2016 Annual Report
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Dear Friends of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemung County,

We present to you the annual report of the Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Chemung County in order to fulfill the requirements of County Law 224, the NYS state law that established CCE associations in NYS as well as the legal funding mechanism for the flow of federal, state, and county dollars to them. The report highlights the program successes of our association between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016, which is the federal program year. Our programs are directly aligned with the primary objectives of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture at the United States Department of Agriculture and informed by our local Board of Directors, advisory committees, community members, and program participants. Our association plan of work includes these program areas and goals:

**Agriculture and Food Systems:** Assist farmers with business development, production, marketing, and management issues to increase farm viability and environmental sustainability. Strengthen the relationship between the consumers and farmers to improve the understanding of local farms and the interconnectedness of the local food and environmental systems. Educate children by bringing agriculture and the farm-to-table connection to school classroom settings and community events.

**Environment and Natural Resources, Sustainable Energy, and Climate Change.** Educate the community to “reduce, reuse and recycle” in their homes and places of work to lessen the impact of waste on the environment. Improve the community by educating households on reducing the amount of electricity used in their residences or through other energy education efforts. Provide information and resources to help individuals and communities make good decisions in order to maintain a healthy environment.

**4-H Youth Development/Children, Youth, and Families.** Provide opportunities for youth to have fun, learn life skills, and work with caring adults to foster the 5 C’s of positive youth development -- competence, confidence, character, connection, and caring.

**Nutrition, Food Safety and Security, and Obesity Prevention.** Improve individual health through better diet quality, reduced food insecurity, good food safety practices, increased physical activity and improved physical balance. Increase food resource management skills, especially among food stamp recipients in Chemung County. Improve community health by encouraging healthy living, the establishment of gardens, and the use of environmentally friendly practices.

**Community and Economic Vitality.** Support broad based, sustainable economic development, which creates higher value opportunities for growth while preserving community values and rural character. Encourage personal leadership development and active participation in community decision-making through volunteerism or other forms of civic engagement.

We have had a successful year programmatically, reaching thousands of local residents. Our organization continues to be fiscally sound and we welcomed new talented staff: Sarah Hess, Nutrition Educator; Shona Ort, Agriculture Economic Development Specialist and Jingjing Yin, Community Horticulture Educator. We thank the Chemung County leadership, all of our partners, and especially our many volunteers for their commitment and help in achieving our educational mission.

Sincerely,

Andrew Fagan, Executive Director
4-H Youth Development

**Our Primary Objective:** Coordinate and help facilitate positive Youth Development activities throughout the county, district, and state level for enrolled 4-H members as well as the general youth population for special interest programming.

**Our Staff:** Bernadette Raupers and Elaine Noble

**Our Outcomes:** We enrolled 272 4-H members and we have reached 10,660 students through a variety of programs, focusing on the three main missions of 4-H which are S.T.E.M, Healthy Lifestyles, and Civic Engagement.

**Our Total Contacts** for the year were 20,598 youth with the help of our volunteers and other Extension Educators. The local 4-H program engaged with 5,484 adults.

**Our Program Summary:** The 2015 4-H year was a busy year for both staff and volunteers.

- 33 teens participated in at least 15 hours of “out of school time” collegiate and lifelong learning experiences.
- Chemung County participated in the 4-H National Science Day Activity with Drone Discovery at the Fall Festival on October 1st. This was the debut of this activity and about 50 youth participated.
- We added a new 4-H club this year. The Lego Club meets in the town of Erin 2 times per week. They are focused on Robotics and use three Robots that we secured through a grant. The club plans to enter competitions.
- Our S.T.E.M Club continues to meet once a month and we average 8-10 youth. This club is open to all. It helps meet the needs of those youth who are interested in 4-H activities other than working with animals.
- We continue to offer a variety of programs for youth including the International Dinner and Public Presentations as well as Horse Bowl/Hippology and Dairy Bowl.
- We offer educational clinics to the youth of the program throughout the year and had over 300 animal exhibits at the Chemung County Fair. These programs benefit youth and public for educational purposes.
- Chemung 4-H saw an increase in the number of exhibitors at the State Fair. There was representation in the areas of Dairy, Beef, Dairy Goats, and Rabbits as well as a display within the youth building.
- 5 of our 4-H youth attended the Robotic Challenge at the State Fair and were invited to speak at the 5th annual Legislative Breakfast. They did a great job presenting in front of 95 leaders from various agencies.
- We continued to assist at the Dairy Birthing Center at State Fair. Several of our teen youth employed their public presentation skills in a variety of settings: one-on-one, small group as well as large group.
- 4-H staff helped conduct 8 interviews with the Senior Animal Science students at GST BOCES. We gave feedback to each student to better prepare them for an official work interview.
- We had 2 youth attend State Fair in the youth building as Teen Ambassadors. These teens assisted with photography evaluation, Media Corps and a sustainable energy booth.
- The annual Lights On! after school event took place at the Civic Center and was sponsored by ELNoST. Over 200 youth from Chemung, Steuben and Tioga Counties enjoyed our hands-on STEM activities.
- About 250 youth learned about “Habitats and Life Cycles” from 4-H staff who presented an activity based on a Cornell University Lab of Ornithology curriculum at Conservation Field Days.
- 135 sixth graders participated in a Team Building Maze activity at Elmira’s “Moving Up Day” or “Mountain Day.”
- 4-H continued hosting an Applebee’s Fundraiser. Participating youth build community relations as well as food service skills.
- The 4-H East Hill Camo Club spent a lot of time in area parks and at festivals to educate the public about agriculture. They distributed educational materials as well as free samples to hundreds of people.
- Our Dairy Goat 4-H Club held a “Goat Awareness Day” at the Fairgrounds to promote raising dairy goats and to educate the public about the uses of goat milk. They shared information and samples with over 300 people.
- Elaine Noble and other Youth Board members helped with the annual packing of items for Arctic League.
Our Indirect Number of Contacts Total: 28,310

Our Other Educational and Outreach Activities Summary:
A weekly newsletter is produced from the 4-H office which is sent to all participants, leaders and friends of 4-H as well as Cooperative Extension Board Members and Regional staff. It is produced about 42 times a year. A Chemung County 4-H Facebook page is maintained and posts are updated weekly. Education and Outreach at various public settings such as the County Fair, Old MacDonald’s Farm, Bon-Ton Coupon Books, Mountain Day, Goat Awareness Day, Applebee’s Breakfast, Family Day in Horseheads, Legislative Breakfast, Fall Festival, Tractor Supply Company and Farm City Day. A thank you ad is posted in Farmers Friend Newsletter after the livestock sale each year. Program brochures are distributed in a variety of venues.

Our Success Stories:

We had 5 youth present at the Legislative Breakfast for ELNoST about their experiences at State Fair with the 4-H State Fair Robotics Challenge. The youth met several times and pulled together a power point for the presentation to 95 community members. The 5 youth separated the 10 minutes into segments and had a plan of who was going to present what. The audience enjoyed the presentation and asked the youth many questions. The mother of one youth stated that 3 years ago her son could not even say his name to a group of peers. She was so impressed that in such a short time, he was able to stand up in front of so many adults and give his part of the presentation.

During the State Fair we had a youth (teen) and her mother attend the State Fair as a Teen Ambassador. The teen spent time with the photography judges as a teen evaluator and then moved to the Press Corps on days 2-4. This teen spent hours interviewing Fair exhibits and pulling together interviews and news items. This is an activity that has been out the of the teen’s comfort level for many years. She looked at ease when working with her peers and gathering information. It was a great growing year for this teen. The “chaperone” of our group also worked in the media corps to help the program. She spent time with the youth who were more out of their comfort zone. This adult volunteer was able to lead and direct the youth to have a better learning experience. Both teen and chaperone are excited about returning to the State Fair next year and working with the programs again.

goLEAD: 15 youth participated in the goLEAD (Teen Leadership) program offered in late winter. The youth completed 30 hours of training and implemented a community service project at the Food Bank. Their community service project included educating youth ages 6-10 on healthy meals and preparation. This year’s project was sponsored by United Way of the Southern Tier.

goLEAD is focused around leadership, teamwork, and service learning geared for teens grades 9-12. All participants work in groups and pick a project to give back to their community after the conclusion of the training. The groups are given 2 months to complete their “youth chosen” service learning projects. Upon completion the entire group will “graduate” from the goLEAD program. Not only do the teens improve their leadership skills, they develop a sense of belonging to a larger part of their community. The collaboration between Chemung and Tioga County continues as we plan more programs for the goLEAD program.
Nutrition Education
(EatSmart NY)
Program:

Program Educators:
Debbi Fry and Sarah Hess

Program Goals:
• The goal of the Finger Lakes Eat Smart New York program is to facilitate the voluntary adoption of healthy nutrition and physical activity behaviors conducive to the positive health and well-being of individuals eligible for SNAP and other means tested federal assistance programs, with a focus on low-income women with children, and then children, as well as low-income minority populations.
• The primary goal is to promote the increase in consumption of fruits and vegetables, decrease the consumption of sugary beverages and balance caloric intake with physical activity.

Eat Smart New York Adult Program Activities:
• The Finger Lakes Eat Smart New York (FLESNY) Nutrition Team provides nutrition education activities in priority locations that include DSS Offices, Employment and Training/JRT Programs, Food Pantries, Curbside Markets, Churches, Community Action Agencies, Community Health Centers, Farmers’ Markets, Grocery Stores, Libraries, Public Health Offices, Transitional Housing, Sr. Congregate Meal Sites, Low-income Housing and CCE Offices.
• In Chemung County (primarily the city of Elmira) FLESNY provided:
  ◦ Educational activities at two local farmers’ markets, Wisner and EastSide farmers’ markets, which provide EBT services.
  ◦ Encouragement and promotion for the success of all Chemung County community gardens.
  ◦ Nutrition Education through 6 lesson series and one time education events, which total over 400 educational events in the year term.

Eat Smart New York Youth Activities
• FLESNY nutrition team provides nutrition education activities in priority locations, which included Community Action Centers, Community Centers, Community Health Centers, Libraries, Churches, and low-income schools and open summer meals sites.
• Provide nutrition educational activities at Summer Feeding sites through the Food Bank.
• After school enrichment nutrition educational activities in schools that have 50% of the children receiving free and reduced meals.
• Our program introduced the new “Catch” curriculum to local elementary schools and helped with implementation of the program at Hendy Avenue.

Total Direct (combined youth and adults): 8,276
Total Indirect (combined youth and adults): 9,220

Impact/Success Stories:
• Sarah attended the Horseheads Food Pantry at First Presbyterian Food Pantry on September 13th for nutrition education. Participants tried a healthy and refreshing tropical carrot salad. The salad includes shredded carrots, pineapple, raisins, yogurt, and sunflower seeds. We talked about how the salad contains four of the five food groups, including fruits, vegetables, protein, and dairy. Participants stated they would like to make it at home and add it to yogurt or as a salad topping. Another participant stated he hated carrots but would like to re-name this recipe to “mmm...mmm...good!”
• At the EastSide Farmers’ Market we served a rice salad containing all of the food groups included on My Plate. A mother at the farmers’ market had brown rice in her pantry, but could not find a recipe to make that her children would eat. Her son tried the rice salad and liked all of it except the celery so the mother decided to add carrots instead. The mother is excited to prepare a dish that will allow her son to get all the food groups in one dish.
• A participant at the Golden Glow Mobile Food Pantry tried a healthy trail mix recipe. The trail mix contained whole grain cereals, dried fruit, unsalted pretzels, and...
unsalted peanuts. One woman stated she would like to teach her 6 year old granddaughter how to mix her own healthy trail mix to take to the park.

- Hendy Avenue Elementary students participated in an apple taste test. Participants tried gala, ginger gold, and granny smith apples and voted on their favorite one. Granny smith was voted the favorite apple, however many students had difficulty picking their favorite because they liked them all. Students used the taste test data to complete a project in math class.

- We offered a “Cooking Matters” grocery store tour for participants in the Bridges of Brain Injury program. We discussed purchasing fresh, frozen, canned produce, finding whole grain items, low fat dairy, 100% fruit juice, sugary cereals and unit pricing. Participants completed the $10.00 challenge in which they create a healthy meal for their family under $10.00. One participant said the knowledge he learned will be very helpful when trying to purchase enough food for his entire family.

- Participants at the Millport Mobile Food Pantry watched the demonstration on how to make peanut butter banana pockets. The recipe contains whole wheat tortillas, peanut butter, honey, and bananas. After seeing how easy it is to make the recipe, a father said he would like to make them with bananas and apples for his daughters when they are short on time to make dinner.

- Children in the ARCADE program at Hendy Avenue Elementary School learned about “go, slow, and whoa” foods and created their own My Plate “go” meal. The students tried a whole grain pasta salad loaded with vegetables and beans. Several students stated they wanted to make the recipe at home and bring it for lunch the next day.

### LOCAL FOODS

**Program Educator:**

April Bridges

**Program Objective:** To increase access to local foods, improve community health, and improve local farm viability.

**Estimated Direct/Indirect Contacts:** 5,000 +

**Program Summary:**

- We provided EBT and Credit/Debit token services at the EastSide and Wisner Markets. Patrons at Eastside Market used $495 in debit/credit and $672 in SNAP benefits to make purchases. Patrons at Wisner Market used $440 of debit/credit and $1,679 in SNAP benefits to make purchases. We also gave out $200 in Fresh Connect Checks.

- We organized and managed the EastSide Market which ran for 19 weeks from June 10th to October 14th with 8 farm and craft vendors on a regular basis as well as children’s activities, music, and an ice cream truck.

- Through our increased outreach and planning efforts, we saw growth in vendor and patron participation at our 2016 EastSide Market.

- We had 10 nonprofit organizations conduct outreach in addition to our own CCE educators and/or volunteers from our nutrition, natural resources, 4-H, poverty, and master gardening programs.

- In July, we received new card-reading equipment from MarketLink, giving us faster and more convenient service for running cards and maintaining reports.

- New this year, we collaborated with the Youth Advocacy Program (YAP) to have at-risk youth volunteers help with the weekly set-up and take-down of the market, as well as supervising a children’s activity table.

**Impact:** Week after week, we continually heard patrons share that they very much appreciate having the EastSide Market in their neighborhood.
Agriculture

Educators: Shona Ort with help from Andy Fagan, Jennifer Trimber, Elaine Noble, the South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Team, and other local staff.

Primary Objective (s):
1) Promote awareness of agriculture and its role in the local economy and community.
2) Promote the viability of agricultural businesses of all sizes within Chemung County.
3) Provide leadership and participation in agricultural activities.
4) Provide programs, events, and recommendations to agricultural businesses.

Direct Number of Contacts (Participants) Total: 3,291 +
- About 30 people attended a meeting and another 15 contacted CCE regulations on keeping poultry.
- Coordinated Ag Literacy Week. Staff & volunteers read to 1540 students in 81 classrooms about agriculture.
- CCE educators assisted in planning and providing educational activities on agriculture, nutrition, recycling, dairy field crops, and gardening for Old MacDonald Farm which reached 358 children in grades 3 and 4.
- Assisted a Corning Incorporated Intern in get information on greenhouse production in the area.
- Sent out 200 surveys to farm/business members in order to create a farmer directory for Chemung.
- Provided consultation and information on regional agriculture production and economics to Robert Allen for the Host Terminal project on importing/exporting agricultural commodities from the Southern Tier.
- Planned and organized the 5th Annual Taste of Chemung Event. About 130 people attended as well as 13 farms and 8 restaurants participated.
- Distributed the CCE Farm and Garden Newsletter monthly to 458 people in the Chemung County.
- Had educational displays at the Chemung County Fair on the global food system and the crop and dairy industry.
- Distributed 291 factsheets, pamphlets, and resource guides on agriculture and horticulture related topics.

Indirect Number of Contacts Total: 31,960 +
- Regularly attend the Ag and Farmland Protection Board, Ag Promotion Committee and Ag Society meetings.
- Planned and organized the 5th Annual Taste of Chemung Event. About 130 people attended as well as 13 farms and 8 restaurants participated.
- Provided resources and consulting to over 30 people via in person visits, email, and phone calls.
- Updated information and pages on the CCE Chemung website in regards to buying local and agricultural resources.
- The Dairy team provided direct consultations via email and phone to 15 different farms on array of topics in July.
- The SCNY Dairy and Field Crop team participated in the Scheffler’s Organic Discussion Group Meeting, Cull Workshop, and Twilight Meeting at Stronghaven’s Calf Facility educating 65 people on management techniques.
- The SCNY Dairy and Field Crop conducted or contributed to the following workshops/farm tours: Grazing and Pasture Management (7 people), Summer Reproduction Update (14 people), Cow Comfort and Facility Tour at Glezen Farms (26 people), Making Hay (5 people), Pasture Walk at Moore Dairy (50 people), How Cover Crops and No-Till Support Soil Health (18 people), Optimizing Your Corn Silage Harvest (10 people).
- Fay Benson organized and delivered 21 demonstrations across the region with the “Soil Health Trailer” reaching 978 people.

Impact/Success Story:
Farmer Outreach: 19 farms replied to our survey with requests to have their information added to the Buy Local Guide. This means that their farm and products will gain significantly more exposure not only with the county but also within the region. We have increased circulation of our monthly “Farm and Garden” Newsletter. Now over 250 farmers/growers in Chemung County receive it each month.

Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship: The South Central NY Dairy and Field Crop team has been actively engaged in the effort to bring the national Dairy Grazing Master Apprenticeship program to NYS. Moore Farm in Nichols, NY is now the first organic dairy in NYS to host an apprentice. The regional administrative management group made up of the CCE Executive Directors of Chemung, Tioga, Broome, Tompkins, Cortland, and Onondaga Counties have approved a $42,000 proposal to support and expand the program to other farms in the region which includes potential farms in Chemung and Tioga Counties.
Community Horticulture

Our primary objectives: To provide the public with unbiased, research-based information and sustainable management practices in horticulture suitable for home gardens, local landscapes, urban environments and the community.

Our Staff: Jingjing Yin, Master Gardeners

Direct Number of Contacts: 479 Direct Education/Research/Facilitation Activities:
- 64 adult participated in the 13 gardening workshops that we offered at a number of locations including Elmira Steele Memorial Library, CCE Chemung Conference Room, and Villa Serene.
- 126 individuals received information from our program display at Farm City Day held at Eldridge Park, the Fall Festival held at the Fairgrounds, and at the County Health Fair for Employees at the Chemung County Nursing Center.
- 4 Master Gardeners completed the “Seed to Supper” training and offered the training two times with this gardening workshop reaching 40 people.
- 63 individuals received assistance from our renewed “Gardening Hot Line.” This included phone calls, walk-ins, and email questions answered by our Master Gardener volunteers.
- 147 people stopped at our information table at Wisner (Thursday) and Eastside (Friday) markets where we recruited new Master Gardener Volunteers, and answered gardening/landscaping questions.
- 16 Master Gardeners are now attending our regular monthly meetings.
- 3 Master Gardeners helped us forge a new relationship with Chemung County Habitat for Humanity. Working with a local homeowner, they added attractive landscaping for home beautification.

Indirect Number of Contacts Total: 16,473

Indirect Education/Outreach Activities:
- 468 people received the “Farm and Garden Newsletter” which included 4 gardening articles.
- CCE Chemung’s Master Gardener program partnered with the programs in Steuben, Yates, Tioga and Schuyler Counties and developed 16 TV segments which aired on WENY. The series was called “The Cornell Cooperative Extension Connection.” The sessions focused on topics related to gardening and health. The arrangement included the creation and airing of a 30 second commercial for CCE!
- The series reached an estimated audience of 15,000.
- More than 200 gardening related fact sheets were taken from the display in the hallway outside the License Bureau in the Human Resources Building at 425 Penn. Ave, Elmira. In addition, fact sheets are given to people when they come into the office. Fact sheets were distributed directly to 41 people.
- An estimated 350 people gained knowledge from 2 poster displays located at the Chemung County Fairgrounds and the Chemung County Nursing Center.
- We have increased our use of Facebook and our webpage, where we now post workshop announcements and pictures from our program. We estimate that 582 people viewed our posts.

Our Success Stories:
2016 was a rebuilding year for our Master Gardener Program, starting with our hiring of Jingjing Yin as our new Community Horticulture Educator. She started July 1st and jumped right into the job. Under her leadership and with the support of our core volunteer group, we began to offer more community education and we have been getting great comments from program participants. For example, a gentleman who attended the plant propagation workshop sent this email to Jingjing Yin: “I really enjoyed the class on plant propagation last evening. I have started many seeds and divided perennials before but now I want to try some of the other methods you spoke about.” Six people at the workshop were not Master Gardener volunteers. After the workshop, they became interested in the program, and submitted their applications. She developed a new working relationship with helping with a landscape project. She received a nice “Thank You” card from Executive Director of Chemung County Habitat for Humanity, Sara Liu. The homeowner was amazed by what had been done, and said she would be taking care of the plants that were planted, and would let us know if she had questions. In addition, several people who attended the gardening workshops told us that they thought the workshops were “very interesting”, “very fun and informative”, and “fantastic”. They will try the gardening methods and tips we talked about in the workshops. We are excited that nine new Master Gardener Volunteers were recruited this year and have started the full training.
Natural Resources/Environmental Education

Educators: Toni Gardner and Jennifer Trimber

Primary Objectives:
- To promote responsible waste management through Proper Waste Disposal and Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Compost Education (including the Household Hazardous Waste Events and the Adopt-A-Highway Program)
- To provide up-to-date information to community leaders and residents related to current environmental issues or concerns
- To educate leaders, community members and youth about environmental principles and best practices
- To assist the Environmental Management Council of Chemung County in their efforts to advise local government on environmental matters
- To coordinate and facilitate leadership discussions around energy and the environment and encourage residential energy conservation

Our direct contact total: 9,345

Direct Education/Research/Facilitation Activities:
- Outreach and Education presentations were provided to local schools (454 students), businesses, groups (180 individuals), county/municipal officials (350), organizations and community events including local fairs (1590), farmers’ markets (2600), Farm City Day (482), Fall Festival Events (251), Environmental Field Days (265), Municipal meetings (763), Municipal Collection Events, Household Hazardous Waste Events (1044) and Adopt-A-Highway Events (256).
- Education was also provided through one on one consultation regarding “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle practices (1069) as well as workshops (41).
- The educational information shared is periodically updated to reflect the most current County, State and Federal Laws and Practices.

Indirect Number of Contacts Total: over 50,000+

Indirect Education/Outreach Activities: Outreach and Education is also provided through various outlets such as:
- CCE’s website updates and Facebook page posts (26)
- PSA’s (13), TV, Newspaper and Radio interviews and announcements and press releases
- Bi-Monthly CVAC newsletters (6)
- Local Municipal Offices and websites (22)
- State and County websites (4)
- County Fair displays (1)
- Farmers’ Markets (16)
- Public buildings and local business store fronts (13)

Progress Made on the Objectives of the Solid Waste Management Enhancement:
- Can and bottle recycling bins were placed in the Chemung County Human Resource Center.
- Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling information was shared at Stormwater Coalition meetings and their Stormwater Erosion Training.
- Updated, maintained, and distributed the Chemung County Resource Directory.
- Communicated with companies that exercise product stewardship and updated the information we share accordingly.
- In partnership with the County and Casella, two Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events were coordinated for County residents with over 1000 households participating.
- A ‘Proper Disposal of Mercury’ information sheet was created and given to over 1000 participants at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events.
- Updated our E-waste Education information and shared it with local municipalities. We also helped advertise local municipal/group collection events.
- Communicated with the Sheriff’s Department and helped promote prescription collections events and the National Drug Take Back Program.
- CCE continues to promote existing yard waste composting programs that are available through CCE and the Soil and Water Conservation District. CCE staff assisted with research and support to the EMC members in their review of county wide composting efforts.
- Communication is up to date with the latest composting
equipment available for Municipal Composting and this information is being shared with local governments.

- Current monitoring information is shared with local municipalities using Cornell Waste Management as a resource.
- In addition to the Public Outreach and Education mentioned above, CCE support continues for over 250 volunteer participants in the Chemung County Adopt-A-Highway program.

**EMC and Energy Commission:**
- Scheduled 10 monthly EMC meetings, 3 subcommittee meetings, prepared notices, minutes, secured speakers, maintained correspondences.
- Oversaw 3 major EMC projects: composting promotion, use of LED lighting, and archiving for on-line access.
- Answered 230 citizens' questions/concerns.
- Worked with 4 local municipalities on State Environmental laws and their impact: Town of Horseheads, Village of Horseheads, Wellsburg and Town of Southport.
- Updated the Natural Resource Inventory maps for endangered species and location of adopted county highways in Chemung County.
- Provided quarterly updates on energy information to Energy Sub Commission chairs and communicated with the chairpersons.
- Recorded the minutes of all Commission and EMC meetings and distributed copies.

- Maintained an official record of the EMC’s work.
- Provided data collection for 2010-2016 of timely events related to energy developments, both alternative energies and traditional, and saved this information in the county’s archival system.
- Annual report to the Chemung County Executive and Legislature regarding the latest issues and opportunities related to the environment, natural gas and other energy sources.
- Submitted Quarterly Webpage updates for the CCE and Chemung County Websites.

**Success Stories:**

**Impact/Success Story:**

**Individual or Group:**Thirty employees from Depuy Synthes cleaned the roadsides as part of the Chemung County Adopt-A-Highway Program. They collected 30 bags of highway debris and litter that had accumulated over the winter. The group cleaned along Sing Sing Road near Chemung County Airport, a first impression area for people who fly into our region. To date, there are 13 Adopt-A-Highway groups keeping 26+ miles of Chemung County roads litter free.

**Community Impact:** After 20+ years of programming, the Chemung County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event continues to be a prime opportunity for outreach and education with staff and volunteers providing 1500-2000 educational consultations throughout the year with up to or over 1000 participants. This year, educational information was given to each participant, increasing awareness about ‘Proper Disposal of Mercury containing items’, ‘Proper Disposal of Drugs/Medications’ and current ‘E-cycling practices’. This has become one of the most familiar programs offered throughout the county as residents anticipate the event dates in the new year. This event provides the only safe drop off site in Chemung County for residents to dispose of their hazardous waste materials efficiently and at no cost.
CVAC Objectives: To recruit, train, educate and/or engage volunteers who bring a diverse perspective, talent and lifelong experience to the community; To lead and engage participants in a research-based program addressing health and wellness; To provide ongoing Fall Prevention education to trained Coaches and to present research-based information to groups of individuals ages 60+ living in community settings with the goal of reducing fear of falling and increasing the level of activity among older adults; and To educate seniors in Chemung County about the resources available to help them remain living independently in their own homes as long as they wish to and are able to do so.

Our outcomes: CVAC reached 3,550 participants through a variety of programs. Poverty Project reached well-over 250 people through meetings and outreach activities.

Our CVAC Staff: Carol Houssock, Connie Shelford, Mary-Lynn Rourke

Direct Contacts: CVAC reached 4,296 participants through a variety of programs.
- Managed over 675 volunteers, 578 of whom contributed hours as either enrolled in a CCE program or affiliated with a community agency.
- Held over 1,000 Bone Builders classes at 15 community sites which were offered to us for free throughout the county for 275 regular participants.
- Provided instructor refresher training to 24 volunteer leaders of Bone Builders groups.
- Trained 2 new volunteer Coaches for A Matter of Balance, which was held 6 times in various Chemung County locations.
- Established new partnerships with Arbor Housing and Habitat for Humanity as funding sources for those we educated about portable access ramps.

Indirect Contacts: Over 17,000 +
- Increased Facebook ‘likes’ from 140 to 147
- 22 Facebook posts reached 1,065 individuals
- 7 appearances on Good Morning Twin Tiers TV; appeared on Senior Notebook 2 times, for a total of 10 minutes
- Distributed 600 program flyers
- Received and responded to numerous phone calls for volunteer referrals and CCE/CVAC program information
- 89 referrals of potential volunteers to community agencies through Volunteer Match online
- 180 referrals to community agencies seeking affiliated volunteers
- Added Save Energy Save Dollars and Getting There information to the CCE website
- Discontinued the separate CVAC website
- CVAC participated in numerous health fairs and at the Chemung County Fair; represented CVAC at Poverty Coalition, Senior Notebook and Coordinated Transportation Committee meetings and assisted with all CCE events

Our Impacts and Successes:
- CVAC’s completion rate for A Matter of Balance classes (82%) exceeds the national average.
- CVAC secured financial support from Buckley’s Automotive for the production of ‘how-to’ videos that are now part of our Getting There transportation education on the CCE website.
- CVAC’s home management assistance expanded with two new referral sources for those seeking portable access ramps. CVAC made referrals to Arbor Housing and Habitat for Humanity, both of whom paid for construction materials used by the Big Flats Lion Club volunteer builders.
- CVAC identified the Poverty Stoplight program as one worth pursuing in connection with CCE’s Poverty Coalition work. This led to a partnership with Dr. Martin Burt, who developed the program and who came here in September. CVAC prepared and submitted a grant application to the Appalachian Regional Commission, with a growing list of collaborators.
- 100% of the children (over 150) being helped by CVAC volunteers in local elementary schools showed improvement and achieved grade level by the end of the 2015/2016 school year, as reported by their teachers.
Chemung County Poverty Reduction Coalition

Program Educator: Joseph VerValin, AmeriCorps*VISTA supported the work of the Coalition under the supervision of Andrew Fagan and Ethel Stroman.

Primary Objectives:
- Continue to facilitate the meetings and work of the Poverty Reduction Coalition.
- Increase partnerships and community understanding of poverty.
- Develop and implement actions that will help to reduce poverty.

Program Summary:
- Over 20 partner organizations participated in monthly Coalition meetings.
- New educational materials on Poverty in Chemung County were developed. These include an updated brochure on the Poverty Reduction Coalition, a presentation on stress & poverty, an explanation of how various needs relate to poverty, and a ‘Poverty Myth Busters’ presentation dedicated to combating myths and misconceptions about poverty. Participated in the presentation of the “Poverty Stoplight Program” lead by Dr. Martin Burt of Paraguay.
- Maintained and utilized the CCE Human Resources Listserv.
- Provided assistance to “Let Elmira Live” group which plans to open a community center at Walnut and Third Streets in Elmira. The Center will provide skill training and employment resources.
- Organized and developed a ‘Poverty Myth Busters’ event to educate community partners and interested citizens on the myths and misconceptions of life in poverty.
- The Poverty Reduction Coalition was represented on multiple community-wide initiatives, including the Child Hunger Task Force, Creating Healthy Schools and Communities, the Community Health Improvement Plan Development Group, and the Drug Free Elmira Coalition.
- Secured plant donations from local greenhouses to help facilitate the growth and sustainability of community gardens in Chemung County.
- Worked on revising the Chemung County Poverty Reduction Plan. It now includes a data-driven deep dive into the socioeconomic conditions of Chemung County, established models of community improvement, and has integrated our new Poverty Stoplight metric into our coalition’s outlook and goals.
# Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemung County

## 2015 Revenue and Expenses

### Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County (cash and space)</td>
<td>323,560</td>
<td>34.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>State (cash and benefits)</td>
<td>289,598</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>99,640</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Grants</td>
<td>148,315</td>
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<td>Program Participation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>951,486</td>
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### Expenses

<table>
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<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programming</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Staff

Executive Director
Andy Fagan

Human Resources and Technology
Ethel Stroman

Finance and Administrative Support
Jane Stalica

Agriculture and Horticulture
Shona Ort
Jingjing Yin

4-H Youth Development and School Programs
Bernadette Raupers
Elaine Noble

Chemung Volunteer Action Corps
Carol Houssock
Mary-Lynn Rourke
Connie Shelford

Energy and Environmental Education
Toni Gardner
Jennifer Trimber

Community Nutrition and Wellness
Justine Cobb, Team Leader
Debbi Fry
Sarah Hess
April Bridges—EastSide Farmers’ Market

CCE Chemung County Poverty Reduction Coalition
Joseph VerValin - VISTA

South Central NY Dairy and Field Crops Team
Janice Degni
Betsy Hicks
Betsey Howland
Fay Benson

Board of Directors

President
Tom Pipher

Vice President
Jeffrey Benjamin

Secretary
Evelyn Williams

Treasurer
Esther Good
Nicholas Moffe
Russ Hyde
Jennifer Herrick
Rodney Strange Chemung Co. Legislator 15th District
Paul O’Connor CCE State Specialist

OUR MISSION

Our Mission: The mission of Cornell Cooperative Extension is “CCE puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research based solutions together, helping New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.” CCE Chemung uses the following abbreviated form of this mission statement: “CCE Chemung provides experience and research based knowledge to help residents improve the quality of life in their communities.”

Organizational Objectives: The key objectives of the association as stated in the association’s constitution are: To provide for an association of residents in cooperation with Cornell University and USDA. To extend educational resources of Cornell (including Ag and Life Sciences, Human Ecology, Vet Med), land grant system, and other educational institutions to foster economic, social, and environmental improvement of individuals, families, and communities. To further the objectives of CCE Chemung and the CCE system in agriculture, home economics, 4-H, and community betterment.