



# 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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: Illinois Date: December 20, 2024  
Person Completing Form: Staci Coussens Phone: 309-862-4041

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

- Largest number of members attended NEAFCS
- **NEAFCS Awards:**
  - Extension Disaster Education Award; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Kristin Bogdonas & Team
  - SNAP-Ed/EFNEP Educational Program Award; 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Caitlin Mellendorf & Team
  - Greenwood Frysinger Award; 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Emily Harmon
  - Florence Hall Award; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Chelsey Byers & Team
- **Central Region Awards:**
  - Communications Educational Publication Award; 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Diane Reinhold & Kristin Bogdonas
  - Communications Internet Education Technology Award; 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Jenna Smith, Mary Liz Wright & Adena Wilson
  - Communications Newsletter Award; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Lisa Peterson & Team
  - Educational Curriculum Package Award; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Chelsey Byers & Molly Hofer
  - Mary W Wells Memorial Diversity Award; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Susan Glassman
  - Program Excellence through Research Award; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Jamie Mahlandt & Team
  - School Wellness Award; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Diane Reinhold & Leah Erke
  - Social Media Education Award; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Jamie Mahlandt
- Concentrated efforts were made to recruit new members from our FCS team with bachelor degrees.
- Installed 3 new officers to our IEAFCS board for 2025

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

The board met on December 4, 2024, and set our meeting dates for the coming year.

- We will be offering two business meetings and a professional development day to our members in 2025. The business meetings will be attached to other statewide meetings.
- The Vice-President Member Resources will be surveying the FCS team members who have not joined IEAFCS to determine what membership benefits would get them to join, so the board can look at what is currently being offered and how it might make some changes to make membership more appealing.
- Affiliate President will attend 2025 NEAFCS Annual Session, with IEAFCS members.

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

- Moving past Extension being the “best kept secret”
- Finding the balance between in-person and virtual programming after the pandemic.
- Duplication of services in our communities.

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

Illinois Extension has no concerns with NEAFCS communication or planning.