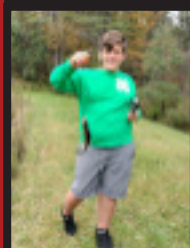
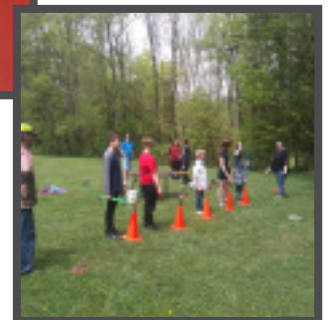
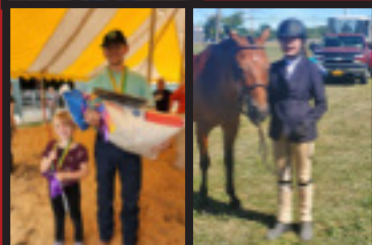
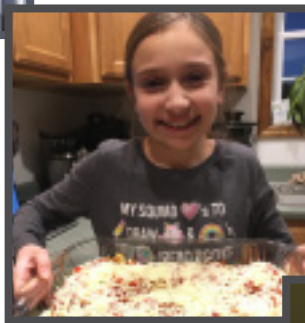
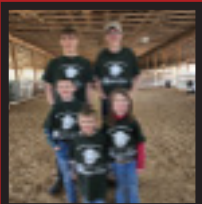


Cornell Cooperative Extension
Chenango County

Annual Report 2022



99 North Broad Street, Norwich, NY 13815

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"Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO,
Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities."

A letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends:

2022 has been an exciting year for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chenango County. With the Covid Epidemic mostly behind us, we were able to significantly grow our programs. It was a terrific year for 4-H at the county fair; the number of animals shown rose dramatically (with more than 130 dairy animals shown!), and the Case Building was overflowing with the most 4-Her projects in recent memory. We also had great growth in our 4-H school programming with more than 1,400 participating in Ag Literacy and 378 youth reached by our Ag in the Classroom pilot program. Our 4-H Outdoor Adventure Program started a brand-new program in partnership with Chenango County Youth Bureau that got kids out to all parts of the county for hikes and activities. Finally, we capped off the year with the hiring of our new 4-H ag in the classroom educator, Kristi Gorrell.

We work to make sure that our 4-H and Nutrition Programs collaborate to strengthen one another and this year we had a great series of "Kids in the Kitchen" 4-H programs that integrated 4-H with our SNAP Education program and our Grow, Cook, Serve Program.

Of course, farming and landowner issues will always be central to our program efforts. This year our Dairy, Livestock and Field Crop Team was able to help farmers with emerging issues such as fertilizer prices, drought, land rentals and solar farm leasing. In addition, to support local beef and sheep farmers, Chobani funded our work to offer workshops, Zoom conferences, and articles on raising beef and sheep.

The motto of 4-H is "Making the Best Better." Similarly, with modesty, as an organization we try to do the same. This was a great year for CCE Chenango, and we will try to make next year better.

Sincerely,



Ken Smith,
Executive Director





Ken



Alice



Rhonda



Alexis



Rich



Dennis



Craig



Richard



Erica



Whitney, Betty, Neisa



John

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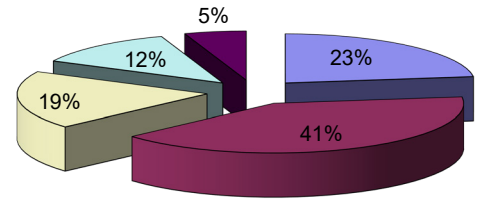
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Financial Facts

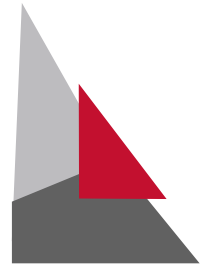
Estimated Revenue and Support received by CCE Chenango County during 2022

State and Federal SUPPORT includes the estimated value of Services and educational access provided by Cornell, USDA, and NYS Sponsored grants. Most of this is related to training and access to the Research that is the basis of the programs we conduct. These Services are available to CCE Chenango because of the memorandum of agreement and support provided by local government and are made available because of Chenango County's contribution to our funding.



REVENUE is the actual cash provided to CCE during the Fiscal year 2022, of which Chenango County provides approximately overall revenue and support of 23%. Other reflects income generated through, contributions, special projects and rental income.

	Total	Support	Revenue
County	\$273,000.00	\$0.00	\$273,000.00
State	\$482,367.14	\$410,694.20	\$71,672.92
Federal	\$226,742.16	\$63,158.00	\$163,584.16
Other	\$146,919.70	\$0.00	\$146,919.70
Grants	\$62,599.42	\$0.00	\$62,599.42



Grow, Cook, Serve

Grow Cook Serve is program which provides access to fresh local produce, to income restricted individuals and families, by donating produce from local farms and gardeners and providing self-sufficiency education. Our goal is to help economically challenged families and individuals adopt life-long healthy habits by donating fresh produce to people in need; teaching cooking and gardening skills so people can become more self-sufficient; and providing nutrition education to facilitate healthy choices

In its eighth year, Grow Cook Serve gleaned over 3000 pounds of fresh produce to donate to 7 Food Pantries in Chenango County. The produce was donated by Norwich Meadows Farm, and home gardeners. Additionally, Grow Cook Serve donated 60 vegetable transplants and 85 packets of vegetable seeds.

In addition to transplants and seeds Grow Cook Serve hosted 8 gardening education workshops at Head Start, food pantries, and at Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Grow Cook Serve expanded its partnership with the Healthy Gardens Club to provide monthly taste tests at Norwich Middle School; Monthly cooking workshops with the Norwich High School Life Skills class; Weekly education at the Norwich Middle School Garden club meeting.

The "Kids in the Kitchen" continued to flourish in its second year. The goal of this program is to teach children how to create healthy inexpensive meals. Families pick up their meal kits and cook along with Grow Cook Serve educators virtually. We hosted 9 classes.

SNAP-ED and Grow Cook Serve joined forces again in 2022 to offer a Healthy Living Series of classes. The goal of the classes is to provide a fun way for adults to learn about healthy choices they can make everyday with their meals. We provide a short lecture, have a hands-on cooking demonstration, and then share a meal together. We have hosted 4 workshops.

Grow Cook Serve continues to evolve and adapt through this changing landscape. We look forward to serving the community of Chenango County in 2023.



Snap-Ed

In the 2022 program year, Chenango County SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educators worked to educate SNAP eligible participants about how to budget and make the most of their food dollars using MyPlate as a guiding resource to reduce local food insecurity rates. Currently, in Chenango County, the food insecurity rate is nearing 12%. The annual food budget shortfall is \$2,790,000. This shows the importance of nutrition education within our county to help lower food insecurity for lower income individuals and in turn strengthen our community.

SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educators Neisa Pantalia and Whitney Kmetz, work diligently to provide direct meaningful programs to diverse populations within Chenango County. This past year they were able to provide 200 direct programs for a total of 1,953 people reached.

SNAP-Ed in Chenango County has created a great collaboration with Common Thread in Madison County. Common Thread donates a full and winter season share of fresh local produce to SNAP-Ed in Chenango County which is valued at \$1,178.04. This helps SNAP-Ed significantly save on food cost since their program is grant funded. For this full year share it was about 384 pounds of fresh vegetables that children and families were able to sample using SNAP-Ed approved recipes throughout the year.

Currently, SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educators Neisa Pantalia, and Whitney Kmetz have been providing evidence-based education for youth in multiple schools throughout the County. 2021-2022 data shows that 92% of the education done in Chenango County reached children providing them with the knowledge and experiences needed to live a healthy life into adulthood.

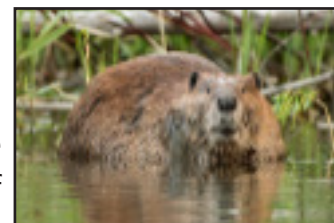
This year's SNAP-Ed New York's School Wellness Summer Symposium was a dynamic event held on August 9 - 11, 2022 and was designed to bring together (virtually) school staff and administration from across NY to inspire, educate and engage. Through live virtual activities, participants gained knowledge, skills, and abilities to start, strengthen and/or expand school wellness efforts for staff, students, and families. Chenango County's SNAP-Ed Team Leader Betty Clark and her technical support/ Nutritionist Whitney Kmetz brought together school champions to share their experiences working with SNAP-Ed Nutritionist and the CATCH curriculum. Through the Symposium there were over 150 attendees including representatives from 30 school districts in New York State. SNAP-Ed of Chenango County was lucky enough to be one of twenty two presenters for this three-day event!! Check out the link to see all the recordings of the presentations including ours!

https://s3.amazonaws.com/assets.cce.cornell.edu/attachments/58559/SNAP_Ed_NY_Virtual_School_Wellness_Symposium_-_Schedule_with_Recording_Links_8-25-22.pdf?1661466793



Natural Resources

Each year CCE Chenango gets hundreds of calls with questions about sick trees, weedy gardens, problem wood chunks, insect infestations, unwanted vulture roosting, tick bites. We field questions about everything imaginable when it comes to nature and natural resources. The good news is that thanks to a nationwide system of Extension research and educators, we can usually come up with helpful information for the homeowner. The most rewarding thing is when the homeowner calls back and says their garden looks great, or their beavers have left their trees alone, or share the ways our recommendations have worked for them.



Visit us on the web and like us on Facebook to keep in touch!
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Chenango County 4-H



4-H COMMUNITY IMPACTS 2022

As the well-known proverb says, "it takes a community to raise a child." This year our 4-H team has been focused on collaborations. We worked hard to develop relationships with local school districts, businesses, and other youth-serving organizations while continuing to connect with our longstanding partners. As our mission states "4-H is to assist youth gain additional knowledge, life skills, and attitudes that will further their development as self-directing, contributing, and productive members of society." How better to accomplish this mission than to find new ways for our young people to grow through hands-on experiences. A big thank you to our 4-H volunteers, the Chenango County Board of Supervisors, and our community sponsors/partners for making this year such a huge success



SHOOTING FOR THE STARS: The Chenango County 4-H Shooting Sports program continues to grow! This essential program was developed to ensure that youth learn how to safely operate and maintain shooting sports equipment. This year we had 24 active youth participants participate in 9 educational sessions. We would like to thank the NRA for their generous donation to purchase new equipment this year and the Rockdale Rod and Gun Club for their generous support of our program and its youth.

COMMITTED TO AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION: This year's Ag Literacy Week program reached an incredible 1,414 Chenango County youth! The lesson focused on vermicomposting and many of our classrooms received their own composting bins with worms. This year we also implemented our pilot Agriculture in the Classroom Program. This program successfully delivered monthly agriculture-based lessons to 328 local students!



FOCUS ON FIBERS: This year's Sewing Camp was spectacular and nearly doubled in size. Volunteers and staff provided 31 youth participants with 37 total hours of sewing experience. Youth made sewing kits, dresses, shirts, tote bags, fish laundry bags, and so much more at camp! We are excited for next year!

SHARING THE MAGIC OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS: Chenango 4-H'ers are all about being outside. Our Outdoor Adventure program hosted 222 youth participants for a total of 110 hours! This was made possible in part by a generous grant provided by the Chenango County Youth Bureau. Youth went on hikes, snow shoeing, kayaking, ice fishing, while additionally learning about how to construct safe shelters, fires, and procure their own food. Adventure is surely out there!



A LIFELONG SKILL: 30 4-H Public Presentations and Horse Communications were held at the Valley Heights Christian Academy this February. All of our presentations this year returned to in being done in-person, with direct feedback provided to our participants. One of our youth Abigail Mace even went on to win the NYS Junior Horse Communications Competition!

FAIR TIME IS THE BEST TIME: This year's Chenango County Fair was a celebration to be remembered. To see new and returning families, youth, and volunteers all together again sharing their projects and stories was heartwarming. We have such amazing kids. Our kids work hard all year, and this year entered 1,283 total projects to be judged!



LEARNING THE INS AND OUTS OF ANIMALS: We could not be more pleased with the growth of our local horse bowl and dairy bowl programs. This year we had a whopping 26 horse bowl youth and 13 dairy bowl participants who participated in over 61 total hours of weekly animal science programming! Youth dissected a cattle's ruminant stomach, created their own horse digestive systems, toured commercial dairy farms and equine facilities, and learned about proper care and nutrition. These programs remain staples in supporting youth pursuing careers in animal science and agriculture, and we are so proud of how much they learned.



In 2022 4-H also collaborated with Grow Cook Serve for our Edible Gardening and **KIDS IN THE KITCHEN** Programs. SNAP Ed also provided Nutritional Programs to Chenango County school districts and our after school initiatives. We are excited to have also continued to work with the Chenango County Historical Society and the SUNY Morrisville Liberty Partnerships Program. Chenango County offers a variety of activities for the kids in our 4-H Communities. Keep an eye out for new opportunities heading your way!

Agriculture & Economic Development

This past year saw many activities in the agricultural arena at CCE Chenango. Our Beef and Sheep grant from Chobani was the main thrust of our activities. We have been working on a series of YouTube videos on different topics dealing with sheep and beef cattle. These videos will not only assist the people of Central New York but will be viewed all over the world, and for years to come. We have also been collaborating with the Cornell Small Farms Armed to Farm program for veterans. This year we have hosted a series of 3 zooms presentations for veterans and others on sheep husbandry and one on farm visit to a sheep farm in Pharsalia. We have also written several articles on beef cattle management for the Cornell Small Farms quarterly newspaper; one article was subsequently published in the NY Beef Producers bimonthly magazine as well.



We have also served the general public by offering support in their requests for agricultural and natural resource information, via walk ins to the office or by phone, as well as on farm visits.

The New Order Amish community in Guilford has been flourishing. Since 2014 we assisted a group of individuals from Holmes County, Ohio in locating agricultural properties. We continue to assist them whenever they ask us. This community is a tremendous asset to Chenango County.

Rich has also occasionally supported different 4-H and FFA events when called upon. We have also been involved with the Grasstravaganza 2023 Planning Committee. This grazing outreach event will be sponsored by NRCS, and will be held at Morrisville State College in July 2023.

CNY Dairy, Livestock, & Field Crops Team

This has been a year of transition for the Central New York Dairy and Field Crop Team. Longtime team Director and Field Crop Specialist Kevin Ganoë retired and was replaced as Program Director by the Teams Ag Business Specialist Nicole Tomell. Erik Smith was hired to take over as Field Crops Specialist. Dave Balbian remains as Dairy Specialist and Ashley McFarland as Livestock Specialist. The team members flexed their programming this year to deal with the Covid-19 emergency and offered a mix of online and in-person programming to continue to meet the needs of our agricultural community.



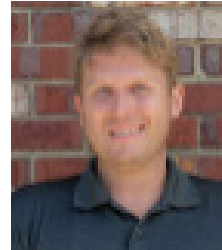
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Your tax deductible support can be made out to Chenango County Cooperative Extension (CCE) in memory of a special loved one or partner with a favorite educational area.

Send to: 99 North Broad St, Norwich, NY 13815

Thank you for your support!

CCE on the Web and in the News

Our association uses Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, local papers, emails, newsletters, and radio advertisements to reach the local community. This year our 4-H programs, Grow Cook Serve, and SNAP education programs were picked up several times in the Sherburne News, the Evening Sun, the Pennysaver, the Oneonta Daily Star, Small Farm Quarterly, Country Folks East, and Empire Farm and Dairy. Our 4-H program was also highlighted on WBNB News Channel 12 on August 31st as being a great way to get kids active in the community and outdoors!

Facebook and our website continue to be the largest areas of growth for our association and its 4-H Youth Development Program's marketing outreach. This year our CCE Chenango page grew by 22% reaching 980 followers while our Chenango County 4-H pages saw an increase of 18% reaching 1115 followers. Our CCE Facebook page reached 9,272 people while our 4-H page reached an impressive 39,581 people. Our ccechenango.org domain also received over 5,000 visitors over the course of our programming year. Currently, our Instagram accounts have a total of 514 followers. One of our goals moving forward is to increase the reach of our CCE page so that it can be used as another resource to highlight our extension programming opportunities. This will be done with strategic posting times and a constant flow of new content/information. By completing shared posting between the two platforms, we believe that we will see substantial growth this new fiscal year.

One of our community's most valued information sources at CCE Chenango is our bi-monthly Extension Express and 4-H Snapshot publications. In 2022 there were 6 Extension Express newsletters mailed and emailed to over 2,000 community members. Our 4-H Snapshot was also sent out directly to each of our 200 enrolled youth. These newsletters include important updates, program highlights, new program opportunities, and so much more. Along with the newsletters, a 4-H Friday Focus is emailed to over 400 4-H families past and present on a weekly basis in order to keep our 4-H community up to date. CCE Chenango continues to provide valuable resources for our community.

Follow us on:

Facebook: CCE – facebook.com/CCEChenango or 4-H - facebook.com/Chenango4H

Instagram: @ccechenango and @4hchenango

Youtube: @chenangocounty4-H182

And be sure to check our webpage at: ccechenango.org



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