

*This information reflects the ranking, in order of importance, of key issue area subtopics as indicated by responses to a September 2020 poll of Northeast NUEL Network and NEED members.*

**Questions to consider:**

- Are there surprises? What do those alignments or surprises mean for us?
- To what extent do the green/red arrowed issue area subtopics already align with what Extension does in urban/rural areas?
- Do any flagged urban programs from the repository align with the green arrow subtopics?
- What can NEED and the NE NUEL Network to move the needle on these issue areas as a region? Independently? Together?

**Strengthen Communities Prioritized Issues**

Rank	NE NUEL Network	NEED
1	Equity and access for civic engagement in local communities with elected officials	Workforce Development
2	Equity and access to nutrition and health education	Equity and access to nutrition and health education
3	Community planning: Affordable housing, emergency disaster	Equity and access for civic engagement in local communities with elected officials
4	Local economic development and recovery (e.g. small businesses)	Community planning: Affordable housing, emergency disaster
5	Smart Cities: Privacy Issues	Local economic development and recovery (e.g. small businesses)
6	Workforce Development	Smart Cities: Privacy Issues

**Protect Our Environment Prioritized Issues**

Rank	NE NUEL Network	NEED
1	Urban Agriculture/Preservation	Urban Agriculture/Preservation
2	Climate Resilience/Emergency Preparedness	Water Quality and Quantity (Stormwater management/flooding)
3	Sustainability and Best Practices (Energy and Water)	Sustainability and Best Practices (Energy and Water)
4	Water Quality and Quantity (Stormwater management/flooding)	Biodiversity and Urban Agriculture/Preservations Habitat Fragmentation
5	Composting and Soil Health	Contamination-Waste Management
6	Contamination-Waste Management	Composting and Soil Health
7	Air Quality Management	Air Quality Management
8	Biodiversity and Urban Agriculture/Preservations Habitat Fragmentation	Pests/Invasive Species
9	Pests/Invasive Species	Climate Resilience/Emergency Preparedness

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### Feed Our Future Prioritized Issues

Rank	NE NUEL Network	NEED
1	Food Access	Food Access
2	Urban Ag-Rural Food System Nexus	Nutrition Education
3	Nutrition Education	Farmers Markets/Local District
4	Land Use Policy	Farm to Table/Eat Local
5	Farmers Markets/Local District	Urban Ag-Rural Food System Nexus
6	Composting Food Waste	Land Use Policy
7	Farm to Table/Eat Local	Composting Food Waste

### Improve Our Health Prioritized Issues

Rank	NE NUEL Network	NEED
1	Healthy Food Access	Healthy Food Access
2	Mental Health	Access to Health Care
3	Access to Health Care	Health Education
4	Health Education	Mental Health
5	Contaminated Sites-Brownfield	Access to green space
6	Built Environment	Crime/Violence
7	Crime/Violence	Built Environment
8		Contaminated Sites-Brownfield

### Enrich Youth Prioritized Issues

Rank	NE NUEL Network	NEED
1	Leadership and Youth Development	Leadership and Youth Development
2	Workforce Readiness/Entrepreneurship	STEM and STEAM Education
3	Mental and Physical Health	Workforce Readiness/Entrepreneurship
4	Community Partnerships and Community Development (Capital)	Diverse Volunteers that Reflect Communities
5	Diverse Volunteers that Reflect Communities	Community Partnerships and Community Development (Capital)
6	Juvenile Crime/Prevention	Community/Civic Engagement and Advocacy (service-learning, social justice, democratic engagement)
7	STEM and STEAM Education	Mental and Physical Health
		Juvenile crime/prevention

### Extension Leadership and Administration Prioritized Issues

Rank	NE NUEL Network	NEED
1	Land Grant University's and Extension Relevance in the Urban Community and our Role	Land Grant Universities and Extension Relevance in the Urban Community and our Role
2	Recruitment and Retention	Recruitment and Retention
3	Competencies Needed (i.e. subject matter vs. soft skills)	Flexibility of university administration to support
4	Leveraging Cities and Other Resources for Funding	Competencies Needed (i.e. subject matter vs. soft skills)
5	Flexibility of university administration to support	Leveraging Cities and Other Resources for Funding