



# IMPACT 2020

Through Extension programs across the nation, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Educators provide a multitude of Educational opportunities to meet the needs of diverse audiences.

## Disaster Preparedness

### EDEN

The Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN), created in 1994, is a collaborative multi-state effort by Extension Services across the country to help Extension personnel facilitate preparedness and response services for citizens. Land-grant institutions across the United States and its territories are members of this organization, with each institution appointing EDEN representatives. The EDEN website <http://eden.lsu.edu> is a portal to disaster-related resources for Extension personnel to share with their clientele that will help them prepare for, stay safe during, and recover from disasters. Several disaster-related educational programs are available through EDEN. One example is the Family Preparedness training, a classroom program developed to teach families and individuals how to make family disaster kits, develop a family disaster plan, and be informed about and prepared for various disasters. These resources should be used to help organizations and government fill some of the family and child oriented gaps in state and local disaster plans.

The newly released National Preparedness Goal is defined by five mission areas: Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery. Homeland Security clearly states attainment of the goal requires all levels of government, all types of organizations, and all individuals and communities to be actively seeking the necessary education and

participating in activities supporting national preparedness (United States Department of Homeland Security, 2011). Extension has been most active in the recovery mission of the goal and is in the position to expand involvement into additional mission areas.

### Youth Safety Day

**Oklahoma** ranks third for federally declared disasters. Oklahoma Extension offered their *Youth Safety Day* program seven times in 2019. Eighty-four community partners worked with Extension agents to provide education and skill building to 1450 participants. Evaluation data indicate that 65% of youth have a family meeting place in case of emergency and an additional 28% will talk to their family about finding one.

### Financial Disaster Preparedness

An often overlooked consequence of disaster is the damage done to a family's financial situation. In **Minnesota**, the Extension program, *Financial Disaster Preparedness* identified promising practices from focus groups. Both professionals and community members participated in workshops and webinars. Minnesota Extension Educators worked with 6 community partners to

Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart



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offer this important program nine times to a total of 1074 participants. When surveyed, 86.7% of national webinar participants (n=849) strongly agreed/agreed they would apply what they learned to preparedness efforts.

“The strategies to prepare finances in the event of a disaster will be extremely helpful as we work with underserved audiences.”



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**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)