

November 1, 2017

Dear County Executive Directors:

Each of us will be holding COC election and organizational meetings during the months of December and January. We personally want to ask each of you to include information regarding the National Association of Farmer Elected Committee’s (NAFEC) at your upcoming election or organizational meetings. The Deputy Administrator in Washington DC has approved providing this information to all COC’s and it is currently included on the National DAFO website at:

<http://intranet.fsa.usda.gov/fsatraining>

Click on the left side “County Committee Orientation Training”. On the next page scroll down to the bottom under Additional Information “Who is NAFEC?” and “NAFEC Membership Form”.

You are well within your legal authority to provide your committee this information on NAFEC membership and we would greatly encourage you to do so. Listed below are some of the things NAFEC has been doing for COC’s and COF employees the past year.

1. Worked with several SED’s across the nation on COF issues from Office Closures & Shared Management operations to Performance Issues.

2. Instrumental in working with FSA Management to re-establish regular monthly COC meetings and assuring that funding is available in all states to hold these meetings.

3. Made recommendations to Congress, the Secretary of Agriculture, FSA and RMA regarding many Farm Bill Issues related to FSA.

While the list above shows some of the things NAFEC is doing for us, we know it is sometimes hard to communicate why we need to join. Listed below are a few talking points for you, your committee and your COF staff as to why NAFEC is important.

1. NAFEC is the greatest ally for CED’s and PT’s under the COF system of government.

2. The best way COC members can support their local staff is by joining NAFEC.

3. NAFEC has the ear of Congress and the Administration.

4. NAFEC has a lobbyist working in Washington D.C. on your behalf.

5. NAFEC leadership is made up of COC members who are passionate about grassroots input.

6. NAFEC membership includes a $1,000 accidental life insurance policy from JM Marketing and the availability of many insurance products at group rates (health/major medical, dental, vision, life, cancer, critical illness, long term care, etc) you’re COC members and their families may need. With healthcare such a huge issue, don’t overlook how important these insurance products may be to some of your members who do not have the advantage of government insurance.

The rest is up to you and we would hope you will all consider getting this information to your local committees. If we can be of assistance please don’t hesitate to contact any of the NASCOE’s NAFEC committee members.

Billy Denison, NASCOE’s NAFEC National Committee Chair (Montana)

Daniel Shockey, NASCOE’s NAFEC Northeast Area Committee Chair (West Virginia)

Pam Rhoades, NASCOE’s NAFEC Southeast Area Committee Chair (Mississippi)

Mary Roberts, NASCOE’s NAFEC Midwest Area Committee Chair (Iowa)

Levi Garlick, NASCOE’s NAFEC Southwest Area Committee Chair (Texas)

Teresa Vonn, NASCOE’s NAFEC Northwest Area Committee Chair (Oregon)