Planning For Family Life Education (FLE) Month

Sharing FLE with Your Community
The Basics About FLE Month

Mark your calendars for February!
What IS Family Life Education Month?

• Family Life Education Month was initiated by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) in an effort to increase awareness of Family Life Education as a method to strengthen and support families.
What IS Family Life Education Month?

• An opportunity to let your community know what Family Life Education is and how it benefits and impacts families

• A way to strengthen relationships with key people in your community who can help us share what we do with more families
Benefits Resulting from FLE Month

• Help more families help themselves
• Grow awareness and support for the profession of family life education
• Create more job opportunities for Family Life Education professionals
Who Should Plan Events & Activities

- Certified Family Life Educators (CFLEs)
- NCFR Student Affiliates
- Students from Family Science Classes
- NCFR State and Regional Affiliate Groups
- Agencies and programs involved with Family Life Education
Part One: Planning

From making FLE Month “official” with a signed proclamation, to holding fantastic events in your community, it all starts with planning!
Things to Plan

• Determine local goals you’d like to achieve by participating in Family Life Education Month

• Identify the key community players to alert (mayor, city council members, school board members, social and family services, hospital, local state representatives, agencies that serve children and families, etc.)

• Decide who to have sign the Proclamation

• List events and ideas you’d like to do during February
Resources for Planning

- National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) is holding a Family Life Education Month contest in an effort to collect ideas for promoting FLE Month to the public.
- Entries from the Family Life Education Month Contest will be used to design and inspire promotional materials and event ideas to help you.
- The FLE Month Contest Deadline is October 20.
Tips to Keep in Mind While Planning...

• WEATHER! Where you live will play a role in what you plan. While a picnic could be fun- it may be too cold or too wet. Plan and post rain (or snow) dates for events.

• TIMING! Allow enough time for sponsors, officials and the community to know about your event. Time that around the holidays for optimal promotion.

• ELECTIONS! Some government officials aren’t able to commit to signing/attending/endorsing because of November elections.
Part Two: Possible Events

There are endless possibilities for what you can do in your community.

Here are a few ideas:
Possible Events to Plan for February

• Students in college classes could present to high school Family & Consumer Science classes
• Create a video to post on YouTube and/or your school/agency website promoting Family Life Education
• Host a tea party for key community leaders to inform them about Family Life Education
• Create a radio commercial
More ideas…..

- Hold a fundraiser to benefit a specific FLE related project/agency/NCFR affiliate group
- FLE Family Fun Day- could be a field day, game day, etc.
- Hold a training on a topic of interest to your community
Make FLE Month an official part of February in your area - ask your mayor, governor or other elected official to endorse the proclamation.
Why Have a Proclamation?

• Many awareness months have a proclamation that is signed by government officials (mayors, legislative members, governors, etc.)
• It helps to explain Family Life Education to the community and how it impacts and benefits the community
• It gives recognition and respect to the month and our collective efforts to raise awareness
• It makes Family Life Education Month “official”
Where to Find the Proclamation

- The Family Life Education Proclamation is available on NCFR website [here](#).
How to Adapt the Proclamation

• Make changes to the proclamation with local facts and statistics

• **Examples:** the number of graduates from family science programs in your state (or college town) each year, collective number of hours of service provided to local community by interns, number of families served by FLE at your agency, impact of education and prevention on families, number of CFLEs in your state or across the country
When to Start the Proclamation Process

• Start a few weeks/months before February to share the proclamation. Contact the official’s office and tell them you are sending it (email or mail)
• Answer any questions they may have about Family Life Education
• November elections can have an impact on when/who signs it, particularly in years when a governor is being elected to office
• It’s not too early to set-up a meeting for officials who aren’t familiar with Family Life Education
How To Get a Proclamation Signed...

- After the initial contact, scheduled a follow-up date
- Offer to meet with them to share more information and to answer questions
- Share NCFR brochures/posters and your agency’s own brochures and information to help explain FLE
- Share how Family Life Education helps our families and communities
How To Get Proclamation Signed...continued

• Arrange for a date/time to sign the proclamation
• Send media outlets a press release about the signing
• Follow-up with another press release and a photo afterwards
• Display the signed proclamation
Keep us in the loop!

• We want to know what you’re doing and how it went!

• Family Life Educators are creative people with wonderful ideas— and we want to let others know what you’ve done and how it went!
Special thanks to Tammy Whitten, CFLE for creating this PowerPoint presentation and for championing the FLE Month Contest