

National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.

2022 State Reports

Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council



Last July several of our members attended the NVON Conference in Kentucky. We all enjoyed the travel through the beautiful countryside, as well as the friendly faces we get to see year after year.

As a matter of fact, we got to meet a lot of them again a few months later at the annual CWC meeting in Illinois, where Arkansas invited everyone to attend the CWC meeting in North Little Rock, Arkansas in September of 2022.

One of the most relaxing evenings we have had in a while, was the 4-H Appreciation Banquet, celebrating the 40th anniversary of our 4-H center.

We had our meal on the lawn, by the lake, at sunset! The C.A. Vines Center was built for 4-H and other groups to use as a retreat and training center. The Master Gardeners have a section there to grow vegetables and flowers. The Extension Homemakers have met there for education and officer training as well.

At our 3 District Rallies in October, our theme was “AEHC Building a Better Future”. Dr. Laura Hendrix, our AEHC Advisor, spoke about how encouraged we should all feel being part of an organization that was formed 110 years ago.

This fiscal year, we had several Multi-County Rallies across the state, for those who could not travel to our annual October rallies or our state meeting.

Every year in the fall, our state has a retreat up in the mountains, where we learn heritage skills, such as blacksmithing, making corn shuck dolls, acrylic painting, jewelry making, and lots more mostly forgotten crafts. A good time is had by ALL without fail.

In the Spring, Arkansas has a Spring Educational Workshop, the theme of it was “AEHC, Leadership, Community Service and Education”. We had several breakout classes connected to this subject, as well a keynote speaker during lunch on “Leadership Values”.

June is the month that we have our State Meeting. Our theme for 2022 was “We’re Back Even Stronger”! And we sure lived up to that one. We celebrated Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council’s 110-year anniversary! Arkansas is proud to have one member, Marie Price, who has been a member for 81 years, she is 99 years old and still dances up to the stage when she receives an award. We awarded 63 Project Book winners with a



certificate and a check for their efforts. We also awarded two \$1000 scholarships to two deserving students majoring in Family and Consumer Sciences and Human Environment Sciences, and a \$1500 4-H Scholarship. Our two keynote speakers were very interesting and entertaining. The Educational and Creative Skills Classes were well attended. Our Past President, Karen Bell Fox and our President Cheryl Stewart held a “President’s Social” this year, and every single president that attended the state meeting came to mingle!

At every gathering, Karen Bell Fox drops some fascinating knowledge about pollinators. That’s the advantage of having the “BEE Cause Pollinators Feed the World” Chairman as an active member in our state!

We have held numerous Food Drives, collected dimes to donate to food banks and volunteered at food pantries, across our great state, resulting in feeding thousands of families. This is Community Service at it best!

The total volunteer hours reported for 2021 were 572,193 which gives back to the state of Arkansas a value of \$16,330,388. All achieved by the 3,257 members of AEHC.

Submitted by Debbie Thompson, AEHC President



Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

Greeting from the state of Illinois!

Roger Lee said, “If you are thinking positive during negative times, you’ve already won.”

This quote caught our attention last year when changing and growing was the central theme during a year of transition not only with our world around us but within our organization. Our membership held steady with minimal loss and much gain! **IAHCE ended 2021 with 66 of 67 Counties; 4,344 members; 299 actual gains; and a net loss of 184. IAHCE won!**



Last year the counties slowly began to meet and made creative choices for locations such as in the park, restaurants, banquet rooms, meeting rooms in various building such as museums. It was always a pleasure to see members face to face – well, mask to mask in most instances! IAHCE won!

Despite the slow return to meeting in person, county HCE members volunteered in a multitude of ways to help their communities. The Pandemic did not stop the needs of the community and it did not stop the members of HCE from giving their time, talents, or dollars to deserving individuals and organizations. Year-end reports showed **1,598 members in 51 counties reported 333,380 volunteer hours** and we know there are many more who didn’t report their hours. The **counties reported approximately 232 projects with 208 community organizations**, this does not account for the number of individuals served through these organizations. Yes, IAHCE won and so did the community!

In 2021 many counties were able to offer lessons to their members and the public. Lessons were shared through various avenues. In person lessons were given inside and outside. Lessons were given in newsletters, on video, and live presentations through the internet. The University of Illinois Extension stepped up its game to offer more lessons through the internet. IAHCE won!

Although the IAHCE Conference was cancelled it did not cancel IAHCE! The IAHCE Board met at the normal Board meeting times as well as by Zoom. Many of us attended the NVON Conference in Kentucky last July and Illinois hosted the CWC/ACWW Area Meeting in September last year. The Board continue to think positive in negative times and continued to plan for a 98th IAHCE Annual Conference!

IAHCE's challenge to the Members throughout Illinois is to continue to think positive, think creatively, and move forward with our heads held high as IAHCE already won!

Submitted by Angela Hicks, IAHCE President



Indiana Extension Homemakers Association

Indiana Extension Homemakers continue to work towards strengthening families and find new ways to reach out to the communities we serve. IEHA has over 100 years of heritage and we are working to create a positive future.

Indiana's 92 counties are divided into 10 districts. The districts meet twice a year – spring and fall. These meetings include updates from the state, introduction of new projects, a workshop or lesson with a focus on state or national projects. This year's spring meetings featured speakers on the importance of pollinators to all of us. The topics varied from beneficial plantings to beekeeping and how to set up a beehive.



Members continue to collect funds for cancer research. These funds are deposited to the Indiana Extension Homemakers Purdue Cancer Research Endowment Fund. The fund balance is over \$220,000. Donations fund the account and research requests for funds are approved and disbursed. The special collection this year was in honor of past IEHA state president Barb Keyes, whom cancer claimed this past year. "Steps for Barb" was implemented to honor her year as president 2010-2011. Participants received a special pin with the year 2011 on it for making donations to this special collection. This collection is continuing.

Indiana Extension Homemakers support several programs statewide. Our leadership training program, i-LEaD, is comprised of three levels and is given annually at Home and Family Conference. Level III was given this year at our June conference and several members were finally able to complete the entire program. Levels I and II are scheduled to be offered next year at our June conference.

Our First Books for Kids program is a favorite with volunteer members who read the books and the children who enjoy being read to. The program supplies a copy of the book read that day to the classroom and each of the children receive a copy to take home.

Members also continue to support Riley Children's Hospital by making donations as requested on their website. Members are encouraged to support the Riley Cheer Guild by becoming individual members.

Comfort shawls for the "Threads of Compassion" program through the Indiana Donor Network are also requested. These knitted or crocheted shawls are given to families who have lost a loved one and whose loved ones donated organs or tissue.

I continued with Anne Moore's L.O.V.E. of family program, focusing on the "L" for literacy. My secondary theme this past year was "Literacy Leads to Lifelong Learning". Literacy was discussed at district meetings and some held book collections to gather books to distribute.

"Honor Our Heritage – Forge Our Future". We're glad you could join us in Indiana this year!

Submitted by Jan Gogel, outgoing IEHA President



Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association

We have continued to have some interesting times in the last year, haven't we? We still planned to have meetings and other events

and luckily, we were able to proceed with some of them but also had to cancel some out of caution and safety for our members. I sincerely hope that this year brings some normalcy back into our lives, if we even remember what that looks like.

I am so proud that we were able to successfully host the 2021 NVON Conference in Owensboro. The conference got rave reviews from everyone who attended. We planned Area Meetings, and some went off as planned but others had to be cancelled due to safety precautions. Once again, some area and county officers were asked to stay in office for extra terms since elections couldn't be held but our members rose to the occasion and did what was necessary to keep KEHA running.



We were able to hold in-person Fall and Spring Board meetings with just a few modifications and conducted business as usual. We made it work to get the job done. For the first time ever, KEHA had a one-day track of sessions at the Extension Volunteer Form. We presented 6 sessions that were developed and led by KEHA members and were very well received. I was so proud to be a small part of that day.

Membership did show a slight increase in 2021 with a current membership of 10,879. We still have work to do to get back to pre-pandemic levels and I am looking forward to a new membership campaign to do that.

Even with some restrictions still in place I am happy to share these numbers to showcase how active our members continue to be in our communities. Here is the breakdown for each educational area.

- 4-H Youth Development: KEHA clubs and county organizations provided more the \$5,200 in 4-H camp scholarships
- Cultural Arts: KEHA clubs and county organizations generated more the \$8,500 to support KEHA and community projects through sales of cultural arts/crafts items.
- Environment, Housing and Energy: More than 660 members implemented landscaping practices to attract bees, birds, or butterflies.
- Family and Individual Development: More than 700 members participated in a program or lesson focused on self-care.
- Food, Nutrition and Health: More than 1,800 members donated to a local food pantry.
- International: KEHA clubs and county organizations completed projects addressing 16 of 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Leadership Development: KEHA members/clubs reported more than 133,000 volunteer hours for COMMUNITY activities and events.

- Management and Safety: More than 1,200 members indicated they feel prepared to protect their money from fraud because of KEHA programming.

Here are some more statistics that I think will make you proud to be a member of KEHA!

- Members annually report more than 400,000 volunteer hours with a value of more than \$9.4 million dollars to the Commonwealth.
- Donations through KEHA to the University of Kentucky Ovarian Cancer Research Fund surpassed the \$1.56 million mark in 2022 and average more than \$28,000 annually.
- KEHA organizations from the state level to local clubs annually present a total of more than \$40,000 in scholarships for higher education.

We continue to be a very viable part of our communities and I hope we can continue that for many years to come. I am proud to have served as your President and am looking forward to many more years of membership. I encourage you to get involved on your area and state levels. You will make lifelong friends and meet many new friends across the state.

Submitted by Karen Hill, KEHA President



Michigan Community Education Outreach

Hello from Michigan!

The 2021 State District Meetings were completed in May. Over 75 members attended, which is about half the state membership. With Covid-19 still in the minds of many, we were so glad that so many took the chance and attended. We have 5 Districts and 14 counties as of now. There are 149 members in the Michigan Community Education Outreach Association. Sadly, we have lost 5 members to death this year. One of the members was Doris Rolland, a 68-year member! A new club was born in Bay County; it has 17 members! We welcome them!

The new club's name is "The Busy Bees of Bay County". The club's mission statement is: BEE Active, BEE a Teacher, BEE a Learner, BEE a Volunteer, BEE a Friend. The founders came up with this because they wanted their club to have appeal to draw young people in to join their group. Young women no longer need other women to teach them how to sew or how to can or to share recipes; they have the internet at their fingertips. BUT what they do still need is strong friendships, moral support, and in-person social interaction. Amazingly, they used social media to generate interest. They created a Facebook event, invited some friends, and then those friends invited their friends. On October 12th, they held an information meeting. Everyone that showed up, joined that night. They have since had a few more join and now have 17 paid and active members. They rotate hosting by members each month. The hostess provides a dessert and beverage during their social time and the business portion follows. The last hour of the meeting is spent having a lesson, craft, game, speaker, or activity that is planned by the hostess. The club is also scheduling quarterly recreational outings as well as some volunteer and outreach opportunities. So far, they have definitely been "Busy Bees." The average age of a Busy Bee is only 42 years old. The oldest member is 51 and the youngest is 33. This is great news for MCEO as it brings some fresh faces and some fresh ideas to the organization. The total MCEO state membership increased by over 10% just by having this new club form, and it was EASY! MCEO is in dire need of some new and younger faces to keep it going strong for many years to come. Without younger members, the organization will not be able to sustain itself.

On Sept. 22-23, 2021, we had a successful state convention at Bay City, following two years of cancellations. The committee was concerned about attendance, but our wonderful membership squashed all concerns when we ended up with almost half the state membership attending. We had excellent workshops that all attended.

Our Convention Committee invited the National Volunteer Outreach Network's President, Stephanie Jerabek, to be the Keynote Speaker at our convention. We thanked Stephanie for coming to Bay City from Indiana and spending time with us as a participant for the entire conference. The information she shared about the roots of NVON helped us to understand how, when and where that organization was formed. What a positive experience to get to know Stephanie better!

Our education theme for the year was "What Floats Your Boat – Women's Hobbies," which highlighted women's hobbies, how important they are and how they lead to our healthy physical, mental, spiritual and emotional well-being. Topics of interest have included a blind speaker who talked about services available for the blind, shopping for bargains and putting together gift baskets, etc. at far less the cost than full price, members talked about their hobbies with examples for us to see, a program on Hummingbirds and a speaker on foster care. Other programs included topics such as foods that nourish the brain, a local pharmacist, depression and anxiety, the Peace Corps and chair yoga. Items were collected for domestic assault victims. We sent \$300 to Love, Inc. of Greater Lapeer for laundry basket giveaways. These baskets contain laundry essentials and cleaning supplies for the home. Some members volunteered time filling out toy tags for Holiday Depot for the needy children at Christmas. Other activities included an international potluck and sharing of information about holiday cultures around the world, donations of food, clothing, toiletries, and gifts for The Good Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City and items for the Humane Society.

We continue to support the CHARACTER COUNTS Program. This year's winner was an entry sent in by Bay County. The 2022 contest will feature the character trait of FAIRNESS.

The 2022 District meetings are completed, well attended and were very successful. There were 83 paid registrations collected, with \$2 per person registered going back to the state treasury. South East District had a group of older gentlemen who sang barbershop style. Southwest did a program on cleaning. East Central had a group talk about their "Sunshine Club," which offered meetings and programs for handicapped persons of all ages. North Central had a great program on Rosie the Riveter and showed memorabilia from WWII and included many stories about real life Rosie's.

Our Vice President for Education, Joyce Weiss, presented a lesson on cleft palate and birth defects, keeping with the Smile Train promotion from ACWW. SMILE TRAIN is an organization that travels around the world doing cleft lip and palette repair. We then collected donations for the SMILE TRAIN and collected \$242.53 for this organization.

The NVON Project in Common is "BEE-cause Pollinators Feed the World." Sheri Drake, past MCEO president, spent a lot of time studying and preparing a program and has offered to present it around the state. At the Lapeer meeting, she presented the lesson and offered a game of chance. We raised enough money for 4 beehives for Heifer International.

Our state convention is coming up in October 5 - 7, 2022 and it will be in the beautiful Upper Peninsula! Our theme is "Fall is Proof that Change can be Beautiful."

Though our name has changed several times, we have been around for over 80 years!

Submitted by Kristine Mueller, MCEO President

North Carolina Extension and Community Association, Inc.



NCECA is divided into five districts across our state and has 123 clubs, 1531 members, 12 Lifetime members and 12 Emeritus members. Many of our clubs are special interest clubs.

When 2021 began with us still in the midst of a pandemic, it would be several months before counties and NC State Extension resumed meeting in person. NCECA was not spared the effects of the pandemic. Without in person meetings and activities to engage members, many members dropped out. We had several counties who opted not to continue as member organizations, so we experienced a decline in membership.



Even though few counties were meeting in person, our members continued to do what we have done for 109 years! We continued to make a difference in our communities by rising to meet the challenges and opportunities afforded us as we partnered with North Carolina State Extension. NCECA members continued to make masks for friends, family, health care workers, childcare facilities, nursing homes and schools. They continued making adult bibs and lap robes for nursing homes. A big need continued to be blankets for farm workers, nursing homes and homeless citizens.

Our partnership with Alzheimer's Association continued as twelve of our members were trained as Community Educators. Those twelve presented twelve workshops to groups across the state. We are in our second year and we are preparing to train our second cohort as Community Educators.

The Extension Master Food Volunteer (EMFV) program has continued to grow. The program is designed to engage residents in food and nutrition programming in their community and train volunteers to further expand the reach of N.C. State Extension. FCS agents train volunteers to support their food and nutrition programming and promote local food, thereby building their capacity to deliver high quality, evidence-based interventions. These volunteers are enrolled as NCECA members.

October rolled around and the Covid numbers were up. NC State Extension was not sanctioning in person meetings, so we pivoted to offer 2 half-day virtual meetings as our Conference. Reunited & it Feels so Good was the theme. The conference was quite successful and positioned us for reuniting in the new year!

We're busy planning our 2022 State Conference, *Bee Cause ECA Matters!* to be held in Raleigh in October!

These are statewide programs and projects. Our members continue to be leaders in their respective communities by identifying needs and rallying the people and resources to meet those needs. Last year, members volunteered over 115,000 hours, thereby contributing \$3.3 million to North Carolina.

Submitted by Cathy Homes, NCECA President

South Carolina Family and Community Leaders



The South Carolina Family and Community Leaders mission is to strengthen individuals and families through continuing education, leadership development and community services; to empower citizens to actively participate in public decision making on issues that concern children, families and community life; and to promote the effectiveness of volunteer actions and support.



At one point in the past 101 years, our membership was over 17,000 members. Members were in their early years, eagerly ready to learn and share ideas to make communities a better place to live and raise families. We are now several generations down the road with children and grandchildren following in the footsteps of our first leaders. Life has changed for all of us. How fortunate are we to be able to communicate with each other using modern electronic devices like computers and cell phones even when we're away from home.

The State Education Committee selects topics relating to the needs and interests of its members, organizes and arranges them into uniform formats with coordination from extension agents and advisors, and supplies new education lessons to each county organization to be used for monthly lessons. The lessons are available on SCFCL's website as well as previous lessons from years past.

The 2022 State Project is "Bee-Cause Pollinators Feed the World, Project in Common with NVON. Report forms, videos and lessons are on the SCFCL website. Not all members will plant a pollinator garden or take care of beehives but knowledge about this issue can help them make better choices sharing with others, be aware about pollinators flying around and the need to have these important flying critters. Members reported 200 volunteers have either given a presentation, constructed a pollinator garden, organized a classroom or participated in a ZOOM program which calculates to over 100 hours promoting this Project in Common with NVON.

Clubs/members continue to volunteer in their communities taking sick to doctor appointments, making meals and sharing with those in need, making bags of toiletries for the local VA and victims of domestic violence, donating can goods for veterans as they leave for home after hospital stays, collect aluminum tabs for the local children's hospital, just to mention a few of the many services we provide in the community.

Because of COVID-19 and its variants, county participation is still on the light side. In the spring we consolidated our 3 district meetings into one and used ZOOM for the meeting. Participation was much better than the previous year offering an option to call by telephone allowing more members to attend. We plan to do the same type meeting this fall.

Through volunteer member donations, we continue to support South Carolina youth. We give two \$1,000 scholarships to South Carolina 4-H'ers. These scholarships give them an opportunity to fulfill their dreams, whatever it may be. Hopefully they will stay in South Carolina and "maybe even: become a SCFCL member.

The Annual Meeting in October was our "100th Anniversary Celebration" 1921-2021. To celebrate this momentous occasion, five previous state advisors shared their experiences and accomplishments. Many counties brought historical books and souvenirs for review and display. Since Winthrop University houses our historical records, they set-up a 100-year history display. It was a fun occasion to review 100 years of service

to our state and local communities. We look forward to the next 100 years with dedication, education and service to the residents of South Carolina.

Submitted by Pat Breznay, SCFCL President



West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service, Inc.

Greetings from the West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service and its' more than 2,000 members.

The WVCEOS mission is to strengthen individuals and families through continuing education, leadership development and community involvement for the betterment of all.

It is my pleasure to report Celebrate Volunteer Hours (CVH) reported a total 255,500 volunteer hours, which represent \$7,291,970.00 of volunteer service to our communities.

The WVCEOS Leadership and Enrichment Conference was held October 4-7, 12-14 and 19-21 virtually due to COVID numbers, with more than 200 members attending. The theme was Helpful Hands of Community Educational Outreach Service Members were able to attend classes ranging from officer and lesson leader training to educational committee classes and numerous craft classes. The second annual Spring Virtual Conference was held in April 4th through the 8th. The Theme Growing Scenic Opportunities with Community Educational Outreach Service.

The much awaited in person 2022 Fall Leadership and Enrichment Conference is scheduled for October 4th through the 6th, the theme "Don't Go to The Birds, Join CEOS".

WVCEOS members participate in several community service projects. Some of which are: donating boo bears (1000) to hospitals, fire and police departments; making "Barrel Bags" (500) for displaced children and filling them with age-appropriate items, Lap Quilt for Hospice, Breast Cancer Survivors and The Veterans. Knitting and Crocheting scarves and booties for our Veterans, collecting food items for Brown Bags for Vets.

Members also raised over \$50,000.00 in support of Breast Cancer by having elimination dinners, pink luncheons, purse raffles and silent auctions. \$2500.00 was also raised for the Back Pack program.

WVU Extension agents and specialists authored lessons for 2021. Some of the titles were: "Mounds of West Virginia", "West Virginia Women in Baseball", "Fashion Through the Decades", "Railroads That Carved West Virginia", "A Haunting History: The Trans Allegheny Lunatic Asylum".

Maria Zakir is the WVCEOS International Student for 2023-2024. "Maria is from Pakistan and her field of study is Industrial Engineering. Maria will write a lesson about her country, which will be shared with members as she travels to several CEOS counties.

This year, WVCEOS awarded four scholarships to college students majoring in nursing and family and consumer sciences.

Members of the West Virginia CEOS believe in our mission and purpose of strengthening families, promoting lifelong leadership development and community involvement.

In partnership with West Virginia University Extension Service, we pledge to be productive contributors in meeting the needs of our changing and diverse society.





Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education

The theme for my 3 years as President, of WAHCE, is "ANEW WAY OF LIVING WITH HCE". With COVID, we had to learn new ways to meet, and do our projects. We learned how to do Zoom meetings, and to social distance when we did get together.

West District is busy getting ready for the State Conference, in Onalaska. The theme for this year conference is "Rollin' on the River with HCE". The conference will be held September 19th-22. We have tours. The trolley ride and river boat ride seems to be the most popular tours.

Have some fun crafts and many sessions, planned. Have 2 educational programs planned. One on getting started with advanced care planning. And the other on prairie wildflowers for attracting butterflies, birds, and pollinators.

We have a total of 2,175 members. Have lost some members, clubs and counties. It's hard finding new ways to find new members, with our population aging.

We have an Impact on HCE report. The members keep track of the hours, in-kind, and monetary hours that the volunteer. This year it was a total of 50, 982 hours. Which adds up to a total monetary of \$1,711,188.80.

The information about the "Be Pollinator" program. Was taken back to the state. Lylene Scholz passed it out to the six district international chairs. They passed on the information at the fall and spring district meetings. Many counties have already been planting plants to attract pollinators.

We donated \$500.00 to Nicaragua. One of the learning centers is starting a bee project, and they will use it to get the equipment to started.

Our 51 counties gave out 83 scholarships, this past year. For a total of \$25,292.95. These scholarships were for high school seniors, to go to college. And members to go to state conference.

Our bookworms project read books to young children. This year there was a total of 3805 sets of books for 32 counties have been ordered, from Scholastics.

Activity sheets are being developed by the UW system in both English and Spanish.

At state conference this year, we will be honoring bookworm readers for 10, 15, and 20 years of reading.

We had a tee shirt design contest. To design a tee shirt to promote HCE. And try to get new members. The winner, and runner up will be announced at conference.

Submitted by Eileen Gottbeheat, WAHCE President

