

SRPLN FCS State Report 2009

Reporting Institution: University of Florida

Program Highlights of Current Year:

- My Florida Home Book: A Guide for First-time Homebuyers in Florida.
Target audience: first-time homebuyers and those who are considering homeownership.
- The Stressbuster Stress Management Program: this is for a general audience, and the goal is to help develop skills to help manage stress.
- The Autism Spectrum Childcare Provider CEU program – in person version: this is a program targeting childcare providers, and the goals are to teach them to identify, understand, and appropriately work with preschoolers who are on the autism spectrum. This curriculum is to be used by county faculty in-person.
- The Autism Spectrum Childcare Provider CEU program – online version: this program is similar to the above, but will be available online (rather than through county faculty). Still finishing off some recording by Donna Davis, but hopefully will be up and running later this year.
- Building Healthy Families: Parents Working Together: This is a curriculum I have been working on with a professor at USF who has done research in the area of co-parenting. The target audience consists of non-single parents. The goal is to help those parents who have a partner (married or unmarried) work better together as a team in parenting their children. It is a brief curriculum that can be done as a standalone, or inserted with other programs as needed.
- Small Steps to Health and Wealth Lesson Plans - We created nine lesson plans to accompany the Small Steps to Health and Wealth Program created at Rutgers University. Our lesson plans are now available online at the SSHW website; all of Extension received an announcement. Multiple counties across Florida plan to implement the program during 2009-2010. SSHW targets adults of all backgrounds.
- Managing in Tough Times Downsized - As a follow up and compliment to the popular flipbook a State-County Action Team created a website and several new factsheets to help those dealing with loss of hours, pay cuts, or unemployment. The resources address issues about stress, retirement benefits, and maintaining access to healthcare. The program is for everyone whose employment has been impacted by the economy.
- Get Checking - We are current revising the Get Checking program which focused on those who are unbanked. The program originally created in Milwaukee Wisconsin is being updated to focus on changes to the banking industry and to work with asset building and banking-the-unbanked efforts in Florida and beyond. Already programs such as Bank on St. Pete and the Jacksonville Financial Access Pilot plan to continue using the program in its new form. While many participants are low to moderate income, the program is not restricted to this audience.

Personnel Update: At the state level, we have .70 fte in family finance; .70 fte in housing and built environment; .70 in program planning and evaluation for FCS; 3.6 fte in human development; and 4.2 fte in nutrition and food safety (two of the nutrition fte's are EFNEP and FNP). Currently we have 82 county FCS faculty members. For county positions county budgets are being reviewed and in four counties budget cuts are possible which could impact FCS positions.

Budget Update: The Family, Youth and Community Science Department had a budget cut of 4.2 percent. This resulted in the elimination of a vacant faculty position and the elimination of a secretarial position that supported FCS state faculty members.

New or Unique Collaborations and/or Funding Sources: Collaboration with College of Medicine regarding the Clinical and Translational Science Award: Community Engagement and Research Program.

Contact for Additional Information: Nayda I. Torres; Professor and Chair; University of Florida; 3001 McCarty Hall; P.O. Box 110310; Gainesville, FL 32611-0310 nitorres@ufl.edu 352-273-3541