Visiting Extension Outreach Associate

WE TRANSFORM LIVES
Everything we do is designed to improve the quality of life of the people in the state of Illinois, across the nation, and around the world. We discover, develop, translate, and disseminate knowledge to address societal concerns and train the next generation of experts and leaders in a way that empowers them to expand the boundaries of science to higher levels of understanding and influence.

Be a part of our story. Through learning partnerships that extend knowledge and change lives, University of Illinois Extension provides educational programs aimed at making life better, healthier, safer, and more profitable for individuals and their communities. Illinois Extension has operated continuously for more than 100 years connecting the citizens of Illinois to their land-grant university by providing educational programming around the state. University of Illinois Extension is based in the College of ACES and works with all colleges and units of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE) has an established international reputation for its research in a broad array of specializations. ABE is consistently ranked as one of the top ten best undergraduate engineering programs in the nation. ABE is interdisciplinary nature, as there is collaboration across the University of Illinois campus as well as the University of Illinois Research Park.

Position Overview

The Visiting Extension Outreach Associate serves as a regular, part time (0.75 FTE), 12 month academic professional with primary responsibility for supporting the work related to the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network, including but not limited to developing and supporting a statewide mental health voucher program for agricultural community members and coordinating farm stress and mental health related programming. This position will carry out the objectives of the project through the following: recruit mental health providers, facilitate enrollment of mental health providers in online trainings, reimburse mental health providers, establish, advertise/promote, and distribute vouchers to agricultural producers and those in agricultural related occupations or environments, and maintain records for reporting and evaluation. In addition, the Outreach Associate will maintain a schedule of farm stress and mental health related programs, assist with program planning, marketing/advertisement, registration, communication, and on-site or on-line day-of logistics. This person will be supervised by the Principal Investigator of the Farm Stress grant and will support the work and outcomes of the project for the duration of the funding.

One part time position is available. Location: Remote work arrangement will be established
Program Planning, Development and Evaluation

- Develop and support the statewide mental health voucher program for agricultural community members
- Facilitate and carry out program objectives for farm stress and mental health related programming
- Assist with program planning related to the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network
- Recruit mental health providers to participate in the program and accept vouchers from agricultural producers and those in agricultural occupations or environments. Recruitment can be done through, but is not limited to: farm media, social media, and Extension
- Track and monitor participating mental health providers for reporting and evaluation purposes
- Facilitate the distribution of vouchers to farmers participating in the program, in order for them to access free professional behavioral health services.
- Monitor and evaluate the overall project and programming timeline and budget.
- Contribute to any needed research to support program development
- Evaluate and conduct data analysis and prepare data summaries and visualizations to show program impacts.

Organizational Requirements

- Comply with all University of Illinois Extension Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity policies and guidelines in all aspects of Extension work; assist unit staff with data collection for Affirmative Action, Gender, and Targeted reports as needed.
- Perform other duties that contribute to the mission of University of Illinois Extension programming, as assigned.
- Limited intrastate travel may be required.
- Reliable internet access (if working remote).

Other Information

- To perform the functions of this position, the employee will be required to perform work both within an office and outside in the communities that are served, and must have the capability to travel from one location to the other in a timely fashion. Employee is responsible for securing personal transportation. A valid driver's license is preferred. Some work will be required during evenings and/or weekends. When working, the employee may be exposed to a variety of environmental factors to include, but not limited to, hot or cold weather, exposure to noise and allergens, and uneven ground. In performing the functions of this position, the employee may be subjected to various mental and physical demands as well to include, but not limited to, independently traveling to and performing work at different locations, lifting and moving items that may occasionally weigh up to forty (40) pounds and frequently weigh up to twenty (20) pounds, and twisting, pushing and pulling movements. More detailed information regarding the functions of this position (including the physical, mental and environmental requirements of the position) may be obtained from Human Resources for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) by contacting hr@aces.illinois.edu.

Qualifications

Required:

- Bachelor’s degree in human development and family studies, social work, education, business administration, human resource management, psychology, communication or related field. Candidates with a bachelor’s degree in progress may be considered for interviews, but degree must be completed by hire date
- Experience prioritizing a varied workload, successfully managing timelines, and/or providing regular reports of activities/achievements.
- Personal transportation and ability for intrastate travel
Application Procedure

To apply, go to https://go.illinois.edu/157869. Log in to your account and upload a cover letter and resume, as well as the names and contact information of three professional references. Resume dates must be in month/year format and employment history, at a minimum, should include all work dating back to the completion of your undergraduate degree. Positions that were less than full-time/100% must be noted as being part-time. Transcripts may be requested at a later date. To receive full consideration, all requested application materials must be submitted via the online system by the close date of February 11, 2022.

For further information about the position please contact search chair Josie Rudolphi at josier@illinois.edu. For technical assistance with the online application process, please email jobs@illinois.edu.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Strong written and verbal communication skills. Demonstrated ability to build and maintain diverse networks, evidence of strong interpersonal skills and teamwork, and ability to work flexible hours and be self-directing are preferred.

Preferred:

- An understanding of and experience with Extension and outreach programs
- Demonstrated marketing and communications experience
- Experience working with and handling confidential information