Ed Coordinators, SNAP-Ed Educators, Community Nutrition Educators (CNEs) and Financial Capability Educators, we started the year with an all member online meeting to discuss and brainstorm ideas for how we could reach new members. Many ideas were shared and ultimately a NEAFCS-MN Affiliate – 2020 Membership Recruitment Google sheet was created to keep track of potential new members and who would contact them. More work will continue in this area. In 2019-20, our membership includes 12 members; 9 are NEAFCS Active and 3 are NEAFCS Minnesota Active.

The NEAFCS Annual Session was held virtually. To encourage more participation from our affiliate, the Board brought forth a motion to utilize available professional development monies through the NEAFCS-MN Quasi-Endowment Fund. An Ad Hoc Scholarship Committee was invited to determine criteria, scholarship amounts and timeline. A total of ten Minnesota members and Trish Olson, administrative liaison, attended the Annual Session.

The NEAFCS-MN Executive Board voted to contribute \$1,000 (\$200/year for five years) to the NEAFCS Educational Awards Endowment Fund. This fund provides stable, continuing resources for targeted projects such as awards and fellowships, marketing efforts and public issues education on the national level.

Professional Development: The 2020 NEAFCS-MN Affiliate Professional Development Day was held on July 28th as an online event with forty-eight people registered for the event. The event had been planned as an in-person event, however, plans changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Speakers for the event included Liz Heimer, Specialist for Public Policy and Advocacy, American Lung Association who shared information related to vaping; and Laura Palombi, PharmD, MPH, MAT, Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy who discussed approaches in opioid and substance use projects within the University of Minnesota and University of Minnesota Extension. The committee felt it was important to include some fun and engaging activities to maintain the spirit of our past professional development events. A scavenger hunt and an energizer break, as well as door prize drawings enhanced the engagement. Of the participants involved, 36.36% were members, 63.63% indicated they were not members. There were several non-members that asked to receive membership information.

What are your Affiliate's goals for the next 12 months?

- Engage and involve 100% of the membership
- Update bylaws and policy and procedures
- Create a plan for use of affiliated endowment fund

What challenges do Cooperative Extension and/or Family & Consumer Sciences face in your state?

- Funding deficits
- Programming outside of expertise and discipline ie. COVID vaccine education, opioid
- Technology skills lacking

To assist NEAFCS in future planning and communication, please list concerns your Affiliate has for the NEAFCS Board to address: