

National Association of FSA County Office Employees

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County Executive Director and/or PT in Charge:

Fall is upon us and things in the County Office are wild and crazy. October was payment month. November and December has been solid NAP for grasses and ARC/PLC for seed cotton. January sees the end of MFP enrollment and 2018 LFP sign-up. And then there's WHIP, ECP, ELAP, and LIP mixed in there somewhere. Plus, there are the everyday processes that never end - eligibility, GovDelivery, reconciliation, budgets, staff . . .

A lot of us are having COC elections in December and Orientation Training for new county committee men and women the first of next year. So, it's also time for us to take a look at our COC and start talking about NAFEC.

NASCOE's partnership with NAFEC is one of mutual respect and admiration. Our COCs support our COF staff, protect our COF staff, supervise our COF staff as well as utilize our COF staff from the other side of the counter. As County Office employees we should be reporting all things to our COCs and keeping them informed about our needs.

Are your COC apprised of your travel and supplies budget? Is your COC aware of the situation with your county office lease? Have you been reporting monthly - or even more regularly - to your COC on the performance of your staff? Is your COC Chairman informed and knowledgeable enough to run your monthly meeting as expected? When your COC visits your office, and you aren't there, do they know why? As managers, our COCs should be informed on all aspects of the office - big and small.

As you move into your December ballot counting meeting and your January Organizational meeting, put NAFEC on your agenda. Inform your COC about the association out there that can be a powerful ally against an office closure or a CO staffing ceiling reduction, and as back-up in that adverse determination on scheme and device. Tell them that NAFEC can apply pressure if shared management is NOT something they want or can help them defend their CED performance review. With NAFEC on their side, your COC are protected, reinforced, and strengthened.

As a NASCOE member and a NAFEC associate member, you can have all the tools and information you need to keep your COC well informed and making a difference. Talk to your County Committee about NAFEC. Encourage your COC to get active, get informed, and get passionate. Maybe you can even volunteer to be at the 2019 COC Orientation Training for your District, Area, or State.

Today, you have received membership information from your NASCOE Area NAFEC Chair, State NAFEC Chair, or other State Association leadership. Please take a look at the documents and pass this information along to your COC. It will take 15 minutes of your time.

That 15 minutes could mean the difference in a win on moving reporting deadlines, losing the unique CO hiring process, getting you a temp in your office, or maintaining the performance rating that your COC wants you to have.

If you have questions, concerns, or would like to have a conference call with NAFEC, reach out to us. We will talk to you, your COC, your staff . . . we believe in our COC system of government and we are committed to keeping it strong, useful, powerful, and meaningful. NAFEC exists because of that belief. Let us know how we can help.

NAFEC Executive Committee

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NASCOE's NAFEC Committee

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