

# 2023 Annual Report



*Connection  
Collaboration  
Community*

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Dutchess County

# Extension At-A-Glance

## 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.

**Over 260 volunteers provided 16,862+ HOURS = a value of \$536,200+ in our community!**

Source: independentsector.org

**150,500+ youth, adults & families benefited from programs & services!**

Source: programmatic reporting



Volunteering is a great way to get involved in your community, receive research based educational support, utilize your talents and spread the education to residents. Our annual volunteers are diverse and varied based on the needs of the initiatives and program requirements. Some programs have more volunteer support than others but all volunteers make a difference!



### Administration:

- **27** general volunteers:
- Our Board of Directors and every Program Advisory Council members are volunteers too!



### Master Gardeners:

- **83 active** volunteers:
- Dutchess County Fair
- Horticulture Hotline
- Example gardens
- Speakers Bureau
- Annual Plant Sale



### 4-H Youth Development:

- We have **67** Leader, co-leader and/or Project Leaders enrolled
- We had **33** fair exhibit hall evaluators.
- We have approximately **50** volunteers who evaluate public presentations.



# Desk of the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

**Cornell Cooperative Extension** is an ecosystem of educational programming, support and services for the residents of Dutchess County. For 110 years, we have enacted University research-based solutions to help our community navigate and thrive in this rapidly changing world.

Throughout the CCEDC Annual Report, you will read about the **impact** these efforts have had on individuals and communities. Our outcomes are quantifiable but more than that, they have proven to be *life-changing for you, your family, neighbors and friends*.

Our expert staff put their heart and soul into the programs they facilitate in cities and towns throughout our county. They understand that impacting just one life reverberates through a family which can then affect the entire community.

We put knowledge to work through our innovative and diverse educational programs, initiatives and support services, to impact the economic vitality, ecological sustainability, and social well-being of our entire county.

Take a few minutes to review the many ways we accomplish this in Dutchess County in 2023:

- **Farming and food production, Invasive Species Education**
- **Parenting, family life and family dynamics, Financial Literacy and Empowerment**
- **Child health, development, and nutrition**
- **Immersive youth learning and experiential opportunities through 4-H**
- **Water, land and energy conservation and management**
- **Community resilience and preparedness**
- **Nutrition education and health**

Our success, and our work, relies heavily on the solid foundation of support we receive from the connections we have built with our collaborators. We are proud and grateful for our passionate volunteers, community partners, farms and agricultural organizations, schools and academic institutions, local and state elected officials, youth leadership and community building organizations, faith-based organizations, and the entrepreneurial, small businesses community—all of whom support and strengthen us.

**Connection, collaboration and community.** This is our bottom line. This is our heart. This is our commitment to Dutchess County.

*With gratitude,*

Mary Lou Carolan  
Executive Director  
Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County

# Board and Committees

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## **Board of Directors 2023**

Jeremy Adelman, *Family Consumer Education*  
Peter Berasi, *Environment & Energy*  
Katherine Briggs, *Vice President*  
Mark Condon, *Agriculture & Horticulture*  
Judy DiMatteo, *Family Consumer Education*  
Mario Gonzalez, *4-H Youth Development*  
Julie Hart, *Secretary*  
Tom Lynch, *Environment & Energy*  
Mark McLean, *Treasurer*  
Lacie Reilly, *President*  
Chris Shave, *4-H Youth Development*  
Eugene Valoy, *Agriculture & Horticulture*  
Deirdre Houston, *Legislative Representative*  
Adam Hughes, *CCE State Extension Specialist*  
Eoin Wrafter, *County Executive Representative*  
Mary Lou Carolan, *Executive Director*  
Marcy Latella, *CCEDC Recording Secretary*

## **Finance Committee**

Mark McLean, Chair  
Mario Gonzalez  
Judy DiMatteo  
Katie Briggs

## **Personnel Committee**

Tomasine Oliphant, Chair  
Katie Briggs  
Mario Gonzalez  
Julie Hart

## **Fund Development Ad-Hoc Committee**

Coming in 2024

## **Governance Ad-Hoc Committee**

Lacie Reilly  
Patricia Claiborne, Staff Rep  
Marcy Latella, Staff Rep

## **Strategic Plan Ad-Hoc Committee**

Mario Gonzalez  
Tomasine Oliphant  
Julie Hart





# Staff and Program Advisory Councils

## **Association Administrative/ Support Staff:**

Mary Lou Carolan, Executive Director  
Olga Petroff, Payroll & Accounts Manager  
Melissa Tan, Payroll & Accounts Manager  
Ryan Karpisz, Taste NY Store/Grants Asst.  
Marcy Latella, Sr. Administrator  
Porfirio Vargas,  
Facilities Coordinator  
Heather Ohlson, Marketing  
& Communications Coordinator

## **Sr. Administrative Assts:**

Angela Sullivan  
Francheska Kuilan  
LaQuan Rosario

## **Agriculture & Horticulture Program:**

Stephanie D. Radin, Program Leader  
Jennifer Fimbel, Sr. Resource Educator  
Joyce Tomaselli, Resource Educator  
Heather Brenner, Program Coordinator

## **Taste NY:**

Lachele Coninx-Wiley, Market Mgr.  
Liz Esack, Assistant Mgr.  
Melissa Hoffmann, Asst. Coord.  
Dan Richard, Facilities Coord.

## **Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture Staff:**

### **Vegetable Specialists:**

Teresa Rusinek  
Ethan Grundberg  
Maire Ullrich  
Dan Donahue, Tree Fruit Specialist  
Elizabeth Higgins, Business Management  
Specialist  
Jim Meyers, Viticulture Specialist  
Laura McDermott, Small Fruits and  
Vegetable Specialist

## **Agriculture & Horticulture Program Advisory Committee:**

Lisa Baker  
Dr. Mark S. Condon, Vice Chairperson  
Amber Coon  
Cathy Lane, Chairperson  
Shaun Williams  
Eugene Valoy  
Brendan Foley

## **Environment & Energy Program Staff:**

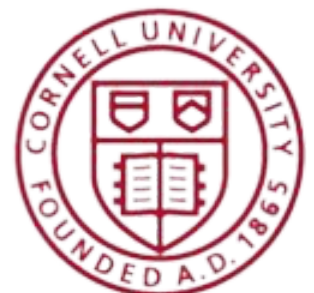
Carolyn Klocker, Program Leader  
Sean Carroll, Sr. Resource Educator  
Collin Adkins, Energy Team Leader  
Anna Harrod-McGrew, Environmental  
Educator & NCLI Program Manager  
Kelsey West, Environmental Educator

## **Energy Advisors:**

Fernando Ahumada  
Amanda Catale  
Frankie Lede  
Faith Laudano  
Mike Murphy

## **Environment & Energy Program Advisory Committee:**

Pete Berasi, Board Representative  
Ben Hoen  
Jane Lucas, Vice Chairperson  
Tom Lynch, Board Representative  
Gautam Sethi  
Alex Wolf, Chairperson



# Staff and Program Advisory Councils

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## **Family & Consumer Education Program**

### **Staff:**

Jessica Canale, Program Leader  
Francheska Kuilan, Administrative Asst.

### **Educators:**

Maureen Rodriguez Callamari  
Amber Chantelle Dunlavey  
Ashley Morris  
Heather Ohlson

Megan Dhanabala, Dutchess  
Tiffany Glavan  
Bintou Hinds  
Bee Moser  
Josephine Quiocho  
Jenna Ricker  
Maria Vele  
Meghan Young

## **Family & Consumer Education Program**

### **Advisory Committee:**

Jeremey Adelman, Board Representative  
Judy Di Matteo, Board Representative  
Tomasine Oliphant, Vice Chairperson  
Maribeth Rubenstein, Chairperson  
Ann D. Schwinger  
Barbara Warren, Secretary

## **4-H Youth Development Program Staff:**

Jane Rodd, 4-H Program Leader  
Samantha Brittain, Green Teen Program Manager  
Savanna Burke, 4-H Program Coordinator  
Emily Murnane, Green Teen Educator  
Emma Kron, 4-H Program Manager  
Educator:  
Allie Jeffrey  
Joanna Shultz

## **IPM Field Crops Specialist:**

Ken Wise, State-wide IPM Specialist  
Livestock and Field Crops

## **4-H Youth Development Program Advisory Committee:**

Katie Briggs, Chairperson  
Christie Alfaro  
Mario Gonzalez  
Chris Shave

## **SNAP-Ed Hudson Valley**

### **(Regional Program of 9 Counties):**

Shayna Russo  
Regional Program Manager  
Steven Alihonou  
Amanda Conover  
David Cordero  
Erica Dahl

## **IDEA COMMITTEE**

A coalition of programmatic and administrative staff.

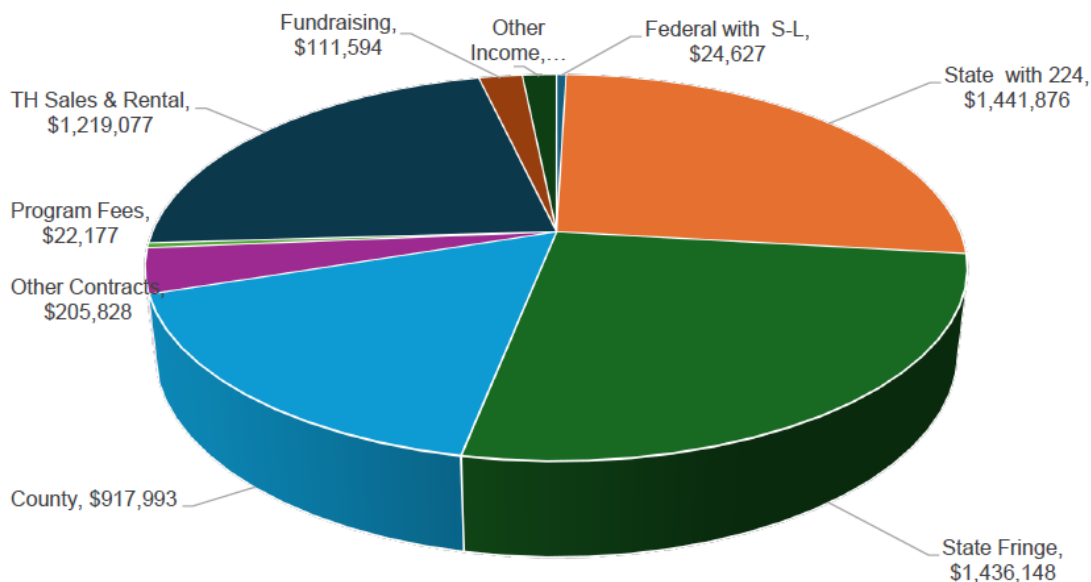


# Financial Overview

## 2023 Revenue

Federal with S-L	\$24,627
State with 224	\$1,441,876
State Fringe	\$1,436,148
County	\$917,993
Other Contracts	\$205,828
Program Fees	\$22,177
TH Sales & Rental	\$1,219,077
Fundraising	\$111,594
Other Income	\$87,648

\$5,466,969

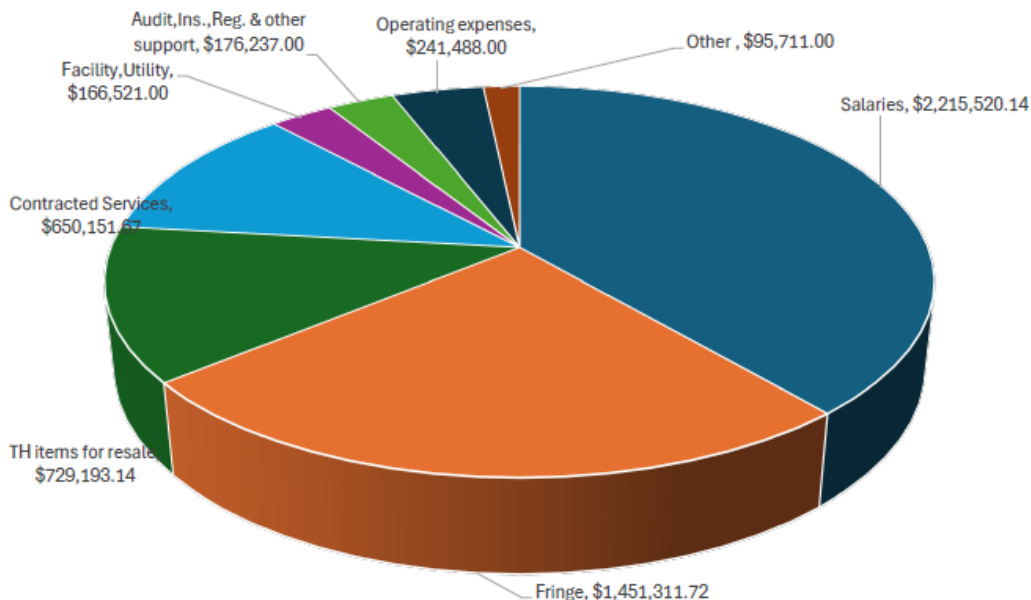


- Federal with S-L
- State with 224
- State Fringe
- County
- Other Contracts
- Program Fees
- TH Sales & Rental
- Fundraising
- Other Income

## 2023 Expenses

Salaries	\$2,215,520.14
Fringe	\$1,451,311.72
TH items for resale	\$729,193.14
Contracted Services	\$650,151.67
Facility,Utility	\$166,521.00
Audit,Ins.,Reg. & other support	\$176,237.00
Operating expenses	\$241,488.00
Other	\$95,711.00

\$5,726,133.67



- Salaries
- Fringe
- TH items for resale
- Contracted Services
- Facility,Utility
- Audit,Ins.,Reg. & other support
- Operating expenses
- Other

S-L= Smith and Lever Fund

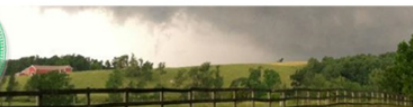
TH= Taste NY Todd Hill

Ins. = Insurance Expenses

Reg. = Regional Support Expenses

# Agriculture and Horticulture

Our programs prioritize environmental stewardship, best management practices, and economic viability for Dutchess County residents, farmers, and producers. They span Commercial Agriculture, Commercial Horticulture, Community Horticulture, and Ag Navigator.



## Ag Navigator

The Year in Review

Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County

### Projects offered to the community:

- Ag Districts and Ag Value Assessment
- Ag Breakfast (Farmers and Municipal Officials)
- Ag Forum (public) at the DCF
- Ag Navigator- resource for municipalities and farmers on all things related to agriculture.
- Master Gardener Volunteer program
- Speakers Bureau (libraries/Garden Clubs/community groups) on specific horticultural topics.
- Farmers Market Outreach: Ask A Master Gardener
- New/Beginning Farmers
- Conventional Farming/Green Industry/Christmas Tree industry

New York State law requires County Legislatures to conduct a review of all parcels located in Agricultural Districts every 8 years. In 2023, partnering with Dutchess County Planning and Development and Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District, we reviewed over **4000 parcels in Agricultural Districts**. Our efforts have yielded remarkable achievements in the certification process. We successfully crafted an approved on-line enrollment worksheet (first in NYS), meticulously **reviewing and processing 2,700 returned worksheets**, ensuring precision in data compilation. Serving as the dynamic Point-of-contact, fielding **370 calls**, and responding to **249 emails**. Our outreach efforts extended to **100 specified target property owners**, fostering collaboration with agency partners and providing a tour of Agricultural Districts to a representative from NYS Agriculture and Markets. Furthermore, we produced insightful maps and conducted quantitative analyses, aiding in determinations for parcel inclusion.

The **Ag Navigator** will be the first line contact for all agricultural needs, have a good understanding of and familiarity with agriculture, including existing **agricultural resources** which may include those found within the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan. The Navigator assesses agricultural needs and works to match those needs with existing programs.

We facilitated Ag Breakfast sessions for farmers and municipal officials, as well as a public Ag Forum at the DCF. The Ag Navigator serves as a comprehensive **resource for municipalities and farmers**, covering all aspects of agriculture.

- Presentations to 436 people
- 10 Municipal Officials
- 6 Assessors
- 8 Planners





Our programs encompass a Speakers Bureau that engages with libraries, Garden Clubs, and more to discuss specific horticultural topics of interest. Our Farmers Market Outreach offers the opportunity to "Ask A Master Gardener." We have a "Hotline" for homeowners and Commercial Horticulture business to tap into when they need an answer. Additionally, we host our Annual Plant Sale that funds all that we do! Our Master Gardener Volunteers have amazing educational service projects that can make a difference in their community, like Matt's Hoop house project (below). Master Gardeners, making a difference!



*Hands on community education!*



# Impact SPOTLIGHT



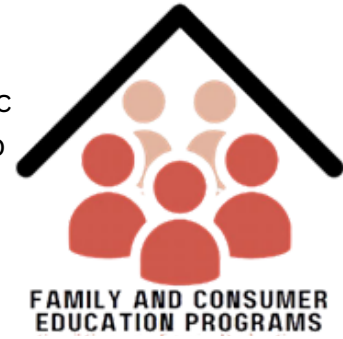
Under Matt Shayly's guidance, Dutchess County Master Gardeners collaborated with local food pantries, constructing gardens and greenhouses. Shayly oversees cultivation, managing a 4,000 square foot traditional garden at Dutchess Community College and an 800 square foot hoop house in Millbrook. The greenhouse, with 159 plants including tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, cantaloupes, and eggplants, not only provides organic produce but also serves as an educational hub for hydroponic gardening. Shayly explores interdisciplinary connections with mental health, food insecurity, STEM, and resource conservation.

**228** Dutchess County Commercial vegetable, fruit, grape and berry farmers, processors and related industries increased their knowledge and awareness of best management practices and pest management through the **Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program (ENYCHP.)**



# Family and Consumer Education

The **Family and Consumer Education (FCE) Department** addresses the dynamic and complex needs of Dutchess County families with programming designed to engage, empower and educate our participants. The diverse and vibrant communities of Dutchess County continue to face challenges with wellness, finances, education and parenting. Our Family and Consumer Education programs has the goal of adapting to the ever-changing needs of Dutchess County households with applicable education and information.



FCE's **Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP)** Support Group provides accessible support groups and other supportive services to relative caregivers and the children in their care and focuses on the needs of a growing number of families with youth being parented by kinship caregivers, many of whom are grandparents.

The support group meets twice per month with families throughout Dutchess. ***We serve the 27% of foster families in Dutchess County that fall within the kinship category-grandparents or other relatives raising a child.***



*RAPP Family Annual Picnic*



*Apple picking at DeBois Farms...*



*SNAP ed NY workshop at RAPP*



*Celebrating an adoption!*



*...with family snacks after!*

Our **Parenting Skills Workshop Series (PSWS)** is part of the Department and Community and Family Services (DCFS) efforts to reunite families in crisis. Our 8-class series educates families on how to bring enhanced communication and harmony to the household. Our Parenting Skills Workshop Series (PSWS) parenting education workshops work exclusively with the Dutchess County Department of Community and Family Services to help reunite parents with their children. PSWS graduated **78 parents in the 80 classes that they ran this year (10, 8 class sessions)**



The **Parenting and Support Education (PASE)** programs run throughout the county as a voluntary program with the same Cornell University evidence-based curriculum, we use in PSWS. This workshop program collaborated with the Child Care Council of Dutchess and Putnam, St John's Episcopal Church, Dutchess County Behavioral Health's ITAP program and the Hyde Park School District and **graduated 99 adults in Dutchess County in the 87 classes** we ran in 2023.



In collaboration with nearby Cornell Cooperative Extensions, our Department of Health's **Hudson River Fish Advisory Program** promotes community health through education. We offer local maps with DOH fish advice, conduct outreach programs, create informational and preparation videos, and teach bioaccumulation in schools and community locations. In the past year, the program hosted **32 events**, directly engaging with 1713 individuals, showcasing our commitment to enhancing public health through informed choices.

*DC Fair Fish Advisory Book*

FCE provided **financial literacy education to all ages in the County** with our three programs, Financial Literacy for Youth (FLY), Your Money Your Goals (YMYG) for adults and Money Smart for Older Adults (MSOA) for seniors. We provide lessons that focused on the psychology of money, making a spending plan, checking and savings, credit cards and interest, credit reporting and scams. These programs cover all ages from middle school to senior citizens with age-appropriate curriculum that explores our saving and spending habits and needs and how to achieve long term financial independence **reached 147 youth, 10 adults and 13 senior citizens** in 2023.

## Impact SPOTLIGHT

A participant, new to the area and attending parenting classes for support, found immense value. Taking the class twice, he connected with another fathers facing a similar situation. They exchanged contacts, offering mutual support. Impressed by our mission, he joined the Program Advisory Council of the FCE Program, highlighting the impactful connections and contributions stemming from our programs!



# 4-H Positive Youth Development

All CCEDC 4-H Youth Development programs share a vision of Positive Youth Development where participants develop behaviors, competencies and values that lead them to make good choices, reduce risky behaviors and empower them to succeed.



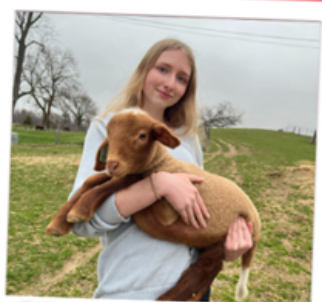
**4-H Clubs** teach vocational and life skills education through hands-on, project-based learning. Led by volunteers, club meet year-round, engaging in activities such as public presentations, community service, leadership training and record keeping.

*Sue Serino with member of the Clover Crew!*



*4-H'er Margo laPorte educates young peers*

"4-H has had such a large impact on my life. It has given me so many opportunities of interacting with people and animals I wouldn't have had otherwise. Through my involvement in 4-H I have been inspired to learn more about livestock and agriculture, opening up a whole new world for me. I initially got involved in 4-H through poultry in Stony Ground 4-H. Since then, I have branched out to include other animals, including sheep, canines, and dairy cattle and have also gotten involved with the Youth Livestock Auction. While I did not have a background in agriculture, the people I have met through 4-H have been extremely supportive and have helped me along the way. Through 4-H I have learned the educational value of agriculture, and has made me realize that I want to pursue a career in agriculture as a large animal veterinarian. The skills that I have learned and built upon, including public speaking, leadership, and record keeping have not only helped me now but will continue to be valuable in the future. I am confident that my involvement in 4-H will continue to serve as a source of inspiration as I continue my education."



 **Milla Berg**

I have learned so much about goats and other animals too, one of my favorite things that I've done in 4-H was the showmanship clinic. I had a lot of fun learning to show beef and dairy cows as well as practicing with goats. Another one of my favorite things about 4-H is how it has given me great opportunities to get my art evaluated. I learn a lot from the people who evaluate the things I bring in each year, and have been lucky enough to have been picked for state both times. Once for photography and once for needlepoint felting. Without the exhibit hall at fair I would never have had the chance, and it is very motivating to get feedback. Even though I've only been in 4-H since I started high-school, I still feel like I have benefitted greatly from it. I hope anyone who is considering 4-H but thinks they are too old to start knows that it is worth it even if you only have a few years until you age out."

"4-H has given me the opportunity to come out of my shell and meet new people. I have learned so much about goats and other animals too, one of my favorite things that I've done in 4-H was the showmanship clinic. I had a lot of fun learning to show beef and dairy cows as well as practicing with goats. Another one of my favorite things about 4-H is how it has given me great opportunities to get my art evaluated. I learn a lot from the people who evaluate the things I bring in each year, and have been lucky enough to have been picked for state both times. Once for photography and once for needlepoint felting. Without the exhibit hall at fair I would never have had the chance, and it is very motivating to get feedback. Even though I've only been in 4-H since I started high-school, I still feel like I have benefitted greatly from it. I hope anyone who is considering 4-H but thinks they are too old to start knows that it is worth it even if you only have a few years until you age out."



 **Emily Gerstle**

I hope anyone who is considering 4-H but thinks they are too old to start knows that it is worth it even if you only have a few years until you age out."



**Flourishing Farmers** are very special young people who face major challenges. Staff and volunteers worked to provide **20 youth** with the support they needed to enjoy and learn agricultural skills. Flourishing Farmers is integrated in our 4-H Club program and offers youth who need special accommodations the same opportunities that 4-H members experience but with more support. This program is proudly supported by Dutchess County in partnership with the ThinkDifferently initiative.



*Flourishing Farmer Joey Clover at Brooke Farm*



*After-school program supported by BTCF*

**Wingdale Elementary School After-School Program**, in the Dover Free Union School District, serves a diverse population. Nearly 70% qualify for free or reduced lunch, and many come from immigrant families with English as a second language. The after-school program aims to teach some of the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in our County, providing **30 sessions for 63 unduplicated 1st and 2nd graders.**

Supported by Berkshire Taconic Community foundation (BTCF), the after-school program takes place twice weekly and provide predominantly low income and children from immigrant families with science-based education to help them learn about our county and state.

Our **Ag in the Classroom (AITC)** program takes place in March each year; Ag Literacy Week saw 4-H staff work with schools and community groups to provide over **2200 1-3rd grade children** with agricultural education.



#### **Projects offered to the community:**

- Over **3000 children aged between 5 and 18** received vocational and/or life skills education in 2023 through 4-H programs.
- The budget per child averaged out at **less than \$50 per year!**
- **Volunteer hours** 'donated' to the programs were worth approximately **\$318,000** according to values set by the Independent Sector.
- The **retention rate** of youth in 4-H programs is over **92%**.
- Youth served were from **all corners of the county** and from a range of backgrounds including widely different abilities, ethnicities and socio-economic statuses.



The **Green Teen Workforce Development Program** is based in Beacon. Eligible teens are employed by CCEDC and learn vocational skills by growing over 1200lbs of vegetables in a community garden which they then distribute to the community through a Free Farm Stand. Staff also provide support and education in areas including employment skills, healthy eating, cooking and social justice.

In Poughkeepsie we partnered with Nubian Directions, providing employment and vocational training for 10 youth and restoring the plot at Winnicke Ave from wasteland to a flourishing garden. Funds from NYS courtesy of Assemblymember Jacobson.”



Serving middle school students, the **Club Green Teen** meets weekly after school. Youth learn about career paths and help in the garden.

*Club Green Teen nextgen fire fighters*



*Summer Crew at Wastewater Pollinator Patch*



*Aidon gives thumbs up!*

## Impact SPOTLIGHT

Aidon George began working for Green Teen at age 14, at age 16 he was promoted to crew leader for Club Green Teen. Through this position Aidon discovered his unique leadership abilities. Aidon also became an advocate for community gardening, presenting Green Teen to local community groups. Aidon’s family has since moved out of Dutchess County, but he won’t forget the impact of Green Teen. In a letter to Green Teen staff, he wrote, “Everything you taught me, I will take with me and use for the rest of my life.”





# Taste NY at Todd Hill

A function of the Ag-Hort program area; to support agriculture, horticulture, and agritourism in Dutchess County and throughout the state.

**Todd Hill Outdoor Farmers' Market:** running Fridays May through October, showcasing fresh seasonal produce, value added food and beverage items, spirits, hard cider, and textiles.

**Special Events at Todd Hill:** Host 4-H groups for holiday fundraising, and the Sheep and Wool Growers Association Lamb Cart.



*Ronny Brook Drinkable Yogurt*



*Maple Felt Coasters Candles*



*Beer Cider*



**Todd Hill Outdoor Farmers' Market:**  
Runs Fridays May through October, showcasing fresh seasonal produce, value added food and beverage items, spirits, hard cider, and textiles.

**Special Events at Todd Hill:** Host 4-H groups for holiday fundraising, and the Sheep and Wool Growers Association Lamb Cart.

- In 2023, wholesale purchases to farmers, small vendors, and distributors were approximately \$760k.
- 207,075 New York State products were sold at Todd Hill.
- Approximately 113,000 visitors entered the store.

## Impact SPOTLIGHT

*BuonPomodoroSauce*



"I want to sincerely express our **appreciation of the Taste NY program**. As a local small business, we are very grateful that Taste NY supports and partners with local entrepreneurs. Buon Pomodoro Sauce is beyond excited and thankful to be showcased in your store! We want to thank you for being wonderful partners and look forward to many years of our continued partnership." Sincerely, Christine Dalia Buon Pomodoro Sauce



# Environment and Energy

Through education, technical support, research and partnerships, the **Environment & Energy Program** works to empower individuals and communities to expand their knowledge and take actions to protect, restore and enhance the environment of Dutchess County, the Mid-Hudson region and beyond.

The [Mid-Hudson NYSEERDA Regional Clean Energy Hub](#) is a team of trusted, knowledgeable, community-based organizations, led by CCEDC, working to equitably support residents, non-profits, and small businesses to learn more about and **access the NYS energy efficiency and clean energy programs** and projects available to them. Energy Advisors provide free support for residents and businesses in the Mid-Hudson Valley looking to make their home or workplace cleaner, greener, and more cost-efficient.



*NYSEERDA Hub Event Tabling*



*Climate Resilience assessment workshop*

The [CCE Climate Resilience Partnership](#) (CRP) works to support and empower Hudson Valley communities to **build long term resilience to extreme weather and adapt to the impacts of climate change**. The CRP is a collaboration of Cornell Cooperative Extensions (CCE) of Columbia-Greene, Dutchess, Rensselaer, Rockland and Ulster Counties in partnership with the NYS Water Resources Institute at Cornell University and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation’s Hudson River Estuary Program.

Our Dutchess County Environmental Planning & Sustainability efforts in partnership with the Dutchess County Planning Department work to provide Dutchess County municipal officials, volunteers and residents with the education, resources, and support needed to make informed land-use planning decisions within their municipalities that lead to protection of natural resources while supporting economic vitality.

## Impact SPOTLIGHT

 **Cornell Cooperative Extension**  
Smart Energy Choices – Mid-Hudson



All residents, businesses and communities of Dutchess County have access to new opportunities to benefit from this transition including clean energy careers, home improvements, even rebates for businesses and personal transportation. But there’s a lot of information out there, and people may not know where to start.



## Programs and projects offered to the community:

- Energy Advisors participated in **236 events** across the Mid-Hudson region-engaging **6439 individuals** about energy efficiency and clean energy programs and projects.
- CCE Dutchess Climate & Environment educators provided support to **6 Dutchess County communities to complete 9 actions of the NYS Climate Smart Communities Certification program**. In partnership with CCE Columbia-Green & CCE Ulster, staff supported the completion of 17 Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plans for Columbia County communities.
- Supported **16 Dutchess County Conservation Advisory Committees (CAC)** and the Dutchess County Environmental Management Council to share their successes, challenges and goals for 2023 with over 50 attendees.
- Supported **5 watershed organizations** along with local partners and non-profits to discuss solutions to challenges.
- Partnered with the DC Planning Department to update the DC Natural Resources Inventory. **The updated NRI now includes an interactive environmental mapper.**
- Worked with 3 DC communities, in partnership with the NYS DEC Hudson River Estuary Program, to complete community Natural Resource Inventories (NRI's), and worked with another community to kick-off their NRI project which will continue into 2024.
- **Employed 6 Youth Environmental Educators** who engaged 148 youth in outdoor education and STEM topics at multiple events.
- **NCLI Youth Environmental** Educators completed their "Learn the Fall Kill with Teens" community project participating in a trash assessment and collected bioacoustics data along the creek. They also began researching the development of a community composting project for the City of Poughkeepsie in 2023.
- In October 2023 the Env. & Energy Program, including the NCLI Youth Environmental Educators, **hosted 98 5th graders from Krieger Elementary School at Quiet Cove Park to participate in A Day in the Life of the Hudson River and Harbor** - a hands on day where students learn about the chemical, biological and physical aspects of the River.

The [Dutchess No Child Left Inside \(NCLI\) program](#) works to get youth outdoors to connect with nature while also exploring various STEM topics and providing important job-training and life skills. The Dutchess NCLI program Hires teenagers (14-19) from the City of Poughkeepsie and provides them with the training and skills necessary to become Youth Environmental Educators in the program.



2023 NCLI Crew

# Donor & Supporters

---

Mark Adams Greenhous, Inc.  
Mark & Sue Adams  
Adams Fairacre Farms  
Tania Arroyo- Adams Fairacre Farm  
TJ Ashline  
Heidi Baks  
Ann Bancroft  
Joy Barbieri  
Maura Ann Barrett  
Peter & Jean Berasi  
Milla Berg  
Donna Bolner  
Gayle Bontecou  
Michelle Botticelli  
Marilyn Brands  
Kristi Brien  
Daniel Briggs  
Robert Bullions III  
Leah Cadwallader  
Juan Canales  
Anthony Capalbo Phantom Gardener  
Andrew/Margaret Capitan/Doyle  
Mary Lou Carolan  
Lillian Chapman  
Grace Chartier  
Brooker Cheney  
Arne & Cheryl Christensen  
Community Foundation  
Samara Daly and family  
Lorna De Wangen  
Margaret Doyle  
Nina & Johanna Doyle  
Mark Doyle  
Victoria Doyle  
Denise Dunn  
Dutchess County Dairy Committee  
Rob Dyson  
Dyson Foundation  
Ruth E. Ehlers Trust  
Perry Eshelman

Morris Freedman  
Anne Friedland  
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Deborah & Frederick Glynn  
Mark Grigalunas  
Kenneth Hale Amenia Lions club  
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Douglas & Rae Hart DVM  
Ira Haskell Merrill Trust  
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Laura Kirkpatrick  
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Victoria/Douglas Larson  
Beth Ledy Millbrook Garden Club  
Maeve Lomoriello  
Sophia Lotto  
Tom Lynch  
Judith MacDonald  
Lois Mander  
Mark Jordan & Michelle Singer  
Carolyn Marshall Boss Haven Farm  
Carol & Daniel Mastropietro  
Epler Matt  
Diana Miles -Barn Again  
Deborah Moore  
Ruth Moore  
Lynne Morra  
Catherine Murray  
Diana Niles-King Barn Again  
Michael Oakley Quaker Valley Farm Getaway LLC  
Lowe's Kingston  
Gustav Pack Jr.  
Colleen Padoleski

Andrea Parent-Tibbetts  
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Justin Wiesenthal  
Diandria Williams

*Your generous support continues to deliver our programs to enrich the youth and adults within our community. Please excuse us if we missed your name! We truly appreciate every donor!*

*Your support helps CCEDC to do more and to reach more -- youth, adults, families and businesses in our communities -- with high-quality, research-based educational programs they can trust*





# Collaborators & Funders

Images are arranged to fit, not a particular giving order.



**LOWER HUDSON PRISM**

**COMMON GROUND**



United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region



**NYSEKDA**

NORTHERN **DUTCHESS NEWS**  
 & Creative Living



**Hudson River Estuary Program**

**LOVE146**



**Department of Health**



**Agriculture and Markets**



**Cornell Water Resources Institute**



**Berkshire Taconic COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**



*DC Dairy Committee Millbrook Library  
 Pleasant Valley Free Library  
 Howland Public Library  
 Arlington CSD  
 Beacon CSD  
 Carmel CSD\*  
 Dover Union Free School  
 Haldane CSD\*  
 Hyde Park CSD  
 Millbrook CSD  
 Pawling CSD*

*Pine Plains CSD  
 Poughkeepsie CSD  
 Red Hook CSD  
 Rhinebeck CSD  
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 Wappingers CSD  
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**DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**



**Dutchess County Agricultural Society, Inc.  
 Southern Dutchess News**

**arts  
 Mid-Hudson  
 together we create**

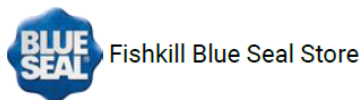
# Event Donor & Supporters

**A-FAIR TO  
REMEMBER**



With a goal to make it possible for every Dutchess County 4-H'er to **experience the Dutchess County Fair** and introduce a whole new generation to our culture, Dutchess County 4-H hosts **"A-Fair To Remember"** A fun-packed day that showcases: Farm Animals, Arts and Crafts Stations, Archery and Air Rifle, Demonstrations, Games, Splash Pad, Swimming in the Lake, Live Music and so many more experiences!

The opportunity to exhibit at the Dutchess County Fair enhances learning and allows our young people to receive acclaim for their achievements. They make memories and friends which last them a lifetime.



*Donations from private individuals included a \$5,000 pledge to match all personal donations. This was achieved with ease thanks to the generosity of the following:*

- |                        |                                   |                          |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Milla Berg             | Donna Bolner                      | Daniel Briggs            |
| Leah Cadwallader       | Samantha Daly and Family          | Nina and Johanna Doyle   |
| Denise Dunn            | Diana King                        | Nancy Krupp              |
| Beth Ledy              | Maeve Lomoriello Carolyn Marshall | Sophia Lotto             |
| Judith MacDonald       | Tyler Pennock                     | Deborah R. Moore         |
| Andrea Parent-Tibbetts | Paddy Rossbach                    | Lorrayn Pickerell        |
| Nicole Raskopf         | Vivian Wadlin                     | Marvin and Nancy Stanley |
| Kim Tripp              |                                   | Diandria Williams        |



## Vision:

## Goals:

### Governance

Ensure an active, engaged, and informed Board of Directors that is responsive to emerging needs and trends.

### Revenue Generation

To generate sufficient financial revenue for the organization to sufficiently provide the various services, programs, and education to the community and help fulfill the mission.

### Programs & Education

Maintain and expand quality programs that foster knowledge and self-sufficiency.

### Marketing & Partnerships

CCEDC will enjoy strong recognition and support from all local communities, sectors, and constituencies.

### Operations

Internal operations and communications will support effective operations and promote employee morale.

1

CCEDC will have the financial stability to respond to the community needs in Dutchess County effectively and efficiently through the use of technology and its flagship programs.

2

CCEDC will be needs driven and serve and assist Dutchess County community members throughout their lifespan, while conveying a culture of diversity in our staff and volunteers.

3

With financial support, CCEDC will collaborate and respond to the priority community needs of Dutchess County.

4

Through collaboration, increased financial support and public engagement, CCEDC will meet the defined community needs and have a positive impact throughout the lifespan of individuals.



# Community:

Your support helps CCE Dutchess County to do more and to reach more -- youth, adults, families and businesses in our communities -- with high-quality, research-based educational programs they can trust!



## Donate!

Dutchess County Farm & Home Center  
2715 Route 44  
Millbrook, New York 12545  
(845) 677-8223



## Volunteer!

Green Teen Community Gardening Program  
Beacon Recreation Center  
23 West Center Street  
Beacon, New York 12508  
(845) 831-4287

Taste NY Market at Todd Hill  
4640 Taconic State Parkway North  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603  
(845) 849-0247

*Many of our programs are found on social media.*

*Please 'like' & "follow"!*



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