



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.

Financial Management

Most American families don't have the necessary skills to manage or stretch today's financial resources. Extension Family and Consumer Sciences educators provide training and support in the areas of financial literacy, personal financial management, resource management, and general economic well-being that address these issues.

Estate, Legacy, Credit Counseling

Montana: During 2019 there were 58 estate/legacy planning programs presented across the state of Montana by the Family Economics Specialist. As a result of the program: 96% of participants indicated they would place beneficiary designations on their financial accounts.

Wisconsin: The Credit Report Campaign encouraged individuals to check their free credit reports three times a year. It also provided them with enough educational resources for understanding credit. In addition to email reminders, 7,000 learners visited the website in 2019 to access the resources.

Tennessee: UT Extension-FCS reached 786 individuals for bankruptcy-counseling and education. These included 91,061 contacts made through direct-financial programming and 1,431,202 through media and exhibits. Financial education served by aiding families in using credit wisely and offering resilience in the face of hardships.

"I know what to look for when I comparison shop health insurance options."



"I used to hate the idea of financial management. Now that I understand it more, it's not so overwhelming."

Financial Management (Basic)

California: Building financial security training in Riverside County helped 42% of low-income food insecure people learn basic money management skills. SNAP-Ed (CFHL, UC) Plan, Shop, Save, Cook curriculum helped participants make improvement

Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart



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in food resource management skills: 47% more often compare prices; 43% shop with a list; and 44% more food secure.

Michigan: Ninety-two percent of clients who completed financial management counseling saved their home. Of those, 72% utilized the Hardest Hit Fund program to bring their mortgage or property taxes current and 20% modified to an affordable payment or entered a forbearance agreement.



West Virginia: FDIC Money Smart program was introduced 3 times to 24 people. The program helped students complete a spending assessment, saving plan, identify needs vs. wants, complete a budget and identify a tool they can use in daily lives to stick to their budget.

Oklahoma is the 37th nationally in households without savings accounts and subprime credit. Adult participants gain valuable personal financial skills after attending the checks and balance sessions. The post evaluation data revealed that 91% increase in intent to improve financial planning and responsible money management practices.

"A thing I plan to change as a result of participating in the program is to open a savings account and start saving." - Middle School student participant in Real Money Real World

Money Management Skill

Florida: 43% of households in Orange County struggle financially to obtain basic necessities, despite being employed. After completing a money management workshop, 75% of program participants gained knowledge of financial terms, and strategies to make informed decisions about personal finance, debt and saving.

Indiana: participants strengthened their skills to discover their "spending leaks", identify their financial priorities, and then make a spending plan based on their resources after attending "Where Does Your Money Go? Sessions.

Home buying Skills (Online Education)

Utah: 517 of the 565 participants from 42 states completed the online course, which is one of 3 online USDA Rural Housing designation courses approved nationally. Additionally, there were 6 in-person classes to 53 people.

"This program has eased my mind and calmed me down. Now, I know I can do this. I knew nothing about home buying before today. Now I feel I'm ready to start fixing my credit and get the process started."

This report was compiled by Lila Karki, Tuskegee University, Public Affairs Education Subcommittee member, and Mary Liz Wright, MS University of Illinois Extension Service, Vice President for Public Affairs. For more information, email maryliz@illinois.edu.

National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) provides professional development for Extension professionals who improve the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities and provide education in the areas of: Childhood Obesity Prevention; Community Health and Wellness; Diabetes Prevention and Management; Financial Management; Food and Nutrition; Food Safety; Healthy Homes and the Environment; Improving Children's Lives; and Protecting our Resources – Family Life. NEAFCS is an equal opportunity/affirmative action association. NEAFCS values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation. Membership is not by invitation. (Strategic Plan 1993-97)