

Questions & Answers from EFNEP Policy, Systems and Environmental Change Community Partnership Impacts WebNEERS Training October 10-12, 2017

WebNEERS

Question: What is new about Community Partnership Impacts? It seems we are now able to provide a little more information on the same things we are already doing. Is that correct?

Answer: Correct! This is a small change to allow you to better capture the work you are already doing. Community Partnership Impacts also provide a way to have information available within your state and your university to demonstrate the importance of Extension in communities.

Question: What should I do if I am working with a partner that is not listed on the Community Partnership Impact screen under delivery sites & partnerships?

Answer: If there are any partners or other sectors you are working with that are not on the list of delivery sites and partnerships (e.g., agriculture and communication professionals) please include them in your narrative.

Question: Are Community Partnership Impacts limited to one EFNEP core area?

Answer: Community Partnership Impacts are not limited to only one core area. Please select all that apply.

Question: Will the WebNEERS user manual be updated to reflect the new screens and new instructions?

Answer: The revised and up-to-date WebNEERS user manual (section 8) will be released when the Community Partnership Impacts WebNEERS screens are released.

Resources

Question: Would it be possible to have a template that has all of the needed components of a Community Partnership Impact so that we could use it to capture these impacts with our professionals?

Answer: There is already work underway to provide this information – two examples are from Cornell – national training that is under development through the RNECE initiative, and a project under development by Minnesota. As these resources become available announcements and links will be given.

Question: Will there be examples available on the EFNEP PSE website?

Answer: Yes. PSE resources for EFNEP will include examples of low, medium, and high level PSE work. These will be shared with EFNEP coordinators along with other resources on the interactive website.

Question: I know EFNEP has wonderful resources on the horizon, such as the PSE website and/or the PSE example document. Can you speak to whether those resources will also include recommendations for training staff on recognizing PSEs?

Answer: There are training modules being developed by the RNECE projects that focus on staff recognizing PSE work and capitalizing on those opportunities. Announcements and links to those trainings will be given as they become available.

Policy, Systems and Environmental Change Efforts

Question: In small states with centralized professionals, it may be difficult to separate the community efforts conducted for national nutrition education programs. Any suggestions?

Answer: When we think about Community Partnership Impacts, it takes more than one program or one partner to produce community level success. It takes multiple groups to drive community actions. If you are part of these large health change efforts please report your accomplishments. Especially if EFNEP participants have potential to benefit and our core areas are addressed.

Question: I understand region level reporting is possible, is it still valuable to report projects at the state (institution) level?

Answer: At the state level you may oversee local partnership and can report how you are coordinating these efforts. Local needs and state needs are often slightly different. By sharing both we build a powerful story of how individuals, families, communities, and states benefit from EFNEP.

Question: Are partner organizations limited to Land-grant institutions?

Answer: No. Coordinators are encouraged to work with others in their states. Non-profits, universities, private organizations or industry groups, who are also interested in community efforts that will benefit our limited resource audience may be good partners. Importantly, they would be counted as EFNEP partners only if the goals and activities are supportive of the EFNEP audience and EFNEP core areas.

Question: What role could paraprofessional nutrition educators play in Policy Systems and Environmental Change (PSE) efforts? Especially those who have nurtured critical community relationships.

Answer: Although paraprofessional nutrition educators may be part of the interface with community organizations and community members, their focus needs to remain on direct education. PSEs are an opportunity to show the contribution of what our EFNEP professionals are doing. Paraprofessionals may have a role in helping connect individuals and organizations. Beyond that, at this time they would not have a primary role. We will continue to examine the balance between the roles of the paraprofessional and the professional as we develop the policy further.

Question: For programs that do not operate on a regional model of supervision, is the EFNEP Coordinator the only person that can engage in PSE work?

Answer: For programs where supervision is at the state level and the coordinator has the network of community relationships, this person would be leading the PSE efforts. Often times other Extension staff who may not be primarily working with EFNEP become champions of the program and share their networks to make community impacts. For example, other Extension staff who provide some administrative oversight for day-to-day operations of the local office, may have the opportunity to contribute to PSE successes through their networks, as long as such work builds upon the work of EFNEP, e.g., supports the EFNEP audience and core areas, and is in conjunction with the work that EFNEP staff are doing.