

Extension Huddle



August 20, 2026

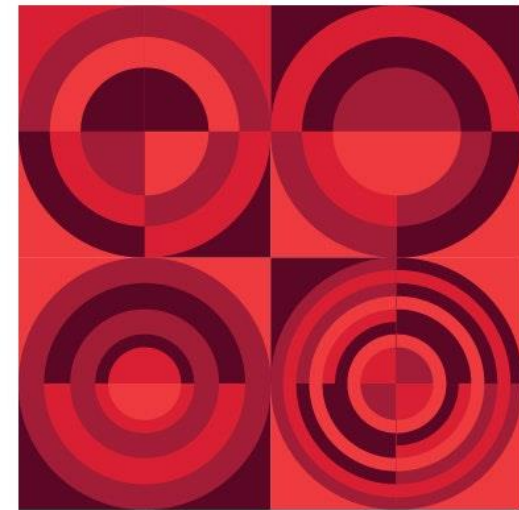
Today's Huddle Talk

- **Appreciation**
- **Extension Positions**
- **Civil Rights Training**
- **Title II and Digital Accessibility**
- **Disaster Preparedness**
- **PEARS Leadership Team Update**
- **PEARS Event Module**
- **GNBC Business and Finance Update**
- **NACEB Message**
- **Extension Professional Development**
- **Extension Huddle Extra**
- **Mental Wellness**





**Thanks for Your Leadership, Support
and Commitment!**



**HUSKER HARVEST
DAYS® 2026**

LTAP transitioning to NDOT

UNIVERSITY of NEBRASKA-LINCOLN

Log In



Search



Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

NEBRASKA LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Home

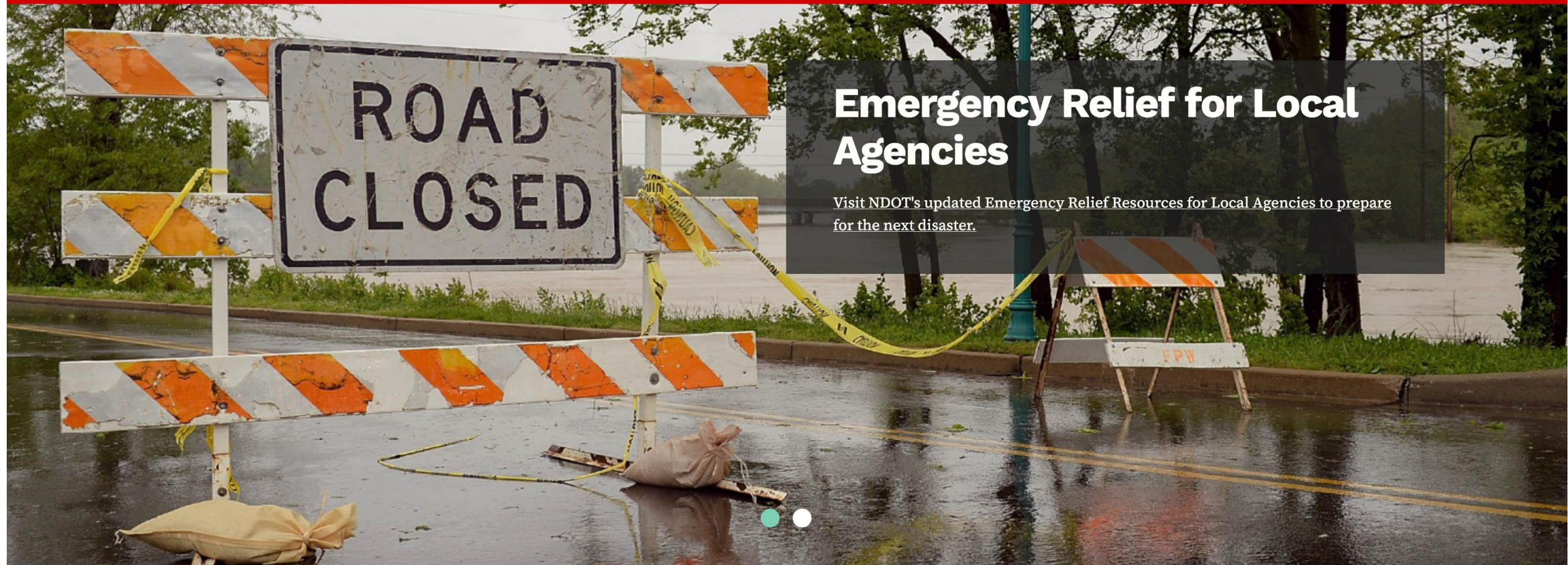
Training

Conferences & Workshops

Technical Assistance

Connect With Us

Newsletters



Emergency Relief for Local Agencies

Visit NDOT's updated [Emergency Relief Resources for Local Agencies](#) to prepare for the next disaster.

The mission of Nebraska LTAP is to enhance the skills of local and state transportation professionals in providing a safe, efficient, environmentally sound transportation system in Nebraska

Nebraska LTAP is moving from UNL to the Nebraska Department of Transportation. This web site remains for access to online courses and participant records and certificates.



Extension Positions in the Search Process





Extension Positions in the Search Process

Extension Educator/Instructor

- HWB Educator/Instructor – Hamilton County
- Livestock Educator/Instructor – Brown County
- WCS Educator/Instructor – Platte County
- EC Educator/Instructor – Dawson County
- 4-H Educator/Instructor – Platte County
- 4-H Educator/Instructor – Lincoln County
- 4-H Educator/Instructor – Merrick County (coming soon)
- HLES Educator/Instructor – Scotts Bluff County
- 4-H Educator/Instructor – Garden County
- EC Educator/Instructor – Red Willow County
- WCS educator/Instructor – Burt County

Extension Assistant

- Extension Assistant (Raising Nebraska) – Hall County



Civil Rights Training

SPIT



Marc Pearce

Associate to the Chancellor

**Office of Institutional
Equity and Compliance**





Title II and Digital Accessibility

- New compliance deadline of April 26, 2027
- Continue utilizing the resource page on the MyExtension website
- Reach out to John Re and Paige Petersen with questions
- Work continues with exploring options for publications and forms



Disaster Preparedness

SPIT

2026 Emergency Action Plan Updates

100% Reviewed & Submitted

- Engagement Zone 4
- Engagement Zone 7
- Engagement Zone 8
- Engagement Zone 9
- Engagement Zone 10
- Engagement Zone 11
- Raising Nebraska
- Extension Dean's Office
- Tribal Extension Office Native American Coalition

Almost there!

- Engagement Zone 1: 91%

Congratulations!!



Next EAP Submission Window:

September 1 – October 31

... for Engagement Zones 2, 3, & 5

Remember:

- Update and resubmit your EAP anytime there are staffing, facility, or other significant changes.
- ***Practice your plan!***
- Report your efforts in PEARS, related hours, and share those success stories!
 - Tag Disaster Education (Program Area)
 - Add the Nebraska EDEN State Action Plan to your Individual Action Plan



Employee Resources Portal

<https://go.unl.edu/employee-resources>

- 2026 Emergency Action Plan Resources
- ResponseNotes Survey Link
- Moisture Meter Information
- Reach Out for Wellness Toolkit
- Planning & Training Resources
- Podcast, PSA, Webinar Recordings
- Archived Newsletters, Challenges



PEARS Leadership Team Update



PEARS Updates

August 20, 2026





PEARS Leadership Team

If you are new to Extension, reach out to the PEARs team to get started with PEARs. Contact pears@unl.edu.

Agenda items for August Huddle

- 2026 Professional Development Series
- In-Depth Survey Training
- User Dashboards
- Dates to remember/ Updates

PEARS Updates on MyExtension

- New layout and organization coming soon
- Sections aligned with PEARs platform navigation
- Phased approach to updates based on priorities
- Content will lead with Nebraska Extension specific guidance supported by PEARs platform guidance
- New timeline will inform and guide users

2026 PEARS Training Themes

- Surveys
- Impact Dashboards
- Partnerships
- Storying Telling/Success Stories

2026 PEARS Professional Development Series

11:00-11:45 am

Survey Results and
Interpretation

17 Sep. 2026

Year End Reporting

12 Nov. 2026

15 Oct. 2026

PEARS Impact
Dashboards

17 Dec. 2026

Topic TBD

Dates to Remember

PEARS Site Updates

- **Quarterly Effort Report:**
 - Jul – Sep: Due Oct 30
 - Oct – Dec: Due Dec 31
 - When completing this, please make sure you are going through all the steps, not just completing the Direct Contacts section of reporting.
 - [QER Professional Development Recording](#)
 - If it is not combined (Direct Contacts **and** QER reporting), the QER is not accurate or complete.
- **FY2026 Year End Deadline:**
 - December 31, 2026
 - All entries in all modules, marked as complete.
- **PEARS Events Module Updates**
 - Waiting list option for participants to join if your limit has been reached is now available.
 - Breakout sessions are now an option within an event.
- **PEARS Monthly Email Updates:**
 - Beginning in September, we will send a monthly email with all PEARs site/features updates included.

Survey Training: Deeper Dive

- Registration coming soon...
- Plan:
 - Creating a survey in PEARS.
 - Copying and customizing a survey in PEARS.
- Engage:
 - Using surveys in program activities, direct survey links, manual entry, individual responses vs aggregate responses.
 - Active management of surveys as a team (keeping active surveys active, making outdated surveys draft).
- Analyze:
 - Survey response exports.
 - Summary statistics, raw data exports.

User Impact Dashboards

- Found at PEARs>Analyze>Impact Dashboards
- Four types of dashboards (***Extension Highlights, User Dashboard***, Unit Snapshot, Census Comparison) help us tell the story of:
 - What we DO?
 - WHO do we reach?
 - Who did we WORK WITH?
 - What CHANGED?
- Example Dashboard:
 - <https://bit.ly/4grQQK6>

PEARS Event Module

- Available and ready to use.
- Resource pages continue to grow and expand
- Canopy continues to add and refine features
- John Re and Laura Tharnish will continue to review and publish events





GNBC Business and Finance Update





Bank Deposit Ticket Reorders

- Effective June 1, the State Treasurer implemented a substantial price increase for bank deposit tickets, with costs approximately tripling. GNBC was notified of this change last week.
- Example: An order of 600 triplicate deposit tickets increased from \$64.44 to \$207.19, plus shipping.

SAP Index Financial Dashboard Tool

- ***Shortcut***

Link: <https://go.unl.edu/SAPdashboardtool>

- FY26 programming cost center carryforward balances have been uploaded.
- Uploads of state-aided cost center carryforward balances (such as salary savings) are currently in progress.



Engagement Zones P-Cards Receipts

- As outlined in Ruby Urban's July 27th email, continue submitting completed P-Card documentation to your respective Engagement Zone mailbox.



Extension Employee Resource Guide Updates

The guide has been updated to include:

- Effective July 1, 2026, mileage reimbursement rate increased to **\$0.76 per mile**
- P-Card limit thresholds:
 - Normal maximum per transaction: **\$9,999**
 - Monthly spending limit: **\$20,000**
 - Cardholders are responsible for knowing their limit
- Information and access to the **SAP Index Dashboard Business Intelligence (BI) Financial Tool**



COMING
SOON

Updated Employee and Supervisor Onboarding and Offboarding Checklists

- Streamlined resources to support employee transitions and ensure consistent processes statewide



COMING
SOON

Revised Supervisor's Guide for Employee Onboarding and Offboarding

- Updated guidance for supervisors of employees located in Nebraska Extension Engagement Zones and the State 4-H Office.
- Includes best practices, roles and responsibilities, and step-by-step procedures for onboarding and offboarding employees.





NACEB Update

NACEB



NACEB

Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards





Nebraska Extension Professional Development

Nebraska Extension Professional Development

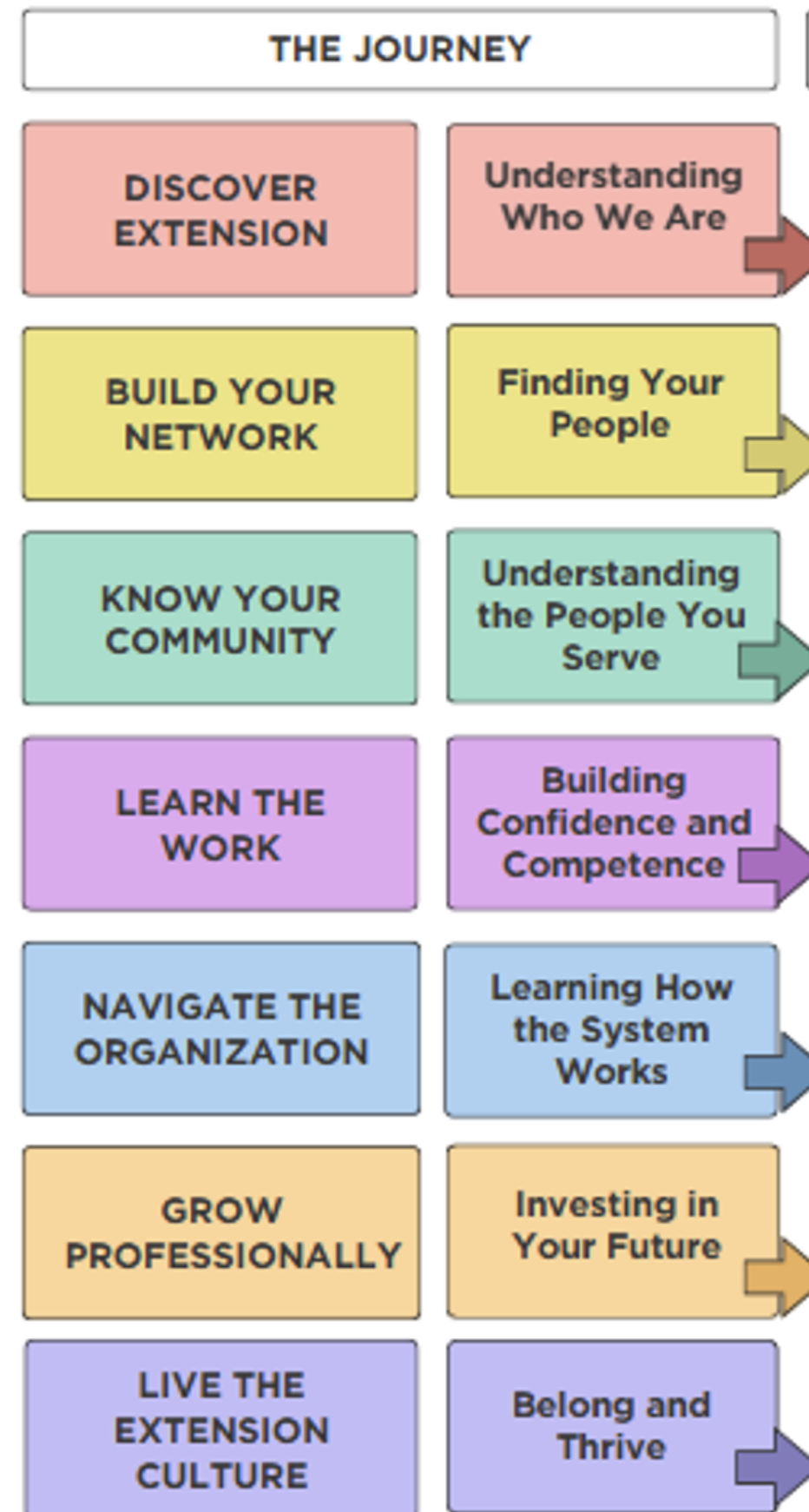
Our PD Framework identifies the multiple areas of focus we feel individuals should consider as opportunities for growth and development during their Extension career.



- Emotional Intelligence
- The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People
- Coaching for Supervision
- Fierce Conversations
- Teaching Adult Learners
- Fall Classes
- Front Door Forum
- Road Shows
- Coming 2027 – Trust Edge Experience; Change: How to Turn Uncertainty into Opportunity; Facilitation; Presentation Skills

Onboarding Team

- Soni Cochran
- Jenny Brhel
- Tanya Crawford
- Ashton Figgner
- Emily Gratopp
- Jaci Foged
- Jennifer Hansen
- Josie Crouch
- Jen Epp





Extension Huddle Extra

SPIT

N EXTENSION HUDDLE EXTRA

May 8, 2026



Introducing Extension Huddle Extra!



Extension Huddle



October 27, 2026



Mental Wellness

SPIT

Extension's Needs & Role

How Nebraska Extension can contribute in
the mental and behavioral health space



*Extension exists to help
Nebraskans co-create a
better tomorrow.*





A Road Map

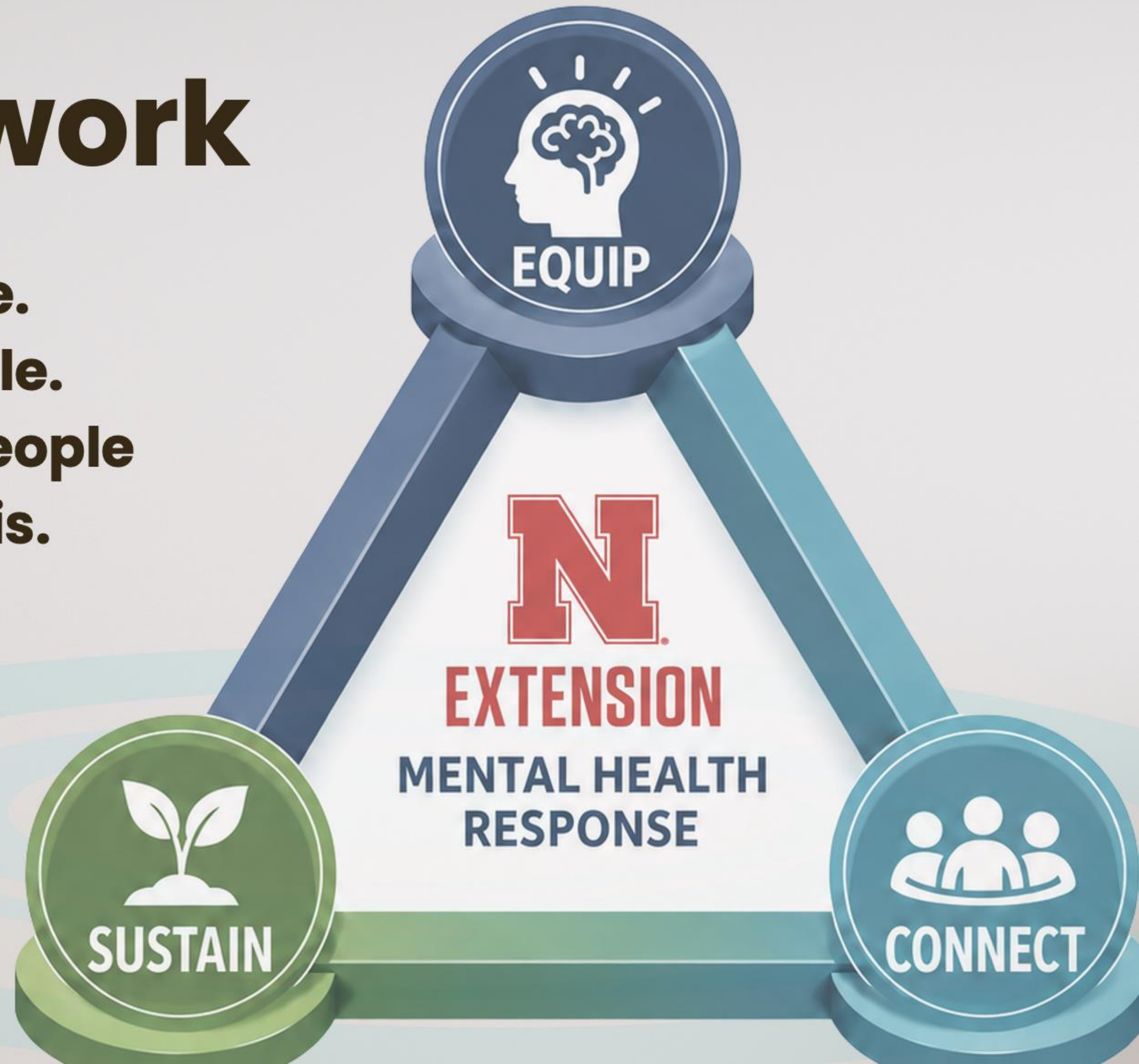
- When someone is struggling.
- When a producer asks us where to turn.
- When a young person needs support.
- When one of our community partners asks, *“What is Extension doing about mental health?”*

We need clarity on what our role is and what it is not.



The Framework

**Equip our people.
Sustain our people.
Connect with the people
whose work this is.**



EQUIP



Give Extension & other professionals the knowledge, confidence, and resources to respond appropriately.

1. Know how to recognize when someone may be struggling.
2. Know how to respond appropriately in that moment.
3. Understand our boundaries.
4. Know where to connect someone for additional help.

SUSTAIN



Provide sustained support for people doing emotionally demanding work.

People doing helping work also need places to process, reflect, learn from one another, and receive support.

This framework includes opportunities for ongoing consultation, reflection, and connection—not because something has gone wrong, but because sustained support is part of doing this work well over time.



CONNECT

Strengthen connections to the professionals, organizations and systems whose work is mental health.

Our opportunity is not to create more work or
recreate others' work.

It is to make sure we know one another, understand
what resources already exist, identify gaps together,
and make those resources easier for Extension
professionals and Nebraskans to find.

What's Coming

Be on the lookout for:

Training

Small groups

Materials

Website





What's available now

Wallet Cards

NE Rural Response Hotline

Your local Regional Behavioral Health

Nebraska Suicide Prevention Coalition

RURAL RESPONSE HOTLINE
go.unl.edu/ruralhotline | 800.464.0258 | M-F 8 to 5
Free personal counseling and financial/legal services

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE **Call or text 988**
For those in need of emotional support, 24/7

NEBRASKA FAMILY HELPLINE
888.866.8660 | Any problem, any time.

 800-464-0258



QPR, Mental Health First Aid, Psychological First Aid, CALM, resilience training, and related offerings are being delivered through Nebraska's behavioral health regions and public health districts

Stay Connected



Email

Call

Text



Thank You
for all you do!
