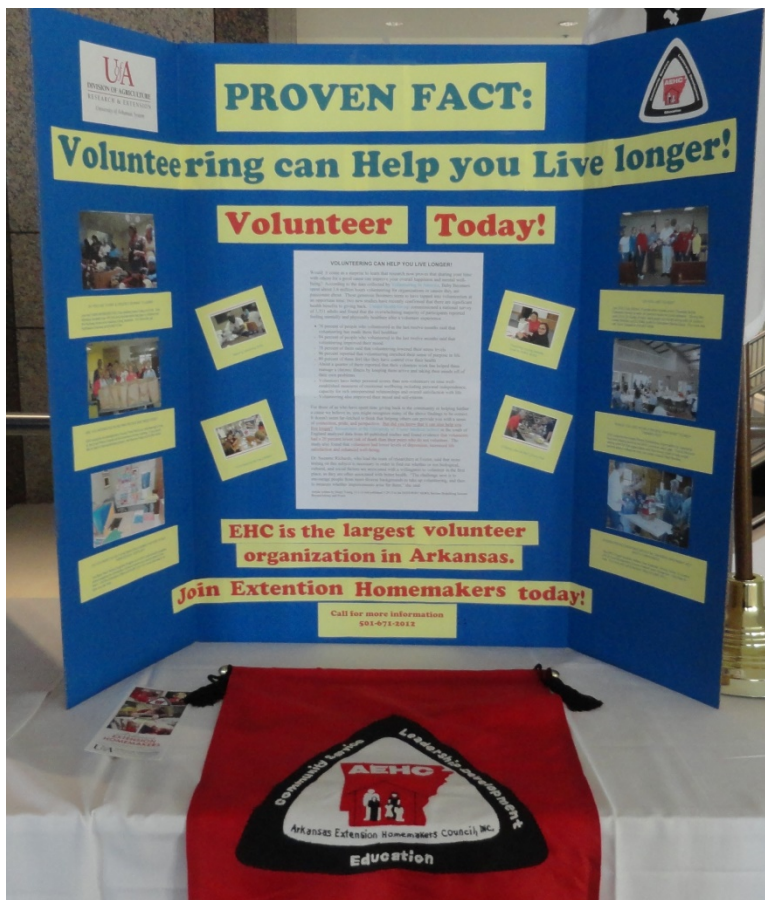


National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.

2017 State Displays

Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council



The Arkansas Extension Homemakers report 4,328 members with 338 clubs for the year July 1, 2016 – July 1, 2017. Our AEHC State Meeting was held once more at the Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs, Arkansas.. It was great this year with 472 members, guests, class presenters and speakers attending. Our theme for this year was “Volunteering – That’s What We Do.” Our University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Associate Vice President for Agriculture-Extension, Dr. Tony Windham, retired this year and Dr. Rick Cartwright, newly appointed as Interim Vice President for this position attended to assist us in presenting awards to our Milestone Service Recipients: 3 had 50 years, 2 had 60 years, and 2 had 70 years and plus. One of our members presented with a 76 year award passed away right after the meeting. AEHC presented \$2,500 to the National Education Association of Family Consumer Sciences to assist our FCS Agents, and \$2,500 was given in scholarships during the meeting.. One of our guest speakers was Elizabeth Ann Rankin who was Miss Arkansas for 1994. She is a great motivational speaker and an inspiration to all.

The number of Project Books submitted this year to be judged was 113. Each project book represents a community project or educational event by one of our 338 clubs or county councils such as tote bags for children’s shelter, knitted caps for Knitting for Noggins, caps for preemies, Quilts of Valor, after school backpacks, food pantries, meals on wheels, Operation Santa Claus gifts for underprivileged children, classes for sewing, cooking and canning, lap robes for Nursing Homes, teaching dolls, pillowcase dresses for Africa, turbans for the Cancer Institute, Women’s Crisis Center, food drives, pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House, or baby quilts for UofA Medical Center Premie Unit, to name just a few.

Our Cultural Arts Project at our State Meeting this year was wonderfully successful. Each county made and brought table runners of any size or shape. These table runners were on display for all to enjoy and were then put up for sale to help with expenses of holding the NVON Meeting in Arkansas in 2019. Over 120 table runners were donated and over half were sold at the State Meeting giving us approximately \$1,036.00 so far.

The remainder of the table runners will be sold at our District Meetings in October along with others brought and donated at that time.

Our state is divided into three districts and we have three district meetings in the fall each year. Some members like to attend the District Meetings more than the State Meeting as it is a one-day meeting as opposed to the three-day state meeting. The theme for our District Meetings for this past year was “We ‘R’ AEHC.” Our members were able to start getting acquainted with Dr. Laura Hendrix who is our new AEHC Advisor, taking the place of Betty Oliver who passed away last year. Dr. Laura has great plans for the growth of our membership and our clubs, and recognition of our organization. At our Spring Training Conference held at the 4-H Center in Little Rock each year we presented the center with new draperies for the cafeteria as a memorial to our former advisor, Betty Oliver. We were able to collect over \$7,500 to pay for the memorial and plaque.

We have a new Education Committee for the next two years as new District Directors for each of our three districts were elected at our State Meeting this year. Two Associates for each Director were appointed by the President to be their helpers. Our new Education Committee is very excited to begin a new year of helping those in our communities, counties, and state and we expect a wonderful and exciting year next year.

Illinois Association for Home and Community Education



We are believers in Illinois and very excited about the future of the IAHCE! Throughout the year everyone was encouraged to think about the positive rather than the negative. You see we have always looked at the net gain and over the past several years we haven't seen one. We will lose members for various reasons beyond our control. What we can control is “the getting” of new members. We can show our enthusiasm for HCE through positive attitudes, smiles, and sharing our stories. These actions will build HCE Membership!

In the words of our state 2nd vice president, Angela Hicks, I will share with you the program Angela came up with that is helping grow our membership.

“At the 2016 IAHCE Annual Conference, the incoming IAHCE 2nd Vice President (Angela) challenged the County 2nd Vice Presidents to increase membership. Our conference theme was “Rollin’ on the River” and it was learned that there was once a booming pearl industry in the town of Pearl, Illinois. So, the thought occurred to liken new members to pearls...add-a-member, add-a-pearl. The County 2nd Vice Presidents and their county members were encouraged to discover the hidden treasures (new members) in their county. At the end of the year, whichever county gained the most members would receive a pearl necklace.

Over the year, we heard about the discovery of “pearls” throughout the Counties. It has been said that “no grit, no pearl”! For IAHCE this means “grit” is effort, opportunity, and responsibility to find the “pearl” or new member! To our surprise, 328 members were gained and 58 of the 74 IAHCE counties had gained members. We have 6 districts and the county (within each district) with the most gains received a hand-knotted pearl necklace. Every county that gained members received a pearl charm and the counties that did not gain members received a card of encouragement!

Now we are encouraging the 2nd Vice Presidents and the membership to continue smiling, asking, and encouraging friends and acquaintances to attend a lesson, a meeting, or an event in their county. The

challenge and momentum is still going for 2017, there will be a pearl bracelet as an incentive.

Please note that the recipients of the necklace could keep the necklace, use it for a drawing for the new members, or raise money with it. It was their choice.”

Besides talking up HCE and gaining new members our membership is still busy doing every imaginable project for all ages and all walks of life.

-We provide Veterans with supplies, wheel chair caddies, lap robes, donated money for guitar lessons for a Veteran, numerous gift bags, and many cards with money attached to use for bingo and personal items. I delivered 846 Christmas cards and 491 Valentines with quarters attached to a local Veteran’s home. I learned from talking with a physical therapist at the home when I delivered the cards that she uses them as therapy for the residents. It helps them with their manual dexterity when they open the envelope and remove the quarter from the card! We did not know that we were helping with their physical therapy as well as their mental therapy!!

-Schools we have blessed with supplies, bookmarks, book bags, and scholarships.

-4-H members have been mentored in sewing, cooking, gardening, and table manners.

-Nursing homes have been showered with afghans, lap robes, bibs, and parties.

-Food pantries, blood drives, we’ve worked at, donated to, and provided food for.

-Collected and participated in retirement services of the American flag, created dresses for the children in Africa, provided aid to Women’s shelters, provided a Christmas for needy children.

This just touches the edge of all the great things our members do under the HCE program. I have said it before and will say it many times more, the organization has so many talented, artistically minded, ambitious, skilled, and giving people than you will ever find. We all owe an enormous amount of gratitude to our predecessors for having the initiative to begin such a program of support and educational opportunities for the women in the beginning days called Home Bureau. The organization over the years has changed names but still remains the same supportive and educational organization it was years ago. We struggle these days because, I think we may have lost sight of why the organization was formed many years ago, and that was to share knowledge with others. We are an organization that is blessed with a database full of knowledge, skills, and talent. We must be more willing to share those attributes with others!

I am extremely excited by the number of counties that gained new members this past year! I believe that we can continue to gain new members as long as we believe that we have virtues to share with others. Amanda Cole, Christian County Extension Director, spoke at the Christian County HCE annual meeting recently and said this about HCE members, “we are in the age of the millenniums, those born after 1981, and this era of people are looking for mentors who like to socialize to share knowledge and expertise, according to the experts. HCE is loaded with the type of mentors this era of people are looking for. the crafty, the experienced in different skill areas, and who like to socialize” There are people out there that are in need of what we have to offer, we just have to ask and offer our program to them.

So yes, we are believers in Illinois and feeling very positive that our organization will grow and prosper. I know all organizations are struggling with maintaining or gaining new members and I hope that maybe what I have shared with you today may spark some enthusiasm that can help your state become positive, excited believers like Illinois!

Indiana Extension Homemakers Association



The 2016-2017 program year of the Indiana Extension Homemakers Association began in July amongst the flurry of county fair season across our state. From July 19-21, a delegation of seventeen delegates and guests attended the NVON Conference, “Touching Lives World Wide” “Inspiring Women Everywhere,” in Bloomington, Illinois. In August, fourteen delegates and observers traveled to Warwick, UK to attend the Associated Country Women of the World 28th Triennial Conference. The group supported two resolutions, “Protecting the Supply of Water” and “Vaccination Against Potentially Eradicable Diseases,” proposed by the CWC USA and presented by Indiana members. A recommendation to the Conference, “Illegal Immigrant Border Children,” was also introduced by members of the Indiana delegation. Beverly Earnhart, from Goshen, Indiana, completed her term as ACWW USA Area President and Jo Ellen Almond, New Palestine, Indiana, was elected USA Area President 2016-2019.

The Indiana group enjoyed meeting with delegates worldwide for business meetings, tours, fellowship and craft time and experienced pre-conference tours of the London area and post-conference tours of Scotland, including home stays with members of their Women’s Institute.

Our program year stateside began under the leadership of 2016-2017 IEHA President, Cathy Cook, from Trafalgar, Indiana. Cathy, a member since 1981, chose for her theme, “To Pass on to Others,” a phrase which is part of the creed of the Indiana Extension Homemakers Association. Under Cathy’s guidance, the Shawls of Compassion project continued to support tissue donors’ grieving families through shawl donations to the Indiana Donor Network. She announced the campaign, “Kicking Cancer with Our Boots On,” asking each county president to provide a pair of boots to be set out at IEHA functions to collect money for cancer research. To date, the Purdue Cancer Research Endowment Fund created by the Indiana Extension Homemakers in 2010 has collected over \$190,000 that is being used toward cancer research here in Indiana.

Indiana Extension Homemakers helped sponsor the annual Family Impact Seminar at the Indiana Statehouse, Indianapolis in November, where experts in the field spoke to the topic of “The future of Indiana: Risky Behavior of Our Youth.” Indiana Legislators and homemakers were part of that discussion along with social agencies, specialists and service providers. Internationally, the IEHA raised over \$814 for the CWC ACWW India Project #1007, in addition to collecting Coins for Friendship over the year.

In efforts to spark membership, the state membership committee developed a program featuring a doll called Miss E.G.O. (Everyone Gets One.) Each county was encouraged to obtain a doll for use with their county clubs. As part of the membership promotion, sponsors/mentors bringing in a new member to the club would get their picture taken with the doll and would be in a drawing for a prize from their county. At the state level, a \$100 prize was given to the club that had the most incoming new members for the year. At our

annual conference in June, the Membership Committee sponsored a session called “The Magic of Membership,” where members of the organization spoke about what they treasured most in becoming a member of their homemaker’s club.

Eight counties participated in a new leadership/educational program called “I CAN.” The pilot program was developed out of a need for community members to learn basic cooking, sewing, home care and craft techniques and to empower the IEHA membership in leadership skills. Each participating county set up a series of lessons, partnering with other area resources for supplies and locations. The lessons, open to the public, usually involved a cooking lesson, a craft lesson, a basic sewing skill, a home care lesson and a “For Your Information” lesson on a family or personal care topic. Prizes and hands-on lessons insured that all participants went home with something from the lessons. Thirteen more counties will participate in the pilot program for the 2017-18 program year.

President, Cathy Cook, and President-Elect, Stephanie Jerabek, traveled the state for Fall District meetings in all ten districts, with Vice President Cindy Saferight joining them for the Spring District Meetings. The state membership was 8903 members for this program year, representing 89 counties and 745 clubs statewide. Along with the state, national and international projects, the clubs supported a variety of projects supporting our mission of continuing education, leadership development and volunteer community support.

Indiana Extension Homemakers have continued the tradition “To Pass onto Others” in this year’s programming and look forward to “Supporting Home and Family” in the 2017-2018 program year.

Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association



2017 marks the 40th year of KEHA’s support of the UK Ovarian Cancer Screening Program. Although it could not save the life of Virginia McCandless, the Barren County Homemaker whose concern for the health of all Kentucky women inspired the initial relationship, it has impacted the lives of many. The program has grown from one screening center at the University of Kentucky to an additional seven satellite centers in the more remote parts of the state. During the past 40 years, Kentucky Extension Homemakers have raised more than \$1.3 million dollars, which has enabled more than 280,000 annual screenings of over 45,000 Kentucky women.

During the past twelve months there have been 14,638 screenings and 103 malignancies detected. This means that 103 Kentucky mothers, sisters, wives and daughters have a better chance of successfully fighting this “silent killer”, enabling them to lead longer, more productive lives. The long-term survival rate of those whose cancer is detected through UK screening is 85% as compared with a 39% survival rate of patients diagnosed through traditional examinations. In view of these statistics, I hope that all of you who are eligible will choose to be screened in the next few years. Let’s turn Virginia’s dream of reaching many more Kentucky women with this life saving measure into a reality.

As with all dedicated volunteer organizations, KEHA must devote time and energy to attracting the new members which bring in the fresh ideas and perspectives that keep us relevant. The first goal of my term of office has been to Reach out to those members of our communities who are not yet aware of the benefits offered by Extension Homemaker participation. To this end, KEHA has offered three challenges to encourage clubs and counties to reach out to new members. The first, “Boost Your EGO”(everyone get

one) offers a \$300 cash award, plus one year custody of Ms. E Go, to the county with the greatest percentage increase in yearly membership. The second campaign, the “Way to Go” rewards the county having the greatest annual numerical increase with a \$300 prize and a year’s custody of Ms. Way to Go. The latest challenge is to encourage member retention. It is known as “Three for Three” and is measured over a three year period. The goal is to add a net of three members per year for three years. All counties who are able to do so are eligible for a \$500 prize drawing at the 2019 State Meeting. Although we experienced another slight drop in membership numbers this past year, I am hopeful that these programs will generate a turnaround in the very near future.

As a state-wide organization, we encourage clubs and counties to follow the state lead and venture further into social media to reach the untapped younger market. This hopefully will have a long term benefit, but there is still success to be realized from old-fashioned personal invitation to those whom we already know casually. Most of us became extension homemakers because someone invited us to join, touting the many ways in which participation would bring new experiences to our lives. We all know the benefits which we have received from our KEHA membership, but do we take the time to point them out to others whose lives could be enriched by the many diverse activities which we have to offer? This next year would be a good time to increase individual personal contact on which our organization was built and grew through the years.

KEHA provides services for every age and every socio-economic level within their communities. When you read the Area Presidents’ Reports, you are made even more aware of the many volunteer services which, if the community had to pay for them, would be cost prohibitive. Many of our activities, because they are so necessary, are duplicated from county to county. It is important that we document these, but with the increasing needs of our neighbors, we also need to find innovative new ways to serve. Last year, in addition to listing the many usual accomplishments of your organization, we asked that, if your county or area had found a new way to serve, you share specific details of the project so others can immitate your successes and improve the services which they provide.

I thank you for the opportunity to serve you this past year.

**North Carolina Extension
and Community Association, Inc.**

The North Carolina Extension & Community Association now has 182 clubs, 2,093 members, 13 lifetime members, and 18 Emeritus members as of June 1, 2017. Several of these clubs are new ones, with three of the new ones special interest clubs.

We have been very busy planning and getting ready for our State meeting and NVON combined on July 16-20, 2017 in Raleigh, North Carolina at the Downtown Sheraton. We look forward to seeing all of you in our lovely state. We have some great workshops, tours, and seminars planned.



We have also been very busy with our ongoing projects of Eat Local Eat Healthy and Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina at Lake Waccamaw. The Boys & Girls Home has 53 children from 12-18 years old. We have adopted the girl's cottage to help over the years with items needed, food, house hold everyday needs such as laundry needs, cleaning needs, personal toiletries and some fun items. They have 2 cottages for young pregnant girls or mothers with babies. They can house 6 young ladies. Some of our clubs have zeroed

in on helping with baby items and clothing. These girls all keep their babies and learn how to be good mothers and continue their education.

We also continue to volunteer and help with projects in each community. Some of the things we are doing are - fidget quilts, lap quilts, cut out fish from greeting cards to help with eye exams of primary grade children, food workshops, have international programs, travel clubs, fair booths, farmer's market, ornaments for breakfast with Santa, support our military, soup kitchens, women shelters, items for cancer patients and many other local services.

We have 5 districts in our state and each has a meeting in the spring to share what they have done with others and make new friends from their district. They each have cultural arts judging and 1st place goes to the state meeting. They have very good speakers to motivate the members.

We had our state meeting last October at Savor the Flavor in Winston Salem. This year we will have our state meeting Monday before the NVON meeting.

We have some wonderful programs we are working on for the coming year. These are Human Trafficking Awareness, Med Instead of Meds, SECU Finance Training, Women Leadership and Master Food Volunteer.

We are so happy and proud to be hosting NVON in our lovely state and hope you will enjoy the meeting very much. Thank you for coming.

South Carolina Family and Community Leaders



SCFCL members were busy in the past year. All of our clubs on the county level are involved in various service projects in their communities. Projects included working with nursing homes to provide personal items, clothing, lap robes, tissue holders, fruit baskets and cookies and many cards and visits to residents. Foster Care children were also the recipients of diapers, handmade dresses and shorts, gift cards and other items that included school supplies, books and toys. Many clubs support local Angel Trees and donate toys and bicycles to needy children at Christmas. Club members provide transportation for neighbors in their community that do not drive and need help getting to appointments and shopping. Many help special needs adults with meals and Christmas gifts.

Homeless shelters for men, women and families are special projects for many clubs who collect paper and cleaning products, personal care items, coats, blankets, towels and wash cloths for them. Clubs support shelters for battered women, halfway houses for teens and adults and local food banks with donations of products, food and money. Members collect books for libraries, hospitals and nursing homes. They collect coupons for schools and other charities, stamps, pop tops and plastic lids for Ronald McDonald Houses and Children's Cancer Fund. Members make pillow cases for the Shriner's Hospital and pillow case dresses for little girls in Africa. They crochet and knit caps for cancer patients, layettes for single moms, afghans for veterans and waterproof mats for the homeless. They serve as Poll workers, hospital volunteers, nursing

home volunteers, local and state fair workers and Canning Coaches.

SCFCL members work tirelessly supporting local 4H clubs. They serve as volunteer leaders, conduct canning classes, baking classes and craft classes for 4H kids. They have many fund raising projects for 4H scholarships that include selling plants, seeds and other items. They have soup and cornbread dinners, barbecues and craft shows to raise funds and they collect money each month for Pennies for Youth. On the state level we award two college scholarships each year to worthy 4H members.

Members participate in our educational lessons at club meetings. Members suggest ideas for lessons and the state educational committee members also bring ideas to the table. Anywhere from 9 to 12 lessons are prepared by Extension Agents, experts in a particular subject and members themselves. We try to pick lessons that appeal to most members.

Clubs are smaller now than they were in the past and may not always be the traditional type of club. Special interest clubs are being formed. These may be craft clubs, quilting clubs, herb clubs and baking clubs. As our members become older and fewer in number we have begun a membership drive to interest new members. Special interest clubs may appeal to people we have not targeted before. We are also looking into online clubs for younger members who still work and may not have time for traditional club meetings. Members attend individual club meetings and two county council meetings each year. Attendance has been up at District Meetings in the spring and fall. We have eliminated lengthy reports for counties and have instead set up sessions during district meetings for counties to do a “show and tell” report about things they are doing, making and supporting in their communities. This highlights all the great projects they have and inspires other counties who are looking for projects to do.

It may sound as if SCFCL members are all work and no play, but they still have lots of time for fun! They go on trips to various scenic areas and places of interest to members. They have luncheons and dinners out together, Christmas parties, fashion shows, “Members Only” parties and receptions for new members. They host festivals, enjoy craft classes, visit antique shops, craft shows and tea rooms. They learn new skills and make new friends and continue to support SCFCL.

West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service, Inc.



On behalf of the more than 3,100 members of Community Educational Outreach Service clubs in forty-four West Virginia counties, I am pleased to bring you greetings and an opportunity to share a few of the things happening in WVCEOS. As the newly elected president for 2017-2018, I chose as my theme, “I Can, You Can, We Can – Together We Can”..... and yes, WVCEOS members continue to work together to improve the quality of life for all West Virginians.

The 2016 WVCEOS Annual Leadership and Enrichment Conference was held on October 4-6 with nearly 200 attending.

“Volunteers In Action” was the theme and during the three day conference participants could take part in numerous learning sessions for officers, lesson topics, educational committee members and a variety of workshops with a multitude of topics covered. Conference also included the annual business meeting of the

WVCEOS, recognition of 50 year members, entertainment and much more. Plans are well underway for this year's conference which will be held October 3-5 with the theme being "Together We Can – Together We Will".

Celebrate Volunteer Hours (CVH) are documented each year and in 2016 there were 551,500 hours of volunteer work reported by CEOS members in twenty-nine counties. This represents \$12,993,340.00 of volunteer service given to our communities. Certificates with seals are awarded at annual conference to each county, club or individual who reports their volunteer service.

This year we welcomed Line-Audrey Nkule Sonkeng, from Cameroon, the WVCEOS International Student for 2017-2018. Line-Audrey will present a program about her home country as she travels around our state visiting with CEOS club members and the public. She has written a lesson topic entitled "Welcome to Cameroon" which will be studied by CEOS members in community clubs throughout our state. This scholarship, awarded by WVCEOS, will enable Line-Audrey to achieve her goal to be a mining engineer with a degree in civil/environmental engineering with a minor in geology. West Virginia CEOS clubs have supported the International Student Scholarship Program since the 1940's.

West Virginia CEOS also provides scholarships to three students who are in the Family and Consumer Science program of study, or a related field, and one scholarship to a student in a nursing program. County CEOS Councils and community clubs provide scholarships for the 4-H program throughout our state.

The NVON Project in Common, "Eat Local-Eat Healthy", has been welcomed by WVCEOS members. CEOS members went to work right away developing ways in which to participate. Three of our state's educational committees incorporated "Eat Local-Eat Healthy" into their plans of work. Counties have shared pictures of CEOS families participating in local farmers markets, evidence of programs held on the county and club levels, and various other methods of media. At a recent state board meeting, I presented vegetable and herb plants to each board member and adviser attending. The Deputy Commissioner of the West Virginia Department of Agriculture will speak at our annual conference this fall.

CEOS members emphasize educational committee work in the areas of: Family, Continuing Education, Marketing and Membership, and Purposeful Reading. A State Committee Training and Planning Meeting is held each April at which time each committee designs their plan of action and forms for reporting work done on club and county levels. Objectives included preserving heritage skills, family wellness, leadership development, using technology for daily living, community service, marketing and membership, and literacy, just to name a few. Our members have an opportunity to showcase their talents in creative writing and poetry contests.

West Virginia CEOS has six areas, or regions, within our organization, each comprised of six to nine counties. Each area has a meeting in the spring, with the host county having primary responsibility for the day's program. Most areas also have fall meetings or mini-workshops with lesson training sessions or council meetings held. Area representatives report to our state board happenings on the area level. Area meetings held this spring were well attended with a variety of program topics and interests presented.

As it was in its' beginning in 1914, the mission of West Virginia CEOS is to strength individuals and families through Continuing Education, Leadership Development and Community Involvement for the betterment of all. The primary purpose of CEOS is education.

We are proud of the many programs and projects carried out by CEOS members throughout our state. In closing, I will share with you the WVCEOS slogan which summarizes our work.....

WVCEOS is

"Fun, Friendship and Fellowship through Learning, Serving, and Caring".

Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education



Our members have been busy with many wonderful projects throughout the state.

The WAHCE Membership Committee is continuing the “Membership Challenge” to our counties to promote increasing the membership throughout our state. The “Challenge” is to encourage counties to develop an outreach program or project within their county to increase awareness and understanding of HCE’s role in the community and promote membership. This past year we had 32 out of our 50 counties increase their membership. We added 126 new members. This year our membership count is 3390, down 276 from 2016. We are pleased with the number of new members gained but sad over the continued loss of members.

The Family and Community Life Committee continues “the On the Move and In the Groove” program to promote better health among our members. In 2016, 33 counties participated and earned 136,834 points or over 36,000 miles.

Wisconsin tracks volunteer hours with our “Impact of HCE” program. In 2016, 34 counties reported they donated 135,709 Community Outreach volunteer hours with a monetary value of over \$2 million dollars. Our organization continues to be of such great service and importance to our communities, some of the projects include items for cancer patients, Heart Pillows for the Oncology Dept. in Door County, cuddle pillows for the Ronald McDonald house, pillowcase dresses for children in Nicaragua, Mexico and Dominican Republic, backpacks for children in Haiti, and tote bags and personal items for women’s shelters around the state. Our Nicaraguan project in 2016 was “Making Quiltlets”. Lylene Scholze, our International Chair, put out a call for our state members to get involved with making quiltlets. Wow!! The quiltlets came in from all areas of the state to our State Conference in September. We were overwhelmed with the response. The tables were covered with a few thousand quiltlets. The quiltlets will be going to areas of poverty for the children in hospitals. Children can be anywhere from infants, toddlers or teens. The quiltlets will be then delivered to the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners offices and from there, shipped to Nicaragua. This was such a great project with such great response that we are continuing it into 2017.

Internationally, we have donated \$ 8,821.95, to such projects as: Women Walk the World, Ventures in People, Heifer International, Wisconsin/Nicaragua Stove Project, plus \$3,384.90.00 to Pennies for Friendship, we have a check to present later today to NVON from Wisconsin WAHCE for \$2,549.49 for the water filter project. We have collected and donated endless boxes of eyeglass cases, sewing machines, sewing, baking, and hairdressing supplies to be packed and shipped to Nicaragua. These boxes go on to the learning centers where the Nicaraguans teach sewing, baking, and hair dressing skills to help Nicaraguans earn a living. We continue to support the Water Around the World project with monies being collected throughout the year for water filters.

We have promoted Food Sovereignty – “Production of Indigenous Rice & Vegetable Cultivation” among the marginal farms. Lylene Scholze, State International Chair, asked all counties to ask each member to donate \$.25 toward this project. If everyone in Wisconsin would donate this amount we could send a \$1000.00 donation. We will have to wait for the results at the end of the year.

We continue to support our Wisconsin Bookworms™ program which is in its 19th year reading over 38,480 books to 79,145 children. It is an important program for HCE. It encourages young people to love reading. We read to Head Start Early Learning classrooms. Head Start students are provided with a book each month for a total of 7 or 8 books for their home. This year WAHCE counties paid out \$120,449.50.00 in support of this program and the children of Wisconsin.

The Scholarship program throughout the state is great. Many counties as well as our WAHCE offer scholarships to graduating seniors for a total this past year of \$41,752.00.

WAHCE has been fortunate to have so many great members throughout our state give of their time to be so involved with our volunteer projects.