

## Achieving the Extension Mission Through Volunteers



*"It was so **practical, easy to understand**, and very **worthwhile**. It will help you feel **more confident** when working with volunteers."*

*"I **highly recommend** this to **ANY extension staff...**"* Feedback from Participants

### ***National Professional Development Opportunity: January 27 – March 16, 2020***

Volunteers are fundamental to many successful Extension programs. Research indicates that nearly one third of volunteers will choose not to continue volunteering based on poor management practices. Nearly 500 professional staff have completed the course in the past five years.

**Achieving the Extension Mission through Volunteers** is an online cohort course for the novice and experienced professional working with volunteers to enhance and deliver Extension programs. It is designed to:

- Build staff and organizational capacity around volunteer management and development
- Increase volunteer management competencies
- Build knowledge and skills to identify, recruit, select, and support volunteers
- Learn current volunteer trends and how they may impact programming
- Understand the organization's philosophy related to volunteerism and develop your own philosophy

Registration will open **September 1** for North Central Region staff. The course will open nationwide **October 1** to Extension staff. A cohort will be 25-35 individuals from across program areas. Space is limited. This course is being brought to you by the North Central Region 4-H Youth Development Volunteer Specialists. Course is recommended for staff with at least one year of experience. Experienced staff members have found this very valuable as well. *"It provides a solid framework to approach volunteer management. It is the only course like it for Extension professionals."*

During this 6-week course members participate in pre-recorded sessions, readings, activities and 3 live webinars, interact with a wide variety of resources and hear from experts. The course is led by a facilitator team. Each module will require approximately 4 - 6 hours each week. Guest contributors include:



Jim Rutledge, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor and Executive Director 4-H Foundation, Inc. 4-H Foundation Development Manager at Oklahoma State University (retired)

Dr. Rutledge shares his work on the professional development stages of the Extension professional and helps cohort members discover how THEIR professional development stages influence their capacity to reach larger audiences with more valuable educational programs.



Nancy Franz, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, School of Education at Iowa State University

Dr. Franz discusses personal, organizational, and public value related to volunteers in Extension. She has done extensive work on Communicating Value and its importance for Extension and its volunteers.

To learn more about the course: <https://youtu.be/3CJebZ1g3jA>. This course is available for \$250. Go to the North Central Volunteer Specialists website for registration and the detailed course handbook for 2020 <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/ncrvd/achieving-the-extension-mission-through-volunteers-course/>

**Staff who are not from Minnesota need to create a Guest Account to register.** [Click Here to Register](https://learning.umn.edu/search/publicCourseSearchDetails.do?method=load&courseId=1585632)  
<https://learning.umn.edu/search/publicCourseSearchDetails.do?method=load&courseId=1585632>