



# IMPACT 2025

Through Extension programs across the nation, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Educators provide a multitude of Educational opportunities to meet the needs of diverse audiences.

## FCS and STEM Education

### Strengthening Communities Through Family and Consumer Sciences & STEM Education

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) and STEM education programs are vital for enhancing skills, knowledge, and well-being across communities. Over the past year, these initiatives have **reached 14,401 through in-person sessions**, equipping them with valuable knowledge in sewing, textile education, financial literacy, home safety, and mental well-being. Through **108 educational programs**, these efforts have empowered individuals across multiple states, ensuring access to essential life skills and career-building opportunities.

### State-Level Impact and Key Programs

#### Arkansas – Social Media and FCS Education

**Arkansas** utilized social media to expand public outreach in FCS education, promoting accessibility and engagement with relevant home and consumer science topics.

#### Delaware – Mental Well-being Program

Mental health awareness is a growing priority. **Delaware's Mental Well-being Program** reached **141 in-person participants**, focusing on stress management, emotional resilience, and mindfulness techniques. By addressing mental health challenges, the program contributes to community wellness and provides participants with tools to navigate stress effectively.



*This program taught me how to calm myself down, so that I can get the things done that I need to do. I was able to finally get my name changed without a negative social interaction. - Delaware's Mental Well-being Program Participant*



#### Idaho – 4-H Sewing Volunteer Workshop and Connecting Educators & Teachers Training

**Idaho** implemented hands-on learning through the *4-H Sewing Volunteer Workshop*, educating **12 in-person participants** on sewing and textile skills. Another initiative, *Connecting Educators and Teachers*, provided STEM-integrated training to **51 in-person participants**, emphasizing teaching methodologies that enhance youth learning. These programs strengthen workforce readiness by equipping educators and youth with practical and technical skills.



*Idaho's Connecting Educators and Teachers*

#### Kentucky – Master Clothing Volunteer Program

**Kentucky's Master Clothing Volunteer Program** has made a significant impact by training individuals in sewing and textile arts. Over **46 sessions**, the program **reached 12,250 in-person participants**, equipping them with skills applicable in personal and entrepreneurial settings. The initiative

fosters economic opportunities, enhances creativity, and preserves valuable craft traditions. According to program leaders, a Master Clothing Volunteer reported that a shy youth with introverted social skills became more engaged and active upon learning how to follow sewing directions.

## Maine – Agricultural Literacy Program

Maine’s *Building Agricultural Literacy* program educated **395 in-person participants**, fostering STEM-based agricultural awareness and hands-on learning experiences.

## Ohio – Healthy Families Build Healthy Communities

Ohio’s initiative supported **33 in-person participants** by providing education on healthy family dynamics, promoting well-being and sustainable community growth.



*I really enjoyed the topics covered. Many were new/newer topics to me. The presentations were attention-grabbing and the topics were great!* - Ohio’s Healthy Families Build Healthy Communities Participant



## Oregon – AgFest Farm Field Trips

Oregon hosted **47 sessions, reaching 1,100 in-person participants**, focusing on agricultural education and hands-on farm experiences that integrate STEM learning.



*Big smiles, lots of fun and a ton of information from our science, health, and social studies curriculum.* - AgFest Participant



## Texas – Parenting & Child Development Programs

Texas provided essential education on parenting and child development, helping families strengthen relationships and foster healthy environments for children.

## Utah’s - Clothing and Textile Training

The *Clothing and Textile Training* program engaged **345 in-person participants** through **10 sessions**, focusing on textile care, clothing maintenance, and sewing techniques. This initiative encourages sustainable fashion practices and equips individuals with essential home management skills.

## Total Impact and Future Goals

These **108 FCS & STEM educational programs** have significantly advanced community learning and workforce preparation across nine states, **reaching 14,401 participants**. By integrating STEM concepts into practical skills like sewing, financial literacy, home safety, and mental well-being, these initiatives address critical educational gaps. Participants reported increased confidence in applying these skills to their daily lives. Looking ahead, facilitators aim to expand digital resources, strengthen partnerships, and enhance outreach efforts to maximize impact. By continuing to provide these essential learning opportunities, NEAFCS programs will foster self-sufficiency, innovation, and long-term sustainability across diverse communities.

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*Raising kids, Eating right, Spending smart*



**National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)** provides professional development for Extension professionals who improve the quality of life for individuals, families, and communities and provide education in the areas of: Childhood Obesity Prevention; Community Health and Wellness; Diabetes Prevention and Management; Financial Management; Food and Nutrition; Food Safety; Healthy Homes and the Environment; Improving Children’s Lives; and Protecting our Resources – Family Life. NEAFCS is an equal opportunity/affirmative action association. NEAFCS values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation. Membership is not by invitation. (Strategic Plan 1993-97)