

National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.

2025 State Reports



Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council

Arkansas's 3 Districts have a total of 2,864 members statewide.

The districts are: Delta with 53 clubs and 575 members, Ouachita with 83 clubs and 884 members and Ozark with 97 clubs and 1242 members. These members turned in a total of 70 Project books detailing part of the community service projects for the year.

Volunteer hours for the past year totaled 277,542 hours statewide, with each club choosing their own projects. Some of these were Teaching Dolls for local hospitals, pillows, blankets and other items for heart and cancer patients, homemade bags, blankets including items for the homeless or foster children, and numerous workshops to teach skills like canning, sewing and crafts. In Arkansas, each volunteer hour is valued at \$34.79, for a total value statewide of \$9,655,686.18. In 2024, EHC groups awarded 29 scholarships with a total value of \$15,950.



Many members share information via email, text, Facebook, and Pinterest. Our Facebook page now has a following of more than 1600 with many more viewing special events who are not followers. We also currently have 538 subscribers to our text group and 495 subscribers for the email list. Our webpages and material have been updated for accessibility.

EHC partners with 4-H in many counties, to help teach skills to the youth in our communities. We assist with 4-H club activities and with judging the O'Rama Competitions at the County level. This also lets the older youth know that there is a group they can join as they age out of 4-H to continue their continuing education and leadership development by helping foster continuing community service projects.

We held our annual state meeting on June 3-5. We had 218 members who registered for the 3-day meeting with 41 members who chose to attend only one day of the conference for a total of 259 total attendees. The meeting included 13 education classes and 8 creative skills classes with our ever-popular Bingo and Anything Goes Talent show night for entertainment. This year, with the theme of the meeting being "Shine Bright" we invited

attendees to a Wednesday Banquet with a Jazz band playing for entertainment and some outstanding “Shining Star” awards given.

Submitted by Deb Teague, AEHC President

Florida Association for Home & Community Education



For the 2025 annual report, the Florida Association for Home & Community Education (FAHCE) is proud to highlight the many ways that our membership continues to fulfill our mission of serving others through continued education, leadership, and community action.

Our membership numbers are holding steady, and we ended the year 2025 with 156 members in 11 counties.

The membership reported a total of 6,095 CVUs hours (Community Volunteer Units) providing support to our communities throughout the state with a variety of education programs, outreach events and hands-on activities. Through these activities we impacted 25,177 people.

The membership actively supported many local non-profit agencies through donations of time, money, and talents.

District I:

In September 2024 we had 3 members attend CWC Conference where we hosted craft day, a silent auction, and basket raffle. October 2024, we were in charge of the country store at the 10-day Pensacola Fair where we sell baked & canned goods along with craft items and we do also have displays. This year the Sew & So club will be doing booths about food insecurity.

All year Escambia County makes monetary donations to local food banks, Favor House, Gulf Coast Kids House, and we have collected 152 items for Ronald McDonald house.

In February we invited Canine Companions to come and give information on training service dogs, one of our members trains these wonderful dogs.

Ashland Park group has given free crochet lessons open to the public, Sew & So has made 50 lap quilts for the nursing home, 40 shower caddies for Favor House and were the cooks in charge of meals for our church camp. In June, Escambia County gave sewing classes to about 20 of our 4-H members and are doing a craft class for them in July, NOW we are all prepping for the fair in October!!!!

District III

Fundraising Events (Bingo) were held in October '24 and March '25 to raise money for Youth Scholarships. We were proud to present four (4) \$500 scholarships to local high school students.

We hosted Achievement Day for our members where members brought in their homemade items and displayed them for judging. Ten of these items were sent to FAHCE State Conference in April 2025 for competition. One of which received Third Place overall.

December '24 we hosted a Holiday Party, invited HELP NOW organization, and donated personal products for abused and neglected members of the Osceola County area.

Members participated in the Kissimmee Valley Livestock Show & Fair in February 2025 by helping check in 4H Youth & Creative Arts with their exhibits. Made Baked Goods Creative Arts fundraiser. Helped judge Sewing projects for 4H, ran sound system for Creative Arts fundraiser, watched exhibit hall during opening times, and helped with check out at end of fair.

We participated in collecting the following for local organizations:

- Pop Tops for Ronald McDonald House
- Eyeglasses for local organization

FAHCE as a whole donated to:

- "Rural Women in Action" (formerly Pennies for Friendship)
- "Feeding Florida" (formerly Dimes for Hunger)

FAHCE fundraising efforts included Foundation Table and Quilt Ticket Sales at the State Conference. All funds raised support our Youth Scholarships.

We had 46 members attend the FAHCE State Conference in April 2025. We are looking forward to a larger number for our 100th Conference in April 2026.

We appreciate the support we received from the University of Florida's Family, Youth and Community Sciences Department (FYCS), and the Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) Extension Service. They provide us with Agents, information, educational programs, resources that allow us to continue our mission of serving our communities.

We are looking forward to a productive year in 2025-2026ext

Submitted by Diane Kuzirian, FAHCE President

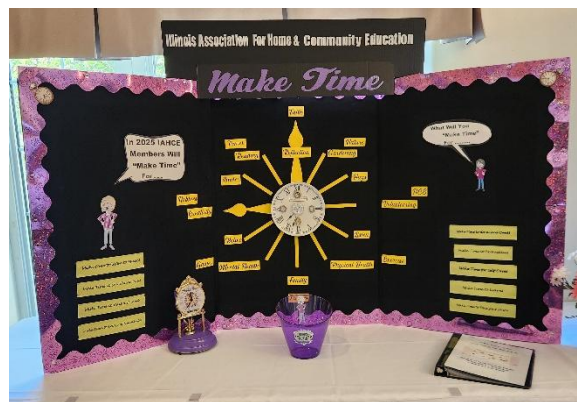


Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

Greeting from the state of Illinois!

In 2024 IAHCE members sparkled like diamonds celebrating the 100th Anniversary!

The counties continued working to make a difference. IAHCE ended 2024 with 60 Counties; 3,690 members; 206 Actual Gains; and a 12% loss. The loss is mainly attributed to a lack of retention rather than a loss from death as reported by the counties in the Dues and Membership Transmittal Report.



In 2024 HCE members once again provided support in their communities! 12 of the 60 counties reported serving approximately 305 community organizations with approximately 155,888 items donated and \$13,482.06 in monetary donations. 53 Counties reported a total of 380,950 CVH hours, worth \$33.49/hour for a total of \$12,758,015.50. This means innumerable individuals were helped in a variety of ways - for example scholarships, hats, blankets, stockings, clothes, toys, bibs, walker bags, cards, books, food, etc.! This does not

account for all of the county scholarships given to deserving Illinois students nor all of the monetary donations to various organizations throughout Illinois. In 2024 IAHCE gave \$500 Scholarships to 4 qualified Illinois high school students.

We continued to collect for the NVON Bee-Cause Project in 2024 collecting a total of \$2,661.98 in donations. Many of the counties continued to give or receive presentations on pollinators. At the August Workshops in 2023 each state officer was asked to give a lesson on various areas of Mental Health. In 2024 it was evident in county newsletters and reports that the county HCE members shared information on Mental Health.

The University of Illinois Extension continues to offer lessons on the internet as well as in-person presentations in some areas. Counties reported giving many lessons of interest from local sources as well as taking educational trips within Illinois as well as in surrounding states.

IAHCE Conference attendance in 2024 increased tremendously. I had the privilege and honor of escorting the ACWW World President, Magdie DeKock around Illinois to meet our members and see firsthand our Illinois communities. In July of 2024, 13 HCE members attended the NVON Conference in North Carolina. The five IAHCE district directors visited the counties installing officers and encouraging the membership. Last year I visited 20 counties sharing the ACWW Triennial trip to Malaysia, 4 counties with Magdie DeKock, and 8 county annual meetings. In September of 2024, 5 HCE members attended the CWC meeting in Florida.

The IAHCE Board held its 100th Conference last year, two regular board meetings, and District Workshops for 5 districts last year. The IAHCE Board is an outstanding, enthusiastic, and dedicated team of women who work well together accomplishing the goals of IAHCE. The whole IAHCE Board encourages our members to continue their quest for knowledge; desire to make a difference in their community; and the goal of building and retaining membership in HCE.

Theophrastus (thee·ow·fra·stuhs), an ancient Greek Philosopher once said, *“Time is the most valuable thing man can spend.”*

Submitted by Angela Hicks, IAHCE President



Indiana Extension Homemakers Association

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. During that time we chartered 14 new clubs. Many of these are specialty clubs including one for quilters and one for a group of ladies in a nursing home who make “puppy pillows” for the local animal shelter. How exciting!

Indiana has over five thousand members throughout the state, with 85 of 92 counties having memberships. While we have been encouraging and explaining about the importance of reporting we still had less than half of the counties reporting.



We had a great year with Volunteer Hours reaching 157,496.5 hours. The value of those hours amounts to \$5,479,303.24. That is a lot of time and talent by devoted members to help others.

Monetary donations amounted to \$224,407.

There were 285 shawls that were knitted or crocheted for the Indiana Donor Network to give to family members of organ donors. The donor network will supply yarn for those with the talent.

We accumulated Pop tabs weighing 218 pounds and donated them to the Ronald McDonald House.

Five thousand, Nine Hundred and Sixty five items were donated to Riley Children's Hospital. These included blankets, toys, games.

The state continues to make pocket hearts to total 5,965. It is believed that these have reached all 50 states and 11 foreign countries.

During this past year, the state project was to make “Boxes of Care”. These included a couple of buttons, needle and thread, safety pins, a wash cloth, toothbrush and toothpaste and band-aids. There were 3,164 of these made and distributed to the homeless, food pantries, blessing boxes and schools.

Other items collected and distributed were socks, underwear and feminine products for school nurses.

For this year we donated \$3,367. to the Purdue Cancer Research Endowment. Since its inception we have raised over \$220,000 to benefit cancer research.

The theme in the upcoming year is “planting seeds that last forever”. We will be collecting underwear a.k.a. “bloomers”.

The Indiana Extension Homemakers will be focusing on programs dealing with mental health. We will also be pushing a program that helps get family dinners back on the radar.

Submitted by Linda Carunchia, outgoing IEHA President



Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association

First of all, I want to take this opportunity to thank those who have made these last three years very special. Our wonderful State Advisor, Kelly May, made my job look easy and made me look very efficient. She is so knowledgeable, kind and understanding and easy to work with. I can attest that she can solve any problem no matter how big it is. Kelly's past experience with journalism sure helped my spelling and grammar.

Kentucky is so fortunate to have 30 plus, great state board members to carry out our state plan of work and provide the leadership and knowledge to do those jobs. Our clubs would not be successful without them. I hope more of you will step up and take on these leadership roles.

I also want to acknowledge and thank the University of Kentucky for the guidance, support, leadership and the wonderful mentorship we receive from their staff. Our local County agents work tirelessly with local leaders



planning lessons, programs and events for our club members. We had lessons on cultural diversity; mental health and wellbeing; selfcare and survival training; radon, carbon monoxide and solar energy safety; healthy eating; physical activity; working with 4-H; international eating and living; ACWW, CWC and NVON programs; bees and beekeeping; blessing boxes; emergency card information; fraud and scams; leadership and officer trainings and many more. We, as members, should take advantage of this free information and share it whenever possible.

Kentucky had 11 members attend the NVON conference in North Carolina last July. We made lots of friends, shared information, and toured Ashville and the Biltmore. All 11 states that are members of NVON do things differently. We learn from each other and share ideas and programs that have been successful. It was a wonderful experience. This July, the NVON conference will be held in Springfield, Illinois, and the ACWW Triennial Conference will be in Canada in 2026. If interested in attending either of these conferences, more information can be found on their website.

Lastly, I want to thank the members for your loyalty to your clubs, counties and areas. Your interest and love of extension homemakers is evident in the work you do. We increased our state membership again this year to 11,353. We have clubs of all types from school age to senior citizens and I am so proud of you. We had 677 cultural arts entries at our last state meeting. Beautiful work from across the state was displayed. It was wonderful to see all those blue ribbons. Your fund raisers and projects allowed us to donate over \$47,000 to the Ovarian Cancer research and screening program. This has been our state project for several years now. We have now passed the \$1.67 million amount collected since we began this program. The University allows Kentucky homemakers to be screened for ovarian cancer free of charge.

Reading through the reports of the 14 Area Presidents and the 8 Educational chairs, I was amazed at the hundreds of projects, sales, raffles, teas, luncheons, suppers, and veteran programs you participated in. You volunteered at hospitals, schools, churches, homeless shelters, food pantries, 4-H events, nursing homes, and senior citizen centers and even had quarter auctions. You gave unselfish donations of time, money, food, clothing, personal items, baby needs, travel needs, help with the flood victims and needed supplies in eastern Kentucky, and many more actions I have not named. As members you stand out and make us great.

Last year, we had over 450 homemakers who attended the State annual meeting in Bowling Green. Our theme "Blazing the Way with KEHA" was a big hit. One of our speakers was from the Corvette plant in Bowling Green and did a wonderful presentation. The state choir of 27 members from 19 different counties gave a wonderful performance under the direction of Wendy Hood from the Fort Harrod Area. It was wonderful to see all the homemakers receive their awards for all their hard work. Our auction yielded almost \$2,000, which helped fund the work with 4-H. The handmade 225 quilt squares displayed and auctioned brought in over \$1,800, which was designated to help offset the cost to host the State Meeting. The 15 theme baskets that were raffled generated \$3,300, which was added to the amounts collected from our counties to benefit the Ovarian Cancer Research and Screening Program at the University of Kentucky.

As we close out the 2025 year with our state annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington, Ky., in May, be mindful of our theme "Discover KEHA – a Hidden Treasure" and share it with everyone you know.

Please know that I value all the friends I've made and have enjoyed all the miles traveled. We have a beautiful state, wonderful active homemakers, and there is no other place I'd rather be.

Submitted by Brenda Hammons, KEHA President



Michigan Community Education Outreach

Michigan Community Education Outreach has a membership this year of 147. Despite our small numbers we are an active group and do things in our study groups and communities to support organizations; and collaborate with other groups on educational and charitable programs.



In May the four districts hosted their annual District Meetings. All had the same morning presentation by our Vice-President of Education on a mental health and wellness topic. Social Wellness was emphasized and the value of interactions with other human beings over being on screens was featured. Five games and team activities were enmeshed throughout the program in which information on social wellness was disseminated. Phones had to be turned off and the fun and laughter began! Each District also arranged a speaker for the afternoon session. Each of these were excellent! There were 125 who attended—85% of our membership.

We do not keep track of volunteer hours, but we do volunteer in many ways across the state. We have members in 15 counties. Volunteers participate at churches, schools, food pantries, hospitals or veterans' organizations.

Donations are made in many ways—books for newborns and mini libraries, toiletries, school supplies, food for pantries and a women's crisis center. Fundraisers are launched so monetary donations can be made to places like Hospice, organizations that help the homeless, pregnancy centers and women's resource centers. We sent in contributions to the NVON Bee-Cause project in common. One group cleaned up in one of the State Parks this spring.

Our annual fundraiser is currently going on. We print 1000 raffle tickets and try to sell as many as possible for \$5.00 each. Last year we sold approximately 850 tickets, which was our best year yet. This is our main source of income. There are ten weekly \$100 prizes given out. We use the 3-digit State Lottery number as our winning ticket.

Our MCEO State Convention will be held the first week of October. The Northern District is hosting and planning has been completed for the most part. Registration materials were distributed in the June newsletter

Site visits for the NVON 2028 National Conference have been done. Tours/activities/classes have been discussed. Further planning continues.

The MCEO Alumni Group is made up of past State Board officers and past County presidents. The members of the group conduct the installation of officers each year. They are very generous and provide a few scholarships to members at the convention. At their summer meeting they have an educational speaker, a craft activity and a business meeting.

We are small in number but take the organization seriously and feel our Mission Statement reflects what MCEO is all about.

Submitted by Sheri Drake, MCEO President



North Carolina Extension and Community Association, Inc.

In January 2024 we began the journey of implementing the Strategic Plan that we spent 2023 drafting.

Our Bylaws, Policies and Procedures and other documents were revised at our 2024 State Conference.

We are excited about the energy and direction that NCECA is taking. Our counties are looking at diverse membership by offering specialty clubs, i.e., quilting, sewing, foods & nutrition, travel, etc.

Members have contributed over 161,420 hours in support of NC State Extension programming and volunteering with our community partners, such as schools, senior centers, civic organizations, food pantries, churches, civil servants, community gardens, etc., thereby contributing more than \$5.3 million to North Carolina.

A couple of months after you all were with us in Asheville last July, that part of our state was devastated by Hurricane Helene. Many of you reached out to ask how you can help . . . for that we thank you. Your contributions funded several endeavors, even allowed us to purchase a generator for one family. Our members teamed up with our agents across the state to collect and donate kitchen supplies as many people were left without any way to prepare food!

Though our membership is declining, we continue to add new members. Our 81 clubs with 1000 members continued to work diligently, as those members before them, to identify the needs of their communities and rally the resources to meet those needs. They exemplify the mission of NCECA “to strengthen families and communities through leadership development, community action and educational support from NCSU and NC A&T State.”

Submitted by Dorothy Wagstaff, NCECA President



South Carolina Family and Community Leaders

I thought I could get used to the “Famously Hot” nickname for Columbia, South Carolina but this hot and humid weather we’ve been having is chasing a lot of us indoors. One of our home thermometers announces when the mercury reaches above 100°. She’ll say, “Good afternoon, the temperature is one hundred degrees”. Makes we almost wilt. Most clubs take a three-month break in the summer and start back with meetings in September when it’s a bit cooler but the girls running the show never stop. There’s always something to do to keep our organization up and running, (never a dull moment).



After the 2024 NVON Conference in Asheville, North Carolina last July, the executive committee started working on activities and events for the remainder of 2024. In August we had a Board Meeting when we started making plans for the next year, handbook data needs to be collected and final arrangements for the October Annual Meeting which includes final reporting for projects.

October 1st and November 1st are major report dates. Report forms for awards and projects need to be submitted by these dates, two busy months. The Annual Meeting is in October. Counties volunteer to host the meeting in different parts of the state. It was in beautiful Charleston County in 2024 and was well attended, a full house of 86 in attendance. Lots of activities and delicious food.

December 15 is the due date for end of the year volunteer reporting. Since January 1st, 2025, members have volunteered 12,000 hours totaling \$378,000 worth of free donated time to help wherever needed across South Carolina mostly in local communities. Members don't realize how valuable they are in their communities and don't report their full worth.

There is a January Board Meeting when we mail report forms to county presidents to be used for the whole year with the minutes of the Board Meeting. It's also newsletter time to brag about your county's successes through pictures and words. We mail our 12-page newsletters in the spring and in the fall. Every member receives two newsletters per year. Members have the option to receive the newsletter by email if they choose, which saves us on postage.

Our three District Meetings meet in March in different parts of the state, giving members an opportunity to see our beautiful state and experience the flavors of the host's foodies. We do have great cooks if they decide to customize the menus by members.

In April we have another Board Meeting as well as an Education Committee Meeting which selects the education lessons for the next year. Members are very helpful in suggesting topics of their interest. Clemson University and support teams help write our suggested lessons, review them and supply them to county organizations at the Annual Meeting for use the following year. Clemson University requests we review the lessons to see how effective their help is, which we gladly support their help.

Some of our education lessons for 2025 are: Cooking Solo; Easy, Healthy Meals for Seniors; Food Deserts; Food Insecurity; Growing and Using Culinary Herbs; Ten Early Signs of Alzheimer's and Dementia.

One of your State Projects is "Fill the Need", that deals with Food Insecurity which is a condition of not having access to sufficient food or food of an adequate quality to meet one's basic needs. One way we can help is to find a charity to support and donate (big or small.) We can make a difference when we "Fill the Need."

In 2025, we had a recipient of the Buff Swicegood Travel Study Award Barbara Westbrook who took her travel study to the British Isles to learn how the "Brits" are like us as far as our community volunteering. She has written an education lesson for 2026 and will be making a PowerPoint presentation at our Annual Meeting in October about her trip.

SCFCL is 104 years old now. We lost some of our oldest and dearest members since last July, but we continue to replace them with new ones who will help us continue to make a difference in our communities through dedication, education and service.

Submitted by Pat Breznay, SCFCL President



West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service, Inc.

This speech summarizes the remarkable achievements and ongoing initiatives of the West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service (WVCEOS) in 2024, highlighting our commitment to community enrichment and personal growth.

Our organization, boasting over 1800 members, experienced exceptional success in volunteer service. The Celebrate Volunteers Hours (CVH) program reported a staggering 394,900 volunteer hours, translating to an incredible \$13,738,571.00 in donated community service. This underscores the profound impact our members have on West Virginia communities.



The WVCEOS Leadership and Enrichment Conference, held October 8th-10th, 2024 under the theme "This IS Home," drew over 100 attendees. The conference provided valuable training in leadership, educational program development, and various crafts, fostering both personal and professional development within our membership. We are currently finalizing plans for the 2025 conference, themed "Historic Past, Bright Future," scheduled for October 7th-9th at Jackson's Mill, Weston, WV.

Our members' dedication to community service is truly inspiring. Beyond the impressive volunteer hours, WVCEOS actively participated in numerous projects, including: donating 400 lap robes to hospice and veterans; donation of 1000 books to children in various schools, creating and distributing over 300 blessing bags for foster children; and extensive beautification projects at Jackson's Mill and various community sites. Our fundraising efforts were equally successful, raising over \$20,000 for breast cancer awareness and over \$10,000 for Relay for Life. Support was also provided for local fire departments, police departments, school libraries, and food pantries.

Our collaboration with the West Virginia University Extension Service continues to be invaluable. Extension agents authored eleven engaging lessons for 2025, covering diverse topics ranging from historical needlework to revitalizing kitchen utensils. In alignment with the NVON Project in Common, we've developed two 2026 lessons focused on mental health and the positive impact of hobbies. Additionally, three lessons specifically tailored for the West Virginia State Fair were created, focusing on culinary arts.

We are delighted to welcome Ama Addo from Ghana, our 2025 International Student, who is pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering. Ama has already shared her insightful lesson, "Introduction to Ghana," with members across our areas and counties. This continues a proud tradition, dating back to 1949, of welcoming international students to WVCEOS.

The unwavering commitment of our members to strengthening families, fostering lifelong leadership development, and enriching our communities is the bedrock of our success. In partnership with West Virginia University Extension Service, we remain dedicated to serving the evolving needs of our diverse society.

Submitted by Connie Wolfinger, WVCEO President



Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education

Our Northeast District has been putting together our 2025 conference at the Tundra Lodge in Green Bay Wisconsin. Our conference will be held September 15-17. The 2 Educational Programs this year will be focused on “How family and friends can cope with a suicidal person” and “Memory Loss”.

Wisconsin Bookworms is a program we’ve had for over 27 years – every year we honor the Readers at our State Conference Year. 4,000 scholastic books have been ordered for the 2025-2026 school year. Activity sheets and book labels are made available to help with reading.



Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners – has been our passion program for over 55 years. We supply materials for the ladies to make a living, beauty parlor, cooking and baking, outdoor stoves and of course sewing centers. The Warehouse is located in Stevens Point, and meticulously inventoried and packed several times a year, loaded into shipping containers and flown to Nicaragua by the Army. Earlier this year a quick announcement was requested by WNP headquarters, if we could use the donation feature on Amazon they wanted to collect 40 various sizes of sewing kits to be sent to Stevens Point – and we came through. They also requested donations for special burn sleeves, due to many people getting burned in their homes.

Our WAHCE International Committee has requested we bring used and old inkjet cartridges to our September Conference to give to another group we sponsor “Ventures in Haiti”, where they will be recycled and get monies back. We also sponsor a scholarship to 6 worthy Haitian students every year.

Eileen Gottbeheat and Shirley Steinhurst, West District, have been diligently working on securing the Wisconsin Hotel (recently purchased from Wintergreen hotel) in Wisconsin Dells.

Submitted by Phoebe Shourds, WAHCE President
