

FCS SRPLN Conference Call
November 7, 2013
9:00 a.m. CST/10:00 a.m. EST

Minutes

1. Chair Brian Calhoun called the meeting to order. Debbie Murray called the roll with the following participating in the conference call:

Alabama: Jatunn Gibson

Arkansas

Florida: Michael Gutter

Georgia: Debbie Murray

Kentucky: Joanne Bankston, Kristopher Grimes, Ann Vail, Cherry Kay Smith

Louisiana: Karen Overstreet and Gina Eubanks

Mississippi:

North Carolina: Gladys Shelton

Oklahoma: Jorge Atilas and Dorothy Wilson

South Carolina: Susan Barefoot

Tennessee:

Texas: Jenna Anding and Jacquelyn White

Virginia: Brian Calhoun

Virgin Islands:

West Virginia:

Advisors: Gina Eubanks

USDA-NIFA: Sylvia Montgomery

2. Welcome new state program leaders Cherry Kay Smith, Kentucky and Michael Gutter, University of Florida
3. Approval of Minutes: Gladys Shelton suggested that the minutes be reviewed, edited and sent via email for approval.
4. Overview of Plan of Work and August Meeting:
The benefits of eXtension to FCS was discussed. If it is not of benefit as it is, how can it be improved? It was recommended that a letter be devised to be sent to the administrators.
5. Update from Advisor: Gina Eubanks
 - The Association of Extension Administrators is working on a professional development academy for the entire system.
 - Snap ED conversations are being held by administrators. The assessments were sent on Nov. 6.
 - eXtension is in transition, there will be changes.
 - We need to provide administrators with information when requested- it is important to provide information that shows our value.
6. Update from SRDC: Rachel Welborn was not on call so an update was not given.
7. Update from NIFA: Sylvia Montgomery provided a report on behalf of Beverly Samuels. Beverly had sent her report prior to the meeting to all listserv members via email.

Master Family and Consumer Sciences Volunteer Program will be launched by the end of January 2014. One complimentary toolkit, which contains 3 modules with 13 lessons, will be

available to each land grant institution in every state. A webinar, presented by Dr. Mike Vogel of Montana State University and Beverly Samuel from NIFA, is scheduled for January 15, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (EST) to advertise this to the Cooperative Extension System. This webinar is in collaboration with National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Additional information will be forthcoming about this webinar soon. Additional information is included about this program in the report below.

January is **National Radon Action Month** and a webinar is scheduled for January 8, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. (EST), sponsored by Division of Family and Consumer Sciences at NIFA. Kristy Miller of Environmental Protection Agency will be the guest presenter in collaboration with Beverly Samuel, NIFA's National Program Leader for Housing and Community Living to share tips and strategies for addressing radon. The webinar is free and targeted to the Cooperative Extension System. Additional information will be available by next week.

All Family and Consumer Sciences leaders were sent the notes from the **Listening Session held at Galaxy IV**. This feedback will be utilized by the division staff for planning and addressing needs identified. This report was sent by e-mail on October 28 from Beverly Samuel.

The following is the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual Report presented to the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP).

**USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
Division of Family & Consumer Sciences
Examples of Extension Impacts/Highlights
Report to ECOP
FY13**

The NIFA Division of Family & Consumer Sciences strengthens families, farms, communities, and the economy through applied science and investments in research to understand how people can improve their well-being and quality of living while functioning in family, farm, community, regional, national, and global contexts. Programs focus on rural vitality, financial capability, nutrition and health literacy, home safety, energy efficiency, child and family resiliency, and disaster preparedness and response. The division promotes the human sciences in NIFA priority areas through research, education, and Extension programs. DFCS programs account for over 25% of formula funds expenditures in partnership with the LGU System, as well as millions of dollars annually in federally-reimbursable agreements.

The Family & Consumer Sciences portfolio focuses on the following 5 goals:

1. *Advancing rural communities, farms, and economies*
2. *Increasing financial capability and consumer decision-making*
3. *Enhancing nutrition, health, and wellness*
4. *Enhancing quality of home and community living*
5. *Supporting healthy child and family development*

NIFA Grant to Develop Youth Farm Safety Curriculum

NIFA awarded \$600,000 to Pennsylvania State University to develop a national training curriculum that lessens agricultural hazards to youth workers. The training will align with Career Cluster Standards (CCS) of the National Council for Agricultural Education for a unified approach to a national farm safety education and curricula-certification program for youth. The project will establish a national steering committee to engage the Department of Education, Department of Labor, FFA, Farm Bureau, Farmers Union, Ag Safety and Health Council of America, National Council for Ag Education and other relevant partners. The committee will work to identify curriculum and testing gaps, certification needs and industry-recognized credentials. Curriculum materials will be placed on the eXtension website in the *Ag Safety and Health CoP* to be used in both formal and non-formal settings. A national outreach strategy will promote use of the curriculum from youth and farm safety instructors to parents and 4-H youth programs. Additionally, the project will determine the resources required to sustain a clearinghouse for national youth farm safety and education curriculum, state certification requirements and testing. Penn State's partners on this project include the Ohio State University, University of Kentucky, Utah State University, and CareerSafe. NIFA made the award through the Youth Farm Safety Education and Certification (YFSEC) Program, which was established in 2001 in response to the need for alignment between youth vocational agricultural program curricula and youth agricultural safety and health standards.

AgrAbility: A Support Network Brings Services to Agricultural Workers with Disabilities

Farmers with severe illnesses or disabilities are often unable to continue to work in a manner they are accustomed to, resulting in reduced productivity and increased chance of secondary injury. AgrAbility program at NIFA seeks to enhance quality of life for farmers, ranchers and other agricultural workers with disabilities by providing funding for two project types -- *State and Regional AgrAbility Projects (SRAPs)* and the *National AgrAbility Project (NAP)*. *SRAPs* (funded for up to 4 years) are cooperative projects in which State Cooperative Extension Services at 1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Institutions collaborate with non-profit disability services organizations to build capacity on regional and state levels to meet the needs of agricultural workers with disabilities through education, information on assistive technology solutions, networking, direct assistance, and marketing of services and resources. The primary function of *NAP* is to support *SRAPs* in developing their capacity to meet these objectives. In FY 2013, NIFA awarded close to \$4 million to support the existing *NAP* at Purdue University, 17 *SRAPs* eligible for continuation, and 3 new *SRAPs*.

FY 13 Extension Outreach on the Marketplace Exchanges of the Affordable Care Act (MEACA) partnership grant opportunity between the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and NIFA, awarded a one year cooperative agreement to the University of Georgia to function as the lead institution in implementing a program of outreach and education in cooperation with 11 other institutions.

Military Families Portfolio Update

Over the past year, we have continued the DoD/USDA Military Extension Partnership with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) as well as our Family & Consumer partnerships with Army, Army Reserves, Air Force, and garrison-level commands. Our FY 13 funding totaled over \$18 million for these projects. There were several new partnerships and projects we established over the year as well. To illustrate, a new Memorandum of Understanding was established between the US Coast Guard (USCG) and NIFA to partner with our colleagues at LGUs and in Cooperative Extension to deliver education and support to meet the needs of USCG families, children, and youth, particularly those that are geographically dispersed. We have two additional interagency agreements in development with US Army Public Health Command and US Special Operations Command. Additionally, within our partnership with DoD, we established a program to develop curriculum for early care and education. In April 2013, DoD, USDA, and the National Family Association partnered with the Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University to launch the *How to Help Military and Veteran Families*, a set of guides for various audiences that assist and support members of the military, veterans and their families.

Cooperative Extension Continues to Strengthen Rural Prosperity through Projects in Rural Health and Safety Education

Rural Health and Safety Education (RHSE) competitive grants program at NIFA focuses on supporting outreach programming efforts of the Land-Grant University and Cooperative Extension system aimed at enhancing the quality of life in rural United States through health and safety education and health promotion activities. In FY 2013, NIFA awarded over \$1.3 million through the RHSE program. Seven new projects receiving RHSE funding will address health and safety education needs in rural U.S. by engaging youth of rural Alaska in healthy living activities through 4-H mentoring program built on a positive youth development framework; improving health literacy among non-native English speakers in rural Alabama; improving wellness and health among women in rural Pennsylvania through an evidence-based exercise and nutrition program; developing and implementing community-based health promotion initiatives across 4 districts of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota; training Extension Wellness Ambassadors to deliver health and nutrition education across rural Arkansas; improving health literacy and behaviors related to chronic disease prevention among adults ages 50 and older in rural and frontier North Dakota; and optimizing mental health of children in rural Texas through positive behavior training and support for childcare providers serving children ages 0-5.

Job growth through NCRCRD

The **Michigan State University**-led North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD), in its 12-state coordinating role, developed a set of common benchmarks for programming to enhance job retention and growth in the region. NCRCRD's highly acclaimed webinar series helped stakeholders identify best practices in rural economic and community development. The North Central region has documented over 32,000 jobs created or saved as a result of NCRCRD programs. As an example, **University of Wisconsin Extension** helped 3 counties merge their economic development efforts, which resulted in \$2 million in business assistance grants, \$15 million in private investment in local businesses, and 450 new jobs.

e-BEAT gets Mississippi connected

Mississippians rank digital literacy as one of their greatest needs. Mississippi State University Cooperative Extension and the Southern Region Rural Development Center's e-BEAT deliver a variety of programs that introduce Internet applications to multiple audiences, including local government, community organizations, small businesses, and the public. Face-to-face and online programs teach people why broadband Internet is important and how they can implement technology to better their lives. Cooperative Extension team members have worked with state agency partners to carry out technical assistance activities, including wireless provider/carrier interactions, small city/town Wi-Fi projects, individual/small business access assistance, and business development.

Trade Adjustment and Assistance for Farmers

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Farmers is a National multifaceted Extension program that provided technical assistance and financial assistance to agricultural producers and fishermen who were adversely affected by import competition. TAA provided training targeted at helping producers: increase profitability, improve production efficiency, consider marketing alternatives and evaluate alternative enterprises. The final component of the TAA program provided participants the opportunity develop a business adjustment plan. Participants with approved plans received financial assistance to support implementing changes outlined in their plans to adjust to import competition. The TAA program was successfully delivered to 10,983 producers across the nation. A Journal of Extension article is forthcoming on this work.

Master Family & Consumer Sciences Volunteer Program is a NIFA DFCS national initiative that is a response to a critical need to maximize program delivery through training volunteers to support educational outreach. This program affords opportunities to enhance existing and recruit new volunteers through core training to increase their effectiveness in working collaboratively with Family & Consumer Sciences educators to serve communities. The Master Family & Consumer Sciences Volunteer Program brings all existing state volunteer initiatives under one national umbrella program, and it includes a component for tracking volunteer contributions. This initiative was developed through a partnership of USDA NIFA's Division of Family & Consumer Sciences with Montana State University and will be available for dissemination in January 2014.

Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) has leveraged international resources to support disasters through a partnership with Bicol University in the Philippines. Bicol University is the first international member of EDEN through a 3-year pilot to foster reciprocal support of disaster resources and expertise. Two delegates from the Philippines and a visiting participant from Tokyo attended the recent 2013 National EDEN Conference. As a result of the EDEN 2011 Conference, the Philippines faculty has already adapted the Family Disaster Preparedness curriculum and is conducting research with 25 families on its effectiveness. The results of this research will help EDEN in working with limited resource families on disaster preparedness. This collaboration allows for both entities to share knowledge and research and maximize limited resources. USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture supports EDEN through the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative funding.

Healthy Homes Partnership links the resources of the USDA NIFA Land Grant Universities with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control for a public outreach program to reduce housing deficiencies and risks

associated with childhood diseases and injuries. These efforts supported through funding by HUD enabled Extension staff in multiple states to conduct training which mobilized individual actions and improved environmental decision-making skills among millions of consumers.

Smart Phone App for Disasters

North Dakota State University Agriculture Communication and Myriad Devices of Fargo were honored Sept. 24 as a White House Champion of Change for Community Preparedness and Resilience for creating two disaster education mobile phone apps, which were funded through USDA NIFA Smith-Lever Special Needs Competitive Grants Program administered through Division of Family & Consumer Sciences. The Champions of Change Program was created as part of President Obama's *Winning the Future* initiative, according to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions>. The program celebrates Americans, who are preparing communities for disasters and helping them respond and recover, bringing together members of the community – private businesses, local government, community and faith-based organizations, and citizens to make a difference.

Financial Literacy and Education Commission (FLEC)

20 federal agencies are collaborating on financial literacy. <http://www.mymoney.gov> is a clearing house for financial information. Minutes of meetings of the commission are available @ <http://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/financial-education/Pages/commission-index.aspx>

Integrating Financial Coaching into Service Delivery for Transitioning Veterans and Economically Vulnerable Consumers: Attachment sent by Beverly Samuels 11/7/13

Call for Papers: *The Journal of Consumer Affairs and the Financial Literacy and Education Commission Special Issue: Starting Early for Financial Success* **due March 16, 2014:**
Attachment sent by Beverly Samuels 11/7/13

8. AFRI Grants and Multi-State Programs Webinar: Krystal Smith was not on call so agenda item was tabled to a later date.

9. FCS SRPLN Web Page: Calhoun and Murray.

We need to make our webpage more current and this will be a priority this coming year.

10. FCS Listserv Update for SRPLN: Murray.

It is important that the FCS Listserv is kept up to date. We do not have a good mechanism for making sure changes in FCS administration is kept up to date.

Old Business:

Murray reminded everyone that Laura Stephenson had sent everyone an email update on the core competencies.

New Business:

Vail reminded everyone that the next meeting is in conjunction with the Board of Human Sciences which will meet March 4-7 in Washington D.C. We will need to request a room. Calhoun will check on getting a room for us to meet.

Vail asked if other states knew anything about the Food Corps <https://foodcorps.org/> Eubanks and Murray indicated they were aware of this effort. Murray reported that UGA was considering submitting a proposal working with a local community and school system.

Minutes taken by
Deborah Murray, secretary.

