

## **PROJECT SUMMARY/ABSTRACT**

The Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) profession has documented a national need for increasing the number of FCS educators for the workforce. The nationwide closure of 153 FCS educator preparation programs has disadvantaged individuals who want to join the FCS workforce and employers who want to fill vacant Family and Consumer Science educator positions. The National Partnership for Recruiting, Preparing and Supporting Human Sciences/Family Consumer Sciences Educators project is facilitating collaborative interaction with education institutions, state departments of education, Extension, K-12 educators and students, professional associations, student organizations, and industry partners on a nation-wide basis to recruit, prepare and support Family and Consumer Sciences educators. Project initiatives were identified by over 200 stakeholders at 2015 and 2016 national summits. The project uses licensure information, curriculum and webinar libraries, online courses provided by multiple institutions, traditional and alternative licensure model recommendations, student support information, leadership academies, marketing campaigns and products, and targeted regional support activities to create and implement holistic initiatives for recruiting, preparing and supporting FCS educators. By combining resources and sharing expertise to create and use best practice models the stakeholders will create national resources that can be accessed and replicated or adapted at state levels with state stakeholders. Combining university resources and grant funds with professional and student association resources and with industry and education partner expertise, creates a synergy that facilitates a cost effective, collaborative and holistic approach to recruiting, preparing, and supporting FCS educators for meeting state and national workforce needs that can be replicated and sustained over time.