



# Action & Accomplishments

August, 2017



# Action Items: Ag. & Natural Resources

- **Background:** To foster and strengthen Extension education programming throughout Southern and North Central regions by promoting multistate cooperation, anticipating emerging program issues and needs, and implementing action processes to address them in a timely manner.
- **Committee Involved:** Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)
- **Action Requested:** Support for mission to plan a joint Southern and North Central ANR Program Leaders meeting in 2019 to focus on grant opportunities and extension programming
- **Timeline:** June 2019



# Action Items: Ag & Natural Resources

- **Background:** Identify priorities and strategies for ANR core competency trainings
- **Committee Involved:** Ag. & Natural Resources
- **Action Requested:** Seek approval for a pre-PLN conference retreat for ANR-PLN committee to foster multistate engagement to identify and implement foundational professional development training needed by ANR county extension educators across the southern region, to be funded by registration fees.
- **Timeline:** August 2018



# Action Items: Community Resource Development

- **Background:** Affirming Harwood's presentation, there is a need to delve deeper into how we address issues in our communities, states and region and the need to be more outward-focused to position us for greater success in the future.
- **Committee Involved:** Community & Resource Development
- **Action Requested:** CRD proposes to take the leadership role in engaging the other committees to develop a concept paper and steps to help position Extension for the future. CRD requests administrative endorsement of this initiative.
- **Timeline:** August-December 2017



# Action Items: Communications

- **Background:** ASRED requested the committee develop best management practices for peer-reviewed publications.
- **Committee Involved:** Communications
- **Action Requested:** Review and approval of committee's recommendations for peer-reviewed publication process best practices and peer-reviewer guidelines.
- **Timeline:** Sept. 30, 2017



# Action Items: Middle Managers

- **Background:** eXtension (Terry Meisenbach) approached MM Committee to identify a regional topic for an Impact Collaborative.
- **Committee Involved:** Middle Managers
- **Action Requested:** Accept and endorse process for eXtension to work with all committees to identify the priority topics.
- **Timeline:** As determined by ASRED/AEA and eXtension.



# Action Items: Program & Staff Development

- **Background:** Concerns about the new federal reporting system not aligned with recommendations from panel of experts as it concerns Extension.
- **Committee Involved:** Program and Staff Development
- **Action Requested:** Request that directors and administrators follow up with USDA-NIFA leadership to resolve the misalignment with expert panel recommendations. Such as: knowledge areas, having to do all reporting of impacts by project, classifications that are research based, expecting county agents to all report.



**Timeline:** Fall 2017



# Accomplishments



# Accomplishments: Ag. & Natural Resources

- Held a joint meeting with North Central ANR-PLN held in June 2017.
- Symposium “Helping Southern Farmers Manage Through the Financial Crisis” held Feb 2017 (~70 attendees), 30 authors produced 18 white papers.
- SERA-47 has been established, met several times, and developed and disseminated survey tools.
- Reviewed several state models including the North Central Academy ANR subject matter training and discussed possible joint collaboration.



# Accomplishments: Community Resource Development

- 2016-2017 Indicator and Success Report featuring 14 institutions developed and shared.
- Webinar held to share Return on Investment tool used in Kentucky with other states. At least one other institution has adopted this tool.
- Hosted 10 webinars attended by a combined 241 participants.
- Focus groups on child poverty were held across the South.
- SERA-47 was formed with representation from multiple committees, including CRD.
- Survey of SR program leaders conducted to collect information about CRD capacity, funding sources and programs and shared with NIFA National Program Leader.



# Accomplishments: Communications

- Completed recommendations for best management practices for peer-reviewed publications and will be submitting them to ASRED for review.
- Developed a curriculum competency outline template for communications and marketing for Extension educators and professionals.
- Explored criteria and gathered examples for a model communication award program that could be implemented by each institution for non-communications professionals.
- At FCS' request gave a presentation to the FCS committee about creating “sticky” messages.
- Completed position paper on the value and impact of integrated strategic communications and will share with ASRED and AEA.



# Accomplishments: Family & Consumer Science

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded opportunities: University of Tennessee (1862) and University of Maryland Eastern Shore (1890) were selected for the initial rollout of the Culture of Health partnership.
- Health Specialist Meeting at 2016 SR PLN resulted in the following:
  - NIFA grant award, Rural Health and Safety.
  - Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) collaboration (5 states) that submitted a proposal for funding to CDC. The group is awaiting the final decision.
- Developed FCS Messaging Initiative - developing messages tailored to specific audiences. This is a collaboration of the FCS committee with Communications Committee assistance.
- Developed and implemented FCS Capacity Mapping Project



- Worked with ANR and CRD to support Local Food Systems SERA proposal. Delphi Study was completed that identified the top ten issues facing local food systems in the southern region.



# Accomplishments: 4H & Youth Development

- Conducted Southern Region Teen Leadership Conference
- Conducted State 4-H Program Leader mentoring
- Conducted National Camp & Environmental Education Institute
- Explored 4-H involvement in multidisciplinary rural childhood poverty issues



# Accomplishments: Information Technology

- Collaborated with eXtension's EdTech Learning Network community to develop a comprehensive knowledge base of applied technology solutions with practical application to Extension programming efforts.
- Explored and evaluated professional development opportunities (organizations, conferences) to cultivate and develop Extension IT professionals to meet the growing demands of a dynamic industry and evolving Extension technology landscape.
- Collaborative committee network allowed the surfacing of common issues, including security, infrastructure improvement, service offerings, and provides a responsive environment to seek and receive feedback to benefit represented universities.



# Accomplishments: Middle Managers

- MM Newsletter – Published Quarterly. Written by Middle Managers for Middle Managers and others in Extension leadership roles. Posted on SRPLN Website
- 2017 MM Conference – Asheville NC. 67 SRMMs attended, received world-class leadership training from the Center for Creative Leadership. In-depth sharing of State initiatives such as Competencies for CEDs (Georgia); Onboarding and Mentoring (NC and TN), and other state initiatives.
- Completed update of MM Best Practices doc. Updated a key reference for new District Directors.



# Accomplishments: Program & Staff Development

- Virtual Summer School: Career Advancement training was held in August 2017. Four webinars with 315 participants from across the nation were conducted. Preliminary evaluation results were positive.
- A Program and Staff Development expertise list was developed and will be posted and linked through the PSD committee resources page.
- A directory of internal Extension leadership programs in the southern region was created and will be posted and linked through the PSD committee resources page.
- Agent core competency comparison chart for southern region was developed to show similarities and differences between states. The core competencies were compared across states as a first step toward collaborating on professional development.

