

**Professional Training (PT) Subcommittee**

**Annual Report – July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015**

**Prepared by Dave Young, Chair, PT Subcommittee**

**USDA-NIFA Nutrition and Health Committee for Program Planning and Guidance**

**Subcommittee Members:**

| <b>Name</b>                       | <b>Title/Representing</b>   | <b>Phone #<br/>Office &amp; Cell</b> | <b>E-mail address</b>  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
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| Carolyn Bird                      | Associate Professor & Family Resource<br>Management Specialist<br>Family and Consumer Sciences<br>North Carolina State University                                     | (919) 513-7793                       | <a href="mailto:carolyn_bird@ncsu.edu">carolyn_bird@ncsu.edu</a>           |
| Suzanne Le Menestrel              | National Program Leader, Youth Development<br>Research, 4-H National Headquarters,<br>Division of Youth & 4-H Institute of Youth,<br>Family & Community<br>NIFA, USDA | (202) 720-2297                       | <a href="mailto:slemenestrel@nifa.usda.gov">slemenestrel@nifa.usda.gov</a> |
| Nicole Peritore                   | Extension Specialist for Family Health<br>Family & Consumer Sciences Extension<br>University of Kentucky  | (859) 257-3802                       | <a href="mailto:Nicole.Peritore@uky.edu">Nicole.Peritore@uky.edu</a>       |
| Mattie Rasco                      | Nutrition Specialist/Expanded Food and<br>Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)<br>Coordinator/Assistant Professor<br>Alcorn State University                           | (601) 877-6281<br>(601) 415-0491     | <a href="mailto:mrasco@alcorn.edu">mrasco@alcorn.edu</a>                   |
| Roberta Riportella,<br>Vice Chair | Kansas Health Foundation<br>Professor of Community Health<br>College of Human Ecology<br>K-State Research and Extension   | (785) 532-1942                       | <a href="mailto:rriporte@k-state.edu">rriporte@k-state.edu</a>             |
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| David Young, Chair                | Professor & Community Health Specialist<br>Extension & College of Nursing<br>Montana State University   | (406) 994-5552<br>(406) 581-4013     | <a href="mailto:dyoung@montana.edu">dyoung@montana.edu</a>                 |

## Goal

“Assist health and nutrition state specialists, county agents, and staff to implement health reform, advance health equity, improve health outcomes and reduce health disparities and to provide consultation and guidance on these issues to the National Program leaders.”

## Objectives

1. To provide interested Extension professionals and staff with ready access to high quality information and resources about the health reform law and health insurance marketplaces so that their constituents can make informed decisions and best choices for themselves and their families;
2. To establish open and productive communication channels with others who are actively engaged in implementing health reform, advancing health equity, improving health outcomes and reducing health disparities.

## Accomplishments

1. Scheduled Conference Calls on the following eight dates: September 8, 2014; October 20, 2014; November 10, 2014; December 8, 2014; January 12, 2015; March 9, 2015; June 8, 2015; June 29, 2015
2. Developed and maintained a list of potential partners for collaboration in achieving the overall goal and objectives of the Professional Training Subcommittee
3. Established communication channels with agencies and organizations working in education and implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) to inform them of Extension’s work in health outreach and education
4. Prepared and distributed a 17 question **Qualtrics Health Literacy Survey** resulting in 32 responses from Extension Offices across 20 states with the following results:
  - a. 41% are directly involved with health literacy education;
  - b. 74% are directly involved with health insurance literacy education;
  - c. 56% are directly involved with financial numeric literacy education;
  - d. 47% of state Extension offices have designated a contact person for ACA education and related Q&As;
  - e. 50% have created publications to be used for health literacy education;
  - f. 43% are collaborating with their Regional HHS/CMS Office in distribution of ACA materials;
  - g. 50% are using the Smart Choice Health Insurance curriculum developed by the University of MD; and,
  - h. 74% would be interested in having health insurance literacy materials stored in one location for sharing.
5. Prepared and distributed a 2<sup>nd</sup> **Qualtrics Survey** resulting in 18 responses summarized as follows:
  - a. 50 percent do not have a designated Affordable Care Act (ACA) – Health Literacy contact person in their state Extension Office
  - b. 22 percent are collaborating with Regional HHS/CMS Offices in distribution of ACA materials
  - c. Most frequently used curriculum – ***Smart Choice Health Insurance***
  - d. Go-to resource locations for information on the ACA and/or health insurance literacy – Kaiser Health News; CMS; healthcare.gov

- e. 59 percent would like to participate in a collaborative workspace like Basecamp or Google; 18 percent said NO and 24 percent were clueless
6. Prepared and distributed a 3<sup>rd</sup> **Qualtrics Survey** consisting of three questions regarding the level of interest in participating in a new interactive repository to facilitate collaboration and discussion on health literacy, health insurance literacy, and/or ACA implementation with the following results:
  - a. Not Interested – 9 responses (13%)
  - b. Not interested at this time – 24 responses (34%)
  - c. Yes, interested in being invited to participate in the new Basecamp – 39 responses (56%)
7. Distributed Information and surveys on the following listservs:
  - a. Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) CoP
  - b. [health@lyris.nifa.usda.gov](mailto:health@lyris.nifa.usda.gov)
  - c. [4hhealthyliving@lyris.nifa.usda.gov](mailto:4hhealthyliving@lyris.nifa.usda.gov)
  - d. [fcsldrs@lyris.nifa.usda.gov](mailto:fcsldrs@lyris.nifa.usda.gov) (FCS Leaders)
  - e. [cfd@lyris.nifa.usda.gov](mailto:cfd@lyris.nifa.usda.gov) (Child and Family Development)
  - f. Family Life Extension Specialists
8. Established **Basecamp** at Kansas State University as a new repository/hub for sharing information on health literacy, health insurance literacy, and/or ACA implementation; approximately 60 individuals are using the new **Basecamp**; examples of materials on **Basecamp** are as follows:
  - a. Be MedWise - medication literacy materials
  - b. A portfolio on health insurance literacy
  - c. A health literacy patient/provider toolkit
  - d. Article on environmental scans
  - e. Eat Healthy Be Active Community Workshops PowerPoint
9. Scheduled an educational webinar for September 10, 2015, working with Creating Healthy Communities CoP, entitled **How Basecamp Works**
10. Reviewed potential overlaps and gaps of the goal and objectives of the Professional Training Subcommittee with respect to the activities of the ECOP Health Implementation Action Teams
11. Participated in the planning and implementation of the 2015 National Health Outreach Conference (NHOC) held in Atlanta, GA, May 6-8, 2015
12. Maintained communication and monitored developments, progress, and status with the following:
  - a. ECOP Health Task Force, **Cooperative Extension's National Framework for Health and Wellness**, and five Health Implementation Action Teams
  - b. ECOP 2015 Core Themes and Related Goals
  - c. ECOP **Monday Morning Minute**
  - d. Healthy Counties Initiative, National Association of Counties (NACo)
  - e. Healthy Communities Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
  - f. Commission to Build a Healthier America, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)
  - g. 2015 National Health Outreach Conference (NHOC) Planning Committee
  - h. Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) Community of Practice (CoP)
  - i. **Smart Choice Health Insurance** © Training
  - j. Financial Security for All (FSA) CoP
  - k. Division of Family & Consumer Sciences, USDA-NIFA
  - l. Enroll America
  - m. Kaiser Health Foundation (KHF)

## **Membership Changes**

1. Cindy Reeves resigned because of job relocation and was replaced by Ahlshia Shipley
2. Suzanne Le Menestrel resigned because of job relocation and no replacement has been made to date

## **Next Steps**

1. Identify a person to replace Suzanne Le Menestrel representing youth; follow up with Sekai Turner, 4-H Youth Development Specialist, North Carolina A&T University
2. Facilitate and improve communication and interaction between the Professional Training Subcommittee, USDA-NIFA, and ECOP Health Implementation Action Teams
3. Encourage increased activity, participation, and engagement on **Basecamp**
4. Continue to explore how Extension can become more engaged, visible, and known in the national health scene as a key player promoting a healthier America (i.e., identify organizations, foundations, agencies, non-profits who should be aware of Extension's **National Framework for Health and Wellness**)
5. Participate in the planning of the 2016 National Health Outreach Conference (NHOC) in Roanoke, VA, April 6-8, 2016

**Evaluation and Public Value Subcommittee  
Annual Report – July 1, 2014 – August 2015  
USDA-NIFA Nutrition and Health Committee for Program Planning and  
Guidance**

**Committee Membership:**

Outgoing Chairperson: Janet Mullins, University of Kentucky

Incoming Co-Chairs:

- Karen Franck, University of Tennessee
- Tamara Warren , Alabama A&M University

Continuing Members:

- Annie Lindsay, University of Nevada
- Beth Olson, University of Wisconsin
- Marilyn Townsend, University of California
- Siew Sun Wong, Oregon State University
- Adelia Bovell-Benjamin, Tuskegee University
- Fatemeh Malekian, Southern University
- Rita Fleming, Tennessee State University
- Shirley Middleton, Alcorn University

New Members:

- Samantha Harden, Virginia Tech
- Novella Ruffin, Virginia State University
- Lisa Franzen-Castle, University of Nebraska
- Sandra Bailey, Montana State University
- Emily Murphy, West Virginia University

**Evaluation Subcommittee Goals:**

1. Clear and effective communication with all stakeholders regarding evaluation and reporting for Extension Food, Nutrition, and Health programs.
2. Increase awareness and usage of National Extension Outcomes and Indicators: <http://nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource/Natl%20Outcomes%20%26%20Indicators%20Listing.pdf>
3. Provide training opportunities for Extension faculty, staff, and administrators regarding National Extension Outcomes and Indicators related to Extension Food, Nutrition, and Health Programs.
4. Provide data for policy makers, stakeholders, and partners demonstrating the value to society of Extension Food, Nutrition, and Health Programs.
5. Encourage use of evaluation data to improve Extension Food, Nutrition, and Health Programs.

**Achievements:**

- There were 166 participants from over 30 states for the March 5, 2015 webinar offered by our subcommittee and the eXtension Evaluation Community of Practice (webinar title: Extension National Evaluation Indicators - Building Capacity to Demonstrate Excellence).
- Paper accepted for publication in *Journal of Extension: Food, Nutrition, and Health Extension Programs: Next Generation Impact Evaluation* (accepted March 2015)
- Continuing relationships with eXtension Evaluation Community of Practice, plans in place for a national webinar training for Extension Specialists and others regarding national Extension outcomes and indicators
- Productive working relationship with USDA Program Leader (Jane Clary Loveless) and USDA Planning, Accountability, and Reporting Staff (Katelyn Sellars); clarification of guidance and requirements related to outcome indicators
- Successful recruitment of new members with interest and expertise in program evaluation and Extension public value statements

**Items of Interest for Future Work of Subcommittee:**

- Online Extension reporting systems (varies by state)
- SNAP-Ed and EFNEP reporting versus “regular” food, nutrition, physical activity, and health Extension reporting
- Further webinars, perhaps one on the JOE paper
- Development of public value statements
- Evaluation instruments and tools, need for a manageable way to find evaluation instruments/data collection tools
- Regularly sharing evaluation results to help new Agents understand how data is used
- Opportunities for this subcommittee to work with other groups (in particular, eXtension Evaluation CoP and American Evaluation Association Evaluation Specialty Group)

**Upcoming Call Schedule, all calls 2 p.m. Eastern:**

- August 20, 2015
- September 17
- October 15
- November 19
- December 17
- January 21, 2016