



# CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Allegany County

---

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

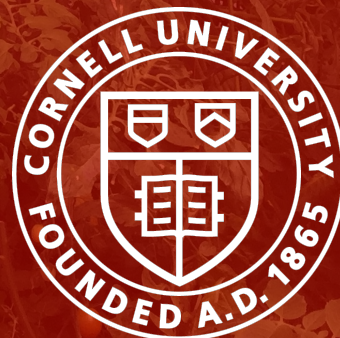


PHOTO: GEODESIC GREENHOUSE AT BELFAST CSD



# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

---



Here at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Allegany County, our team of dedicated staff, selfless volunteers and enthusiastic Board Members ensure that we can provide the resources needed to respond to the vital needs and interests of our community. Proudly, CCE staff remains committed to effecting positive changes in Allegany County year in and year out. And, with a ripple effect, CCE's combined efforts of commitment and honest endeavors spread outward incrementally, generating positivity and possibility where it did not exist before.

For the times they are a-changin'.... And it calls for an updated financial structure. Here at CCE, we have grown an awareness of the necessity to secure grants and funding opportunities. This effort has allowed for us to increase the diversity and scope of our programming, to partner with additional agencies, and broaden our impact on peoples' lives.

We also rely more than ever on our supporters as we address the continuing needs of the communities we serve. It is essential that we maintain the valuable programming we administer, while at the same time plan for the future, so that the work we do in Allegany County may continue seamlessly.

Regionalization efforts continue to be successful in reducing the operating costs of the nine Western New York Associations. The Shared Business Network (SBN) shares Leads for Finance, Human Resources and Informational Technology. Allegany County Cooperative Extension benefits from the expertise of these individuals at a shared cost. Our new Ag Team, the Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Program have four agricultural specialists covering a 5-county region who will use their knowledge and talents to positively impact our agricultural community.

In conclusion, sincerest thanks to the Allegany County Legislators and County Executive for their ongoing support. I consider it a privilege to serve as your Executive Director working with a committed Board, devoted staff and skilled volunteers to deliver these much-needed programs.

Respectfully yours,

**LAURA HUNSBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**KEVIN S. LAFORGE**  
President

**DAVID PULLEN, ESQ.**  
Vice President

**LISA SHAY**  
Treasurer

**MEGHAN SNYDER**  
Secretary

**KRISTEN POPPO**  
At-Large Member

**SUE FONTAINE**  
At-Large Member

**NORA CARNES**  
At-Large Member

**JEFF STEVENS**  
At-Large Member

**CHELSEA PRESUTTI**  
At-Large Member

**DAVID DECKER**  
Allegany County Legislator

**GARY BARNES**  
Allegany County Legislator

## CCE ISSUE COMMITTEES

---

### AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

Andy Baker  
Lisa Shay  
Danelle Mascho  
James Beiler  
Fred Sinclair  
Suzanne Krull

### FAMILY, YOUTH, & COMMUNITIES

Liz Burrows  
Christian Lewis  
Meghan Snyder  
Nora Carnes  
Chris Foster

# STAFF

**LAURA HUNSBERGER**  
Executive Director

**KELLY BOURNE**  
Administrative Assistant

**LYNN BLIVEN**  
Ag Economic Development  
Issue Leader

**JEREMY BAIER**  
Horticulture & Master Gardener  
Coordinator

**KRISTA HUMBERT**  
4-H Issue Leader

**TRICIA HEARY**  
4-H Program Coordinator

**LISA REYNOLDS**  
4-H STEM Educator

**DRA. FILEVE PALMER**  
AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer,  
Job Skills Program  
Coordinator

**CASSANDRA BULL**  
Farm-to-School & Ag in the  
Classroom Educator

**PATTY AMIDON**  
SNAP Education  
Program Manager

**BECCI LOEB**  
SNAP Education  
Educator

**EDNA ELLING**  
Family, Health & Well-Being  
EFNEP Program Educator

*Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and that provides equal program and employment opportunities.*



# 4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPEMENT



MAKE THE BEST BETTER

## THE 4-H DEPT.

In 4-H, we believe in the power of young people. In 4-H, kids complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and civic engagement in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles. Kids experience 4-H in New York through in-school and after-school programs, school and community clubs and 4-H camps.



16  
CLUBS



240  
ENROLLED



127  
VOLUNTEERS

## FUN 4-H FACTS

- 11th grade has the most active members
- Rabbit & Cavy projects are the most popular 4-H Animal Project area.
- Food Science is the most popular non-animal 4-H Project area.
- More than 50% of all members participate in the Public Presentation program.



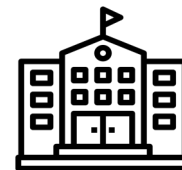
4-HERS AT THE ALLEGANY COUNTY FAIR

## JOB & LIFESKILLS BOOTCAMP

The program was designed to give students "a leg up" on seeking and retaining employment, as well as building necessary life skills to balance home/life.



33  
VOLUNTEERS



6  
DISTRICTS



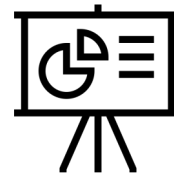
339  
STUDENTS

### LIFE SKILLS TAUGHT:

- Resume workshops
- Practice Interviewing for jobs
- Skill identification

## STORY PROJECT

This program is a regional initiative where students are challenged to produce an agriculturally-related project that can be applied to a future career.



46  
LESSONS



18  
REGIONAL  
PARTNERS



49  
STUDENTS

### STEM SKILLS TAUGHT:

- Invasive species
- Bats in the environment
- Human impacts on wildlife

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR WEEKLY UPDATES:  
[FACEBOOK.COM/ALLEGANYCOUNTY4HPROGRAM](https://www.facebook.com/ALLEGANYCOUNTY4HPROGRAM)

# AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

FOCUSING ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## DAIRY PRODUCTION

Dairy remains the largest agricultural sector in Allegany County. In the past 12 months, 65% of dairy operations have attended programs and/or received services offered through extension. "Pasture walks" or on-farm programming allows farmers a chance to see other operations and exchange management ideas and methods.



65%  
OF COUNTY  
FORESTED



3  
FARMS IN DAP  
PROGRAM



105  
RURAL  
LANDOWNER  
ATTENDANTS

## PROGRAMS TAUGHT IN 2019:

- 28th Annual Rural Landowners Workshop
- Managing your sheep flock
- Stress-Less Farm Financials
- Veteran Farmer Assistance



*Whispering Winds Farm Organic Dairy Field Day; Lester & Cindy York hosted dairy & beef producers interested in learning more about the benefits of a Bedded Pack Barn*

## UNDERSTANDING REGULATIONS

Understanding regulations for direct marketing of farm products can be a barrier to both new and existing farms. CCE's comprehensive workshops cover rules and regulations for sale of farm and certified kitchen products direct to consumers help to meet the growing demand for locally-produced foods. Additional one-on-one consultations are offered to guide producers through the process. Food safety is addressed with vegetable producers through trainings and hands-on workshops geared to assist producers with implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). GAPs training and certification of farms expands marketing channels for fresh fruits and vegetables. 14 farms received assistance in writing Farm Safety Plans



68  
WERE ASSISTED  
ON PROCESSING



3  
FARMS WROTE  
FOOD SAFETY  
PLANS



5  
NEW FARMS  
WERE GAP  
TRAINED

## 6th ANNUAL FARMER NEIGHBOR DINNER

Each year, we bring together the community and showcase locally grown and raised products exquisitely prepared by ACES Catering. This year dinner was followed by our keynote speaker, Tony Shelton, PhD. International Professor of Entomology, from Cornell University. The development of the first genetically engineered (GE) product in 1978 (insulin) relied on fundamental discoveries in basic biology. This talk provided an overview of genetic engineering and how it is being used in agriculture.

**CCE STRIVES FOR EXCELENCE IN RESPONDING TO  
CURRENT AND EMERGING NEEDS IN NEW YORK STATE.**



# FOOD SYSTEMS & HORTICULTURE



GROWING TOGETHER

## FARM-TO-SCHOOL

Simply put, Farm-to-School programs help connect K-12 schools with local farms. One way to do this is to serve locally sourced ingredients in the cafeteria. Another avenue is through Ag in the Classroom, or teaching students about food and farming through hands-on learning.



8

SCHOOL  
GARDENS



6,106

STUDENTS EAT  
LOCAL DAILY



47

FARMS & FARM  
BUSINESSES

## LOCAL IMPACTS:

- \$103,000 in grant funding awarded in Allegany County for Farm-to-School purposes in 2019
- 5,161 pounds of meat from Allegany / Steuben Farms served in one year.
- Approximately 20% of all school lunch purchases help support WNY dairy farms and families.



LOCAL FOOD SERVED FOR LUNCH AT WHITESVILLE SCHOOL

## THE MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

This is a national program of trained volunteers who work to expand educational outreach in the community by providing home gardeners with research-based information.



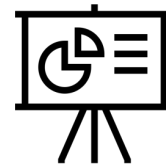
400+

VOLUNTEER  
HOURS



14

ARTICLES  
WRITTEN



16

PROGRAMS  
HELD

## TOP QUESTIONS FROM HOMEOWNERS:

- Bee & wasp issues
- Fruit tree degradation
- Plant & insect identification

## AG LITERACY WEEK

Each year, volunteers visit local 2nd grade classrooms during Ag Literacy Week in March to read and talk to children about NY agriculture and industry. The selected book for 2019 was *On the Farm, At the Market* written and illustrated by G. Brian Karas. We are proud to feature a book that displays diversity that encompasses many aspects of New York's agriculture and markets.



22

CLASSROOMS  
INVOLVED



439

STUDENTS

WE BELIEVE EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION LIES  
AT THE HEART OF THE EXTENSION MISSION.

# REGIONAL TEAMS, NUTRITION & WELLNESS



MAKING AN IMPACT

## EFNEP PROGRAM

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) is a federally-funded nutrition education program for limited-resource youth and families delivered through the Cooperative Extension Service in every state and U.S. territory.

EFNEP offers hands-on, interactive workshops to help participants improve food and physical activity behaviors, food resource management, food safety and food security. Programs serve income eligible parents, caregivers, expecting mothers, as well as children and teens.



50  
YEARS  
ACTIVE



16  
REGIONAL  
PARTNERS



\$56,000  
IN FEDERAL  
FUNDING

## WORKSHOP SERIES INCLUDES:

- Eating Smart, Being Active
- Family Nutrition Education Program
- Finding A Balance — Diabetes
- Healthy Children, Healthy Families
- Healthy Cent\$
- Breastfeeding

## HEALTH OUTCOMES:

- 81% of participants eat fruit more often
- 76% of participants eat vegetables more often
- 76% of participants eat dark green vegetables more often each week
- 50% of participants drink regular soda less often
- 77% of participants plan meals before shopping

## WNY CORNELL VEGETABLE TEAM

Our specialists work together with Cornell faculty & Extension Educators statewide to address the issues that impact the commercial vegetable industry.



1,709  
ACRES  
COVERED



7  
SPECIALISTS



68  
MIXED VEG.  
FARMS IN COUNTY

## PROGRAMS & RESEARCH:

- Food Safety
- Pest Management
- Variety Evaluation

## SOUTHWEST NY DAIRY, LIVESTOCK & FIELD CROPS TEAM

The Team offers educational programming and research based information to agricultural producers, growers and agribusinesses in the five-county region of SW New York.



64,020  
ACRES  
COVERED

## PROGRAM TOPICS:

- Automated Milking Operations
- Hogs, Hops, and Honey
- Growing Hemp

THANK YOU TO THE ARTISTS OF THE ICONS USED HERE FROM THE NOUN PROJECT: KHOON LAY, HADA ARKANDA, DEMAK DAKISHNA, P THANGA VIGNESH, ALICE DESIGN, ADRIEN COQUET, I PUTU KHARISMAYADI, FARM BLACK COLLECTION, REAL ESTATE COLLECTION, ANDRIWIDODO, GREGOR CRESNAR, BECRIS, MIKICON, CREATIVE STALL, PK, TOMAS KNOPP, CATTALEEYA THONGSRIPHONG, PRIYANKA.

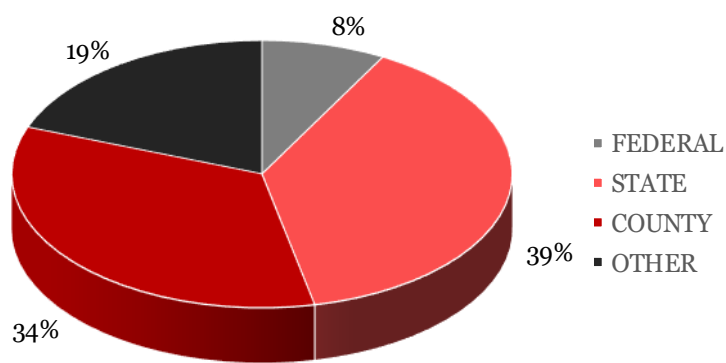
# FINANCES

## 2019

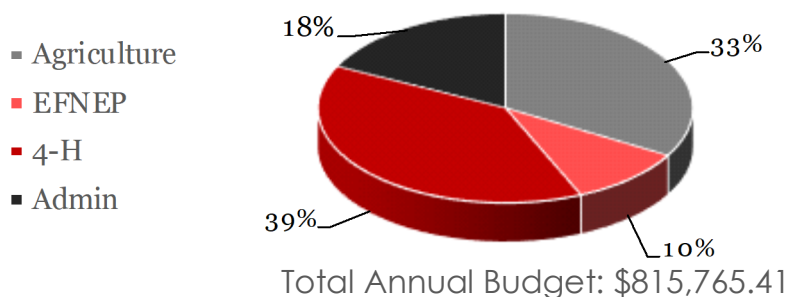
### GRANTS AWARDED

- Ag in the Classroom, \$20,000 2019-2020
- Job and Life Skills Boot Camp \$83,277/18 months 2018-2019
- Industrial Hemp Initiative \$116,081/18 months 2019-2020
- SNAP Education \$300,000/3 counties 2020-2025
- Farm to School \$43,000/2 years 2018-2019
- STORY Program \$250,000 4 counties/3 years 2019-2022
- FLAVOR Kitchen \$35,600
- 21st Century (via GV School) \$4,896/year 2017-2022

### ESTIMATE OF SUPPORT



### PROGRAM BUDGET



# OUR MISSION

Cornell Cooperative Extension 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.