The Cooperative Extension System (Extension), established in 1914, is a national network of 35,000 professionals from 112 Land Grant Universities (LGUs), which includes 19 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and 35 Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). With a presence in every county, borough, parish, and territory, Extension empowers communities of all types and sizes through educational programs, resources, and research-based information to support their potential and improve their quality of life.

Extension provides trusted, practical education to help people, businesses, and communities solve problems, develop skills, and build a better future. University faculty members, who are disciplinary experts, translate science-based research to target audiences. County-based educators work with local residents and interest groups to solve problems, evaluate the effectiveness of learning tools, and collect grassroots input to help prioritize future research. These educators cultivate local relationships, building trust so they can engage effectively with residents in responding to local needs together.

Extension Directors and Administrators created the Extension Foundation in 2006 to help Extension generate a more visible and measurable impact on local issues by offering professional development and helping Extension programs expand and investigate new methods and models for implementing programs.

What Sets Cooperative Extension Apart?

An Unprecedented Reach – residents in every zip code benefit from research, education, extension services and partnerships

A National System - collective knowledge, relationships, and experience in and across U.S. priority issues funded by public and private source

Translating Research into Action – Extension faculty, staff, and specialists work with local residents to solve problems

In 2021 Extension Directors constructed a strategic plan which identified the following seven priority areas to partner with the Extension Foundation to provide national leadership for collective action:

1. Urban Agriculture and Food Systems
2. Health Equity and Well-Being
3. Climate Mitigation, Resiliency, and Adaptation
4. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
5. Workforce Development
6. Broadband Access and Digital Skills
7. 4-H Positive Youth Development

To learn more, visit: www.extension.org
Extension Foundation, in partnership with Extension, is uniquely positioned to deliver national programs that address timely issues and reach underserved populations.

Our record of recent successes includes:

**Immunization Education**
Working with 76 LGUs and in collaboration with CDC to form more than 400 new local partnerships and deliver educational programs and materials to 15 million individuals.

**Pesticide Safety Education**
Collaborating with EPA to increase educational capacity for promoting personal and environmental health through the safe application of pesticides in 53 states and territories.

**Technical Service Provision**
Providing Technical Advising Services for 130 eligible minority-serving institutions and their partners to increase access to USDA’s NEXTGEN, a workforce development program for the Next Generation of Diverse Food and Agriculture Professionals.

**Working to Support Urban Agriculture and Food Systems**
Growing food and creating or stewarding green spaces in urban areas increases access to fresh healthy food, promotes public health, fosters a sense of community, facilitates cultural expression and improves environmental quality. Extension helped create the most powerful rural agricultural production system in the world. Extension, in partnership with the Extension Foundation, has the ability, and the responsibility, to promote and transform urban agriculture and food systems through:

- **Coordination:** Leveraging existing networks to engage administrators, public education professionals and scientists from all 112 Land Grant Universities, which includes 19 Historically Black Colleges and Universities and 35 Tribal Colleges and Universities.

- **Innovation:** Initiating an internal competitive RFA process that allows each institution to develop their own individualized program for outreach and education that reflects local, state and regional needs.

- **Impact:** Providing national-scale evaluation and assessments to identify, amplify and share successful programs and lessons learned.

- **Dissemination:** Providing a national platform for outreach and communication with the Connect Extension technology platform.

- **Expansion:** Supporting programs with expertise in communications, marketing, publication development, partnership development, leadership and team development, evaluation, and project management to take promising programs to the next level.

Presence in every county in America.

Trusted partnerships with communities — over 108 years of providing reliable, research-based education, resources, and expertise.

To learn more, visit: www.extension.org

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