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CCE Monroe County Executive Director Report
September 2025

2025 Goals

- Align Association Culture with Strategic Values
 - A cohesive organizational culture that enhances team engagement & performance.
- CCE Monroe Staff Growth & Development
 - A highly skilled and adaptable team capable of meeting evolving organizational challenges, fostering collaboration and a culture of continuous learning and innovation.
- Strengthen & Expand Strategic Partnerships
 - Enhanced program offerings and resources through collaborative efforts; continuing to diversify funding streams for increased financial stability.

The Headlines

- **Personnel**
 - Interview process for new Horticulture Program Leader – down to the last 2 final candidates
 - Ongoing staff & team support
 - Staff development preparation – 9/25 Darrell Jachim-Moore will be leading the staff in the *Leadership Game*. We are following this with a staff appreciation party. Note the office is closed for the day to support staff development.
 - Assisting the SNAP-ED team in navigating upcoming changes to their grant funding.
- **Finance**
 - Bridge the Gap Campaign - <https://monroe.cce.cornell.edu/donate>
 - Many community partnership meetings this past month.
 - Researching grant opportunities and working with current funders to plan next year.
 - Submitted budget to continue SNAP-Ed funding from Oct-Dec.
- **Miscellaneous**
 - Annual Report published!
 - Food Insecurity Project funding is depleted; waiting to hear if the County will continue with increased funding this year.
 - Executive Leadership Conference with Board Directors; Melissa joined for an amazing time of learning and growth.
 - Preparations for the 2025 Annual Meeting – Please spread the word!
<https://monroe.cce.cornell.edu/events/2025/10/23/2025-annual-meeting>

Strategic Plan Update

- 1.1, 1.3 Program Effectiveness –

Develop relevant programs that meet residents' current and future needs and interests.

Assess current programs for pertinence, reach, sustainability, and impact.

- *Continuing to work with each program team to ensure we are reaching our MC residents.*

- 1.2 Program Effectiveness –

Intentionally imbed practices of diversity and equity in all programming.

- *The DEIB team has not met this summer due to varied schedules. We'll reconvene in the fall.*

- 2.2 Resource Management –

Assess and identify funding acquisition and allocation strategies for organizational success.

- *Bridge the Gap campaign!*

What's On Tap?

As we look ahead, much of our focus is on the 2025 Annual Meeting coming up October 23rd. The logistics are in good shape and we're finalizing the program. This year's meeting will lean into conversation and storytelling, giving youth, families, and partners a chance to share how our programs are making an impact. It should be a strong opportunity to both showcase our work and hear directly from the community.

On the fundraising side, we're continuing to push forward with the *Bridge the Gap* campaign. The emphasis right now is on connecting with local organizations, schools, health clinics, nonprofits, and others to keep building relationships that support nutrition education and community wellness. The campaign is also helping us raise awareness about the funding gap and keep our programs front and center. Between the Annual Meeting and this outreach, we're keeping momentum moving in both visibility and community support.

Below are some pictures of our August Board Social. Thank you to all of who were able to join us; it was a great turnout! Katherine Streeter even joined us! We had a fantastic time and the weather was perfect!

