

National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.

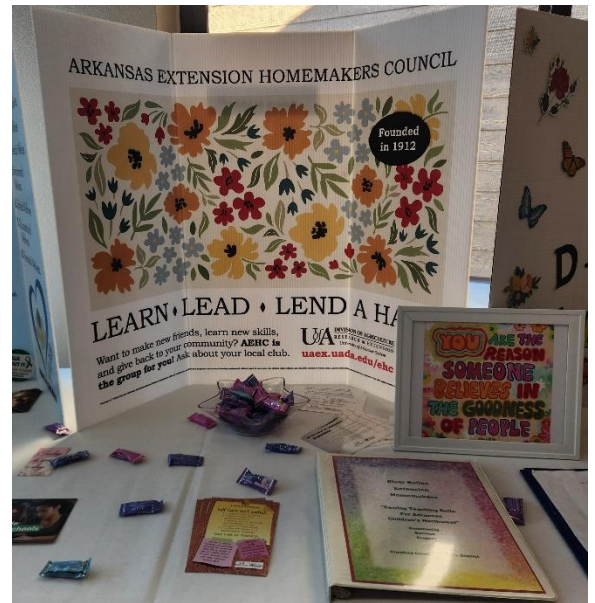
2026 State Reports



Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council

Arkansas has been very busy since the NVON Conference in 2025. In October our state had three District Rallies. Our districts are Delta, Ouachita and Ozark. At each rally our speaker was an Arkansas State Trooper that works in Human Trafficking. We have educational booths and of course a silent auction at each rally! Over 100 members attend each Rally.

In March we had our one-day Education Workshop. Several education classes were presented. The members attend these classes and take the information back to their counties and clubs. The attendance is usually about 200 plus members. It is a good start to our year. We have educational booths, a silent auction and product sales tables.



In June we had our annual State Meeting with 290 members attending. Our theme was Red, White and Bold! Several educational classes were presented as well as some craft classes. There were many educational booths. Our new 2 year service project was announced. It is Fabric Waste.

We awarded two scholarships to college students totaling \$2,000.00. We awarded scholarships of \$1,500.00 to the 4-H and \$2,000.00 to the County Agents.

The Past Presidents also awarded a Scholarship for a member under the age of 50 to attend the State Meeting.

Milestone Award Certificates for 50, 60, and 70 plus years were presented to members. Clubs were presented certificates for 50, 60 and 100 plus years.

We had 74 Project Books on display. Counties and clubs save newspaper clippings, pictures and media during the year to highlight one of their projects. The project can be Education, Community Service or Leadership. They then put all this in a three-ring binder, along with a story and some other required information. Many of the books are on education projects they learned from previous March Education Workshops. The project books

are judged earlier in the year, and a certificate is given for each book along with a monetary prize. The members love looking through other books to borrow project ideas.

We also had vendors, a silent auction and product sales room. The funds from these are put back into our accounts!

The Product Sales table is at each meeting the state has. Items such as t-shirts, lapel pins, necklaces, earrings, tumblers and key chains with our logo are sold. Members wear these items, especially t-shirts while doing their county projects in the community to promote AEHC and possibly get new members.

Our statewide membership for the year is 2,955.

Delta District has 50 clubs with 539 members, and 25 members at large.

Ouachita District has 78 clubs, 1,177 members and 6 members large.

Ozark District has 92 clubs, 1,171 members, and 37 members at large.

Our state had a total of 380,276.5 volunteer hours reported at a value of \$13,743,192.71.

Our clubs and councils gave 29 scholarships with a value of \$15,950.

Many of our clubs and councils got proclamations signed by city and county officials recognizing May as AEHC month. Counties have programs and projects during May to highlight the month. Many members have an AEHC yard flag, they display the entire month of May.

So as you see Arkansas Extension Homemakers have been very busy all year and the State will start back up in October with District Rallies.

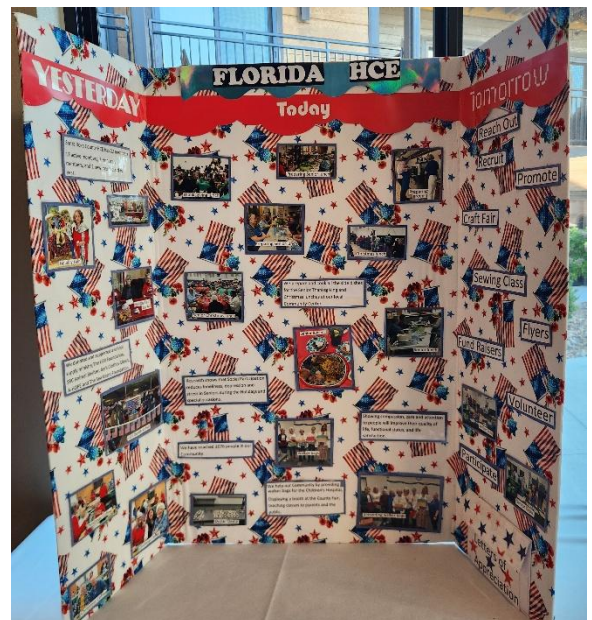
Submitted by Darla Watts, AEHC President Elect

Florida Association for Home & Community Education



I'm so proud of our state!

Washington County has increased our membership from 3 to 16 by changing the date and location of our meetings. We have been going on field trips to various places that everyone is interested in instead of having someone come to us such as the Historical Society. We have found a need for our community Home for domestic violence and addiction. Therefore, we have been helping them by gathering supplies that they need for daily basis mostly cleaning supplies they have a house where they can go to and stay and provide help for these women and sometimes



children. We have found a need as far as a food desert and we have built a blessing box that has been used very much. We try to keep things in it at all times it may be something small but it's something for people that they can go to if they truly need it.

Osceola County has been collecting school supplies for the upcoming year. They have their fundraiser playing card bingo, it usually brings in several hundred dollars.

In February, Escambia County held an all-occasion card making class, these cards were made and donated to various places. March, we held our cultural arts show so many beautiful things were displayed. Doris Smith also made and donated 83 Easter cards for the Century Care and Rehabilitation Center. April consisted of a crazy hat day and luncheon, everyone made and displayed their creations. Prizes were given. 7 members attended the state conference in April. In May we made homemade scented sand candles. The month of June we held a sewing class to make breast cancer pillows to be donated to woodlands cancer Center when they are all finished

Santa Rosa County made walker bags for the Children's Hospital, Holiday Fair, Pensacola Interstate Fair, Senior Expo, Thanksgiving Senior lunch, Christmas Coffee, Christmas Senior lunch. Conference for State

Submitted by Diane Kuzirian, FAHCE President



Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

Greeting from the state of Illinois!

In 2025 IAHCE members took the theme "Make Time for IAHCE" seriously!

The counties made time to make a difference. IAHCE ended 2025 with 60 Counties; 3,385 members; 219 Actual Gains which increased from the previous year; and a 10.6% loss not including deaths as reported by the counties in the Dues and Membership Transmittal Report.



In 2025 HCE members once again provided support in their communities! 23 of the 60 counties (which is double last year's total) reported serving approximately 315 community organizations with approximately 56,403 items donated and \$15,675 in monetary donations. 52 of 60 Counties reported a total of 356,360 CVH hours, worth \$34.79/hour for a total of \$12,397,764.40. 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. We also collected \$1,297.42 for the NVON Bee-Cause Project in 2025.

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.

In July of 2025, Illinois hosted the NVON Conference in Springfield. Of the 123 registered, 41 were from IAHCE, thank you IAHCE members for your support! You helped make the NVON Conference a success! The good news is we developed a conservative budget and maintained it, ending with a small profit for NVON and IAHCE. Two weeks later, 5 IAHCE members attended the ACWW Area Meeting in Kentucky.

The Board and I encouraged members to continue building enthusiasm and membership in HCE as well as retaining current members.

Submitted by Angela Hicks, IAHCE President

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Although some were skeptical of such needs in their communities, members soon found that the need was overwhelming. Our final count of those reporting showed that 13,914 pairs of underwear, 5,737 pairs of socks, and 3,085 other items, such as bras, diapers, gloves, scarves, and feminine hygiene products were collected and

distributed throughout Indiana. On the final report to the state president, many commented on how important this project was and several counties plan to continue this distribution regularly.

This initiative was not the only way in which our members supported their communities. A total of eighty-one scholarships were awarded, with a total of \$48,000 dollars given statewide. Additionally, 5 Ruth B. Sayre scholarships were awarded through CWC to Indiana students in 2025 and 3 in 2026. The 2024-2025 President's initiative to assemble and give out "Care Boxes" did not end with her term, and an additional 100 care packs were distributed this year containing hygiene essentials and other helpful items. Talented knitters and crocheters made 64 shawls to be given to grieving families of organ donors through the Threads of Compassion program/Indiana Donors Network. Pocket hearts continue to be a popular project (President's initiative from 2022-2023) to show caring and kindness, with another 6,425 hearts being distributed (this is in addition to the 55,000 hearts already made/donated to people around the world). In support of the Ronald McDonald House and their mission, 193 pounds of pop tops were collected and donated. The Riley Cheer Guild is a popular organization with which we have a long-standing relationship, as they supply extra items to the many children treated from around the state at the Riley Children's Hospital. Our members donated 1,961 items (toys, books, playing cards, Lego sets, etc.) and over \$400 to purchase whatever other items might be needed. Additionally, 4,850 other items, such as baby blankets, items for veterans, food for local food pantries, and Christmas gifts were distributed locally in the communities needing help. Total money donated this program year by our clubs/counties was \$328,101.15. Even more importantly, the volunteer hours from our reporting counties totaled 130,372 hours, which has a value of \$4,711,644.08 (\$36.14/hour). As I continually say to our membership when discussing volunteer support, if we don't do it, who will?? What incredible value we are to our communities!

The IEHA-Purdue Cancer Research Endowment Fund, established in 2011 saw an additional \$1,071 donated this year, with our endowment currently valued at over \$344,078. Each year, 4% of the market value of the endowment fund is transferred to Purdue researchers studying a number of different breast cancer treatment options.

IEHA held its i-LEaD (Indiana Leadership Education and Development) class in three day-long sessions, with twenty-one graduating. This program has been in existence for many years, but interest in it being offered at our annual conference had waned. Offering it in a central location on three separate dates seemed to be the ignitor to spark new interest in the program.

I can look back on this past program year with pride and awe. Our success as an organization did not happen by accident. It is the hard work of our focus groups and committees, county councils, local clubs, and state board members that continues to support our IEHA mission to strengthen families through continuing education, leadership development, and volunteer community support. Our members are the key to the future of the Indiana Extension Homemakers Association. We must honor the timeless values of home and family by breathing new life into the traditions that bind us, bridge the wisdom of our heritage with the innovations of today, and be willing to look outside of comfort zone to grow.

Submitted by Cathy Wilkymacky, outgoing IEHA President



Michigan Community Education Outreach

Our 2025 state conference was held in Houghton Lake, Michigan. We had great speakers. Our entertainment was provided by two gentlemen from Bay City. They sang and played the guitars. We had a great time dancing and singing along with them.

We are not doing a lot of things during the summer months. We are stocking the mini libraries in our area on an ongoing basis.

We held our district meetings in May. Our executive board attended each meeting. The meetings were very informative. The luncheons that were put on were fantastic. We have some great cooks in Michigan. We had speakers and also musicians to entertain us. We learned about the Badger, a ferry that travels between Michigan and Wisconsin, daily. We were entertained by a barber shop quartet. They had 24 members singing to us. It was funny to see their reaction when they asked if we had anyone named Mary Lou with us. They then sang Hello Mary Lou to me/us. Our educational program, written and presented by Joyce Weiss, our Vice President of Education, was titled Don't Distress, De-stress. That was a lesson on Mental Health. We also had a lesson on leadership. One of our districts had a guest from the Netherlands. She was wonderful.

Michigan is currently working on planning our 2026 state conference to be held September 30th, October 1st and 2nd. It will be held at the Doubletree in Bay City, Michigan. This is also the site of our 2028 NVON conference. If anyone is able to attend our conference, we would love to have you. We have a lot of fun and interesting things planned.

Submitted by Mary Lou Wisniewski, MCEO President



North Carolina Extension and Community Association, Inc.



Our Bylaws, Policies, Procedures and other documents were revised at our 2024 State Conference. We are excited about the energy and direction that the North Carolina ECA is taking. Our counties are looking at diverse membership by offering clubs like quilting, sewing, food and nutrition and travel clubs.

We worked on some guidelines this year to cover some issues that clubs were having. We wrote, voted on and approved an NCECA Membership Removal Policy and a Volunteer Code of Conduct.



Members have contributed over 129,630 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 4.4 million to North Carolina.

Some of the Community Service Projects include:

- The Alzheimer's Association
- Boys & Girls Homes of NC
- Ronald McDonald House
- 4-H Clubs
- Master's Gardeners
- Atrium Healthcare Solutions

We have given scholarships to our graduating seniors and other Adults completing their education. We have donated food to food banks and pantries, donated items to backpack for kids, and given gift bags to Meals on Wheels Clients. We have attended many informative and educational classes on a variety of topics including Stress Relief Through Aroma Therapy, Mental Wellness and A Matter of Balance which informed seniors how to prevent falls.

In our 5 Districts we have 68 Clubs with a total of 895 members. We made over 402 thousand contacts with our community partners. Our members 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 University.

Submitted by Dorothy Wagstaff, NCECA President



South Carolina Family and Community Leaders

When SCFCL decided to use the topic "Waste Less, Eat Well" for the 2026 State Project, we hoped it would make a BIG impact on our members, our families and even our communities. This project was chosen from an ACWW Resolution Addressing Food Waste: "Be it resolved that ACWW facilitates both action and advocacy on the issue of food waste, recognizing that food waste occurs throughout the global food supply chain, and that coordinated action is required to migrate food loss and wastage at every stage" so, when CWC, USA announced the Food Waste Grant, it seemed like a perfect fit for us. We applied for the \$500 grant and our proposal was accepted. Since this was a 3-year project and we were in its last year, we needed to get the wheels rolling fast. We formed a timeline, sought help from partners from our local EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Extension Program) group. With a good plan and their expert help, we came up with a logo, made a promotion brochure and purchased a portable display that would be helpful and easy to carry to meetings and events to promote our project.



In mid-March, I attended all 3 District Meetings around the state with our display. We asked our meeting attendees to fill-out a Pre-survey to see what they knew about Food Waste before we started giving them facts and figures. EFNEP agents attended the District Meetings and presented a PowerPoint at each meeting. Before members left the district meetings, we gave them a Scorecard to fill-out and on the back was a Log Sheet to keep track of their progress. Participants were asked to bring the filled-out Scorecard and Log Sheet to the Annual Meeting, October 22nd and we will draw Scorecards of members that participated and present them with usable project-related prizes. We will also have them fill-out a Post-survey. We can use the

post-survey to see progress of what they have learned and shared. We won't know until October what a difference has been made but it appears our members are interested in Food Waste and how it can help them, their families and communities where they live.

As a side note: through this project, it has helped increase our volunteering number over last year's numbers. Last year our volunteers reported 12,000 hours. So far this year, our members have volunteered 7,700 hours (at \$31.50 per hour, that is \$242,550).

At the SCFCL Education Committee Meeting in April, some of the topics for 2027 are: From Waste to Worth (Understand, Explain how safe is our food, Identify practical strategies, Recognize its importance and Develop a personal action plan to reduce food waste), Making a Nutritious Sandwich (Understand what is a healthy sandwich from the top to the bottom to lower sodium, lower sugar and increase fiber making better choices), Pecans-Production, History and Recipes (Learning about this nutty topic with a few delicious recipes), Peaches: South Carolina History, Nutrition & Recipes (Learn about the delicious, juicy and flavorful South Carolina peach through history, nutrition and recipes), Understanding Anxiety: Everyday Ways to Manage Mental Health (Recognize common signs, understand and practice simple techniques to manage then identify supportive resources). Extension support staff are helping write these lessons and will review for accuracy. Each county will receive a copy of the lessons and lessons are available to download from (scfcl.com), our official organization website.

Pam Hanfland and I represented SCFCL at the 31st Triennial World Conference in Ottawa, Canada. Bonnie Teeple, the 2024-2026 USA Area President from Oregon, term expired at the Triennial Meeting's end. As a society member of ACWW, SCFCL carries 5 ballots for each time there is a vote. We attended the USA Area Meeting and elected Jane Chapman from Illinois as the new USA Area President (3-year term).

The Triennial World Conference Opening Ceremony is always impressive with members carrying each country's flag with 23 countries attending this year. Some of the Resolutions voted were: Sustainable funding models to address violence against women and girls; Reducing digital harms via social media, Childcare deserts, Iodine deficiency disorder in rural women, just to mention a few.

Pam Hanfland (SCFCL Webmaster, Parliamentarian and Membership Coordinator), Jim Breznay (Pat Breznay's husband) and I attended a Conference sponsored tour "Just Food Farm-Forest to Table Experience." We did a walking tour of a small-scale, agriculture business located on a 150-acre farmstead. For lunch every dish featured ingredients from the forest! C'est Bon Cooking's Forest-to-Table culinary event was led by a professional chef and featured local Canadian products and boreal forest ingredients. An interactive cooking demo by some guest participants and a three-course meal with appetizer and dessert were prepared. What a treat. This farm is mostly organized and run by creative and dedicated Canadian women.

The Conference was filled with great speakers, workshops and we were able to bring back wonderful ideas for us to use in South Carolina to improve the quality of life for our members, their families and communities where they live and raise their families.

The next Triennial is the 100th Anniversary and will be held in Ireland (three years from now.)

SCFCL is gearing up for our state's 2026 one-day Annual Meeting hosted by my county in Columbia at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, October 22nd. Our theme is "Waste Less, Eat Well, Don't Waste a Bite." Come on down to South Carolina, The Palmetto State, in October it's a whole lot cooler then.

Submitted by Pat Breznay, SCFCL President



West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service, Inc.

Hello everyone,

What an absolutely incredible year 2025 has been for the West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service! We're still buzzing with excitement as we reflect on all the wonderful things we accomplished, and it's all thanks to the heartwarming dedication of our amazing volunteers. Over 1600 of you poured your hearts into making West Virginia a brighter place, contributing a staggering 431,500 hours of service. That's like \$15 million worth of kindness, creativity, and hard work – truly enriching communities across our beautiful state!

We love helping our members grow and learn, and our annual Leadership and Enrichment Conference is always a highlight.

It's a fantastic opportunity to gather, connect, and pick up valuable new skills. And guess what? We're already looking forward to our 2026 conference! Mark your calendars for October 6th-8th at Jackson's Mill, because we'll be celebrating "250 Years of Freedom." It promises to be an inspiring event you won't want to miss!

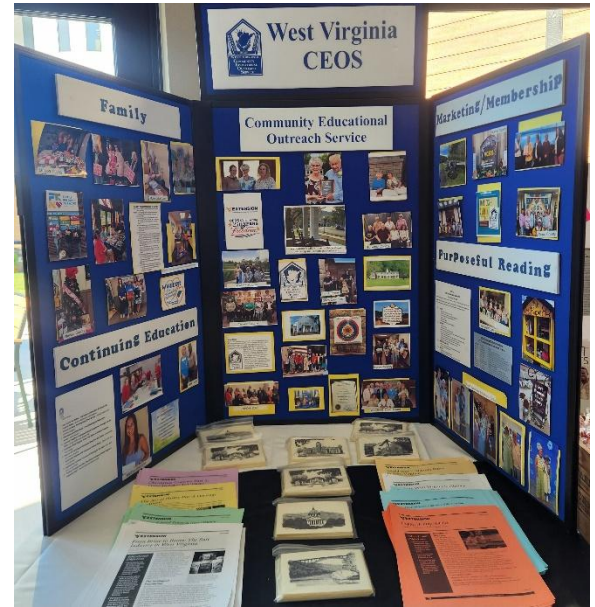
But beyond the impressive numbers, what truly matters is the real-life impact we have. Imagine the comfort of a warm lap robe for a hospice patient or a veteran – we delivered 500 of those! Think of the sparkle in a child's eyes when they receive a new educational book, sparking their imagination – we distributed 1000! Or the little bundles of joy and hope in our "blessing bags" for foster children, letting them know someone cares – over 300 of those went out. Plus, we've been busy sprucing up our local areas with vital beautification projects, making our towns even more welcoming.

Our commitment to giving back doesn't stop there. We rallied together to raise over \$40,000 for breast cancer awareness, supporting a cause that touches so many lives, and contributed more than \$10,000 to Relay for Life. We also showed our appreciation for local heroes by supporting fire and police departments, helped stock school libraries, and ensured our neighbors had food on their tables through donations to food pantries. It's all about lending a hand where it's needed most.

Our long-standing partnership with the West Virginia University Extension Service continues to thrive, bringing fresh ideas and learning opportunities to our members. They're cooking up 12 brand new, engaging lessons for 2026, covering everything from practical life skills to celebrating West Virginia's rich heritage and even boosting mental wellness. There's always something fascinating to learn and share!

And speaking of sharing, our international engagement program, a cherished tradition since 1949, had the immense pleasure of welcoming Ama Addo from Ghana as our 2025-2026 International Student. Ama shared her vibrant culture through her "Introduction to Ghana" lesson, broadening all our horizons, before heading home after graduating from WVU. It's truly wonderful to foster global connections!

At the heart of WVCEOS is the unwavering dedication of each and every one of our members. Your passion strengthens families, cultivates new leaders, and truly enriches every corner of our state. Together with the



WVU Extension Service, we're excited and committed to keep serving West Virginia and adapting to whatever our communities need next.

Submitted by Connie Wolfinger, WVCEO President



Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education

Our Northwest District has been putting together our 2026 state conference at the Lismore - in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Our conference will be held September 20-23. We have 2 Educational Programs: 1 on Grandparenting Presented by our State Liaison Sara Richie and the other is "Cooking for one or two, Easy, Healthy Meals you'll want to make. Presented by Extension Food/Wise Coordinator and Strong Bodies Instructor Sandy Tarter. We did have a few counties do lessons on "Memory Loss" I will try to get follow up information for report to NVON Board.

This year we are offering several "Mental Health" topics at our conference.

- How Grief and Loss rewire the brain and what you can do about it. ADRC Presenting
- Caring for the Mind – Simple Practice for Daily Wellness – St. Croix County Health and Human Services Deputy Director.
- Experience Healing by Using Food as Medicine – Spero Wellness Clinic.
- A Philosopher Looks at Happiness – Professor of Philosophy – UW – Eau Claire.

I am planning on communicating the NVON Reporting form to each county to get some feedback on these programs.

Wisconsin Bookworms is a program we've had for over 28 years – This year we are celebrating our Millionth book read to Head Start children at our State Conference. Our current logo is "Wiggly Worm" we are introducing a "Girlfriend". Which will be named and introduced at our State Conference.

We continue to support Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners – We supply materials for the ladies to make a living, beauty parlor, cooking and baking, outdoor stoves and of course sewing centers. Several packing days during the year, loaded into shipping containers and flown to Nicaragua or where the need is greatest.

Our WAHCE International Committee has again requested we bring used and old inkjet cartridges to our September Conference to be recycled to support "Ventures in People", this supports Haiti. A portion of our, Pennies for Friendship, we collect during the year is used to sponsor a \$150 scholarship to 6 worthy Haitian students every year.

Thanks to Eileen Gottbeheat, Shirley Steinhurst and Jane Grabarski for putting on NVON Conference.
Submitted by Phoebe Shourds, WAHCE President
