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Sustainable Families Action Team - IANR Team Effort Award

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March 8, 2001

Sustainable Families Action Team – IANR Team Effort Award

It's amazing what people, working together, can do. Amazing, inspiring, and uplifting!

I know that "each member" of the Sustainable Families Action Team brings to "that team" their own particular talents. Today, with the IANR Team Effort Award, we recognize the team-members' "willingness" to combine their individual talents, with each team member "contributing" to a larger whole for "the good" of Nebraska.

The Sustainable Families Team is an interdisciplinary team that draws "support" from extension educators, extension specialists, state agencies, county human-services agencies, and community members. I understand the Sustainable Families Action Team began working together about seven years ago, and is "one" of 13 statewide Cooperative Extension action teams. Ten faculty members "lead" the team and 35 people participate "regularly" in team meetings. I'm told about 64 "educators-and-specialists" participate in the Sustainable Families Program "statewide", with five subject-matter "work-groups": "Nurturing Children; Community Building; Parenting Children; Interpersonal Relationships; and Financial Management.

When we look at the team's "flagship" programs – programs they've identified for 'statewide emphasis' – we cannot help but be impressed: Childcare Provider Workshops that draw approximately 2,600 childcare providers to training yearly; the Juvenile Diversion and Mentoring Programs, Parents Forever, NU for Families, Money 2000 plus, and more.

To 'each and every' member of this team, thank you. Thank you for the work you do on behalf of the University, IANR, and Cooperative Extension. And 'thank you' for the differences you make in the lives of Nebraska – families. It's 'a pleasure' to see you receive this 'special award.'

Assoc. Vice Chancellor EDNA McBRIDE