



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: 12/16/2025
Person Completing Form: Susie West Phone: 435-363-6557

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

2025 was a big year for the Minnesota Affiliate; we submitted 10 award applications and received 4 national awards, along with all of our award applicants receiving regional awards. Affiliate members assisted each other through job transitions and job loss, and supported partners through the impacts of federal changes and disruptions to services. Nearly all of our members contributed to, or were on teams that submitted impact statements on a wide variety of programming areas, showing the breadth and depth of the affiliate's work and how it is making a difference for Minnesotans. Some of this work was also shared at national conferences, in journal publications, and at statewide opportunities. We shared about NEAFCS at multiple departmental meetings and at the UMN All Extension Conference.

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

- Engage annual and life members
- Continue growing the membership for our affiliate
- Maintain high levels of affiliate award applications
- 100% of members contribute to impact statements
- Increase NEAFCS visibility within UMN Extension
- Send at least 2 members to the Annual Session
- Support the growth and development of FCS professionals within and outside our affiliate through relevant materials, professional development, and outreach
- Engage members to become part of national committees, act as reviewers, and conduct a webinar

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

- Changes to federal funding via SNAP-Ed resulted in the major loss of many FCS staff and programs
- Decreased capacity to provide state-wide programming and support
- Rapidly changing landscape of many FCS initiatives and program areas
- Fewer, more variable, and more competitive funding streams
- Eroding public trust of institutions and expertise

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

Our Affiliate's biggest concern is probably that, despite some of our most robust outreach efforts in recent years, our membership has remained about the same. There are a couple of factors that are contributing to this:

- **Burnout:** Many members are serving on multiple committees, holding multiple positions, and/or rotating through leadership positions regularly because of the small numbers...this has led to burnout among those who serve in those roles and **prevented previous members from rejoining.**
- **Relevance:** In our department, we currently have access to a limited amount of professional development funds that can be used to cover the cost of joining professional organizations. Colleagues are joining professional organizations that have more resources and opportunities that are better aligned with their professional goals.