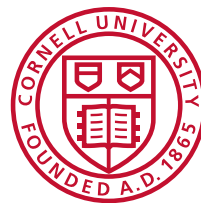


Cornell Cooperative Extension
Onondaga County



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



6505 Collamer Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057
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www.cceonondaga.org

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A YEARS REVIEW

The 2020 year put our mission to the test: putting knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social wellbeing; bringing local experience and research based solutions together, helping New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

As our world changed more rapidly than anyone could have predicted, CCE Onondaga had the opportunity to showcase some of its best traits. We are adaptable. Relevant. And provide information you can trust. As an organization, we seek to become stronger, as we continually evolve to fill the needs of our community.

This report is but a small snapshot of some of the success stories this past year.

David Skeval

CCE ONONDAGA STAFF

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Katherine Korba
Natural Resources Educator*

NUTRITION & HEALTH

Kathleen Bump
SNAP-Ed Team Leader

Anita Bono
SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator

Amie Chambers
SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator

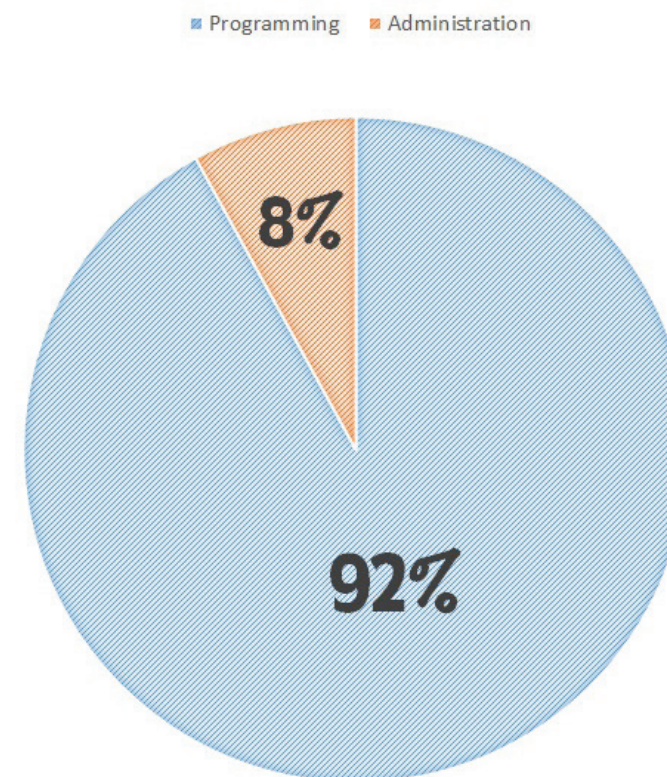
Katie Oja
SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator

Kirstin Lyons
SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator

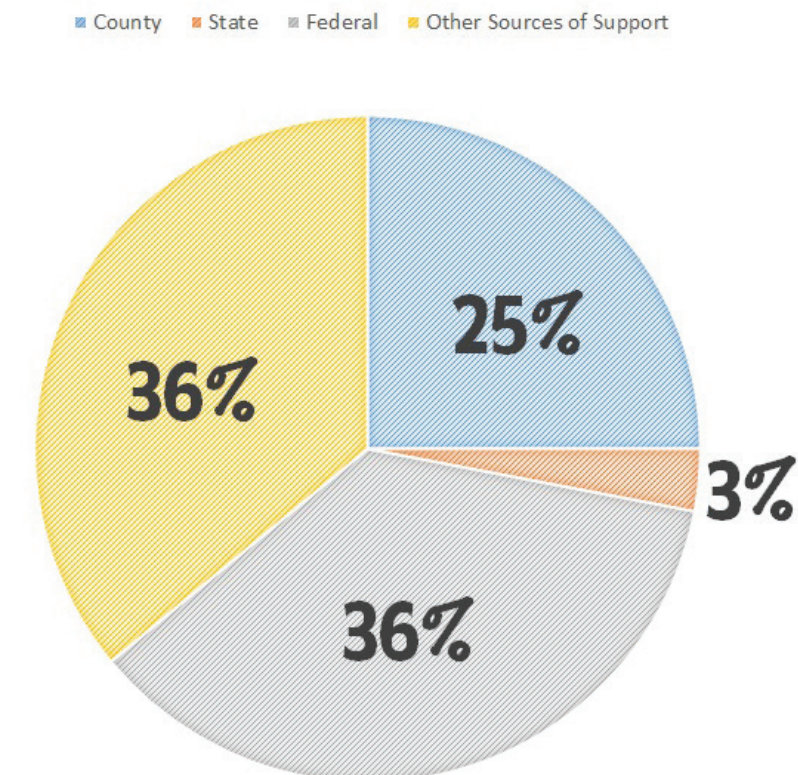
*Denotes staff member not continuing in 2021

FINANCES

2020 ALLOCATION



2020 RESOURCES



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In 2020, great progress was made in transitioning in person 4-H Youth Development programming into a virtual or hybrid format. Despite the restrictions and limitations presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, 4-H programming was not only able to continue, but expanded in 2020. CCE Onondaga 4-H collaborated with more than 20 organizations in the county including: community centers, school districts, libraries, non-profit organizations, companies, city and state parks and recreation departments and Cornell University to provide a variety of community education programs and projects focused on youth development, which were attended by 3,477 youth and volunteers. Even amongst pandemic restrictions, CCE Onondaga 4-H expanded in the development of a new 4-H club at the Seals Community Center at Kirk Park in Syracuse, and held its first tabling event there in 2020.

4-H members have participated in various virtual activities such as animal science, geospatial science and technology, public speaking, family/consumer science and nutrition, gardening and arts and crafts, despite challenges presented by the COVID pandemic. In early 2020, pre-COVID, Governance Day was held for the first time in 4-H history at the Onondaga County Legislature where a proclamation was presented celebrating 101 years of 4-H in Onondaga County. 4-H youth also had an opportunity to tour the Cornell University Equine Hospital early in 2020. Post COVID, 4-H Public-Speaking Presentations, Annual 4-H Youth Fair, 4-H Dairy Clinic, “Leadership to Strengthen Our Communities”

program, Winter Weekend nature education event, and community service events were held either virtually or in person, utilizing COVID safety guidelines. At the Annual End of the Year 4-H Celebration, we reflected upon and celebrated the successful 2020 4-H program year.

4-H is a **community** of **young people** **across America** who are learning **leadership, citizenship** and **life skills**.



2020 Highlights

3,477 Total Direct Contacts
20,000 Total Indirect Contacts
108 Events

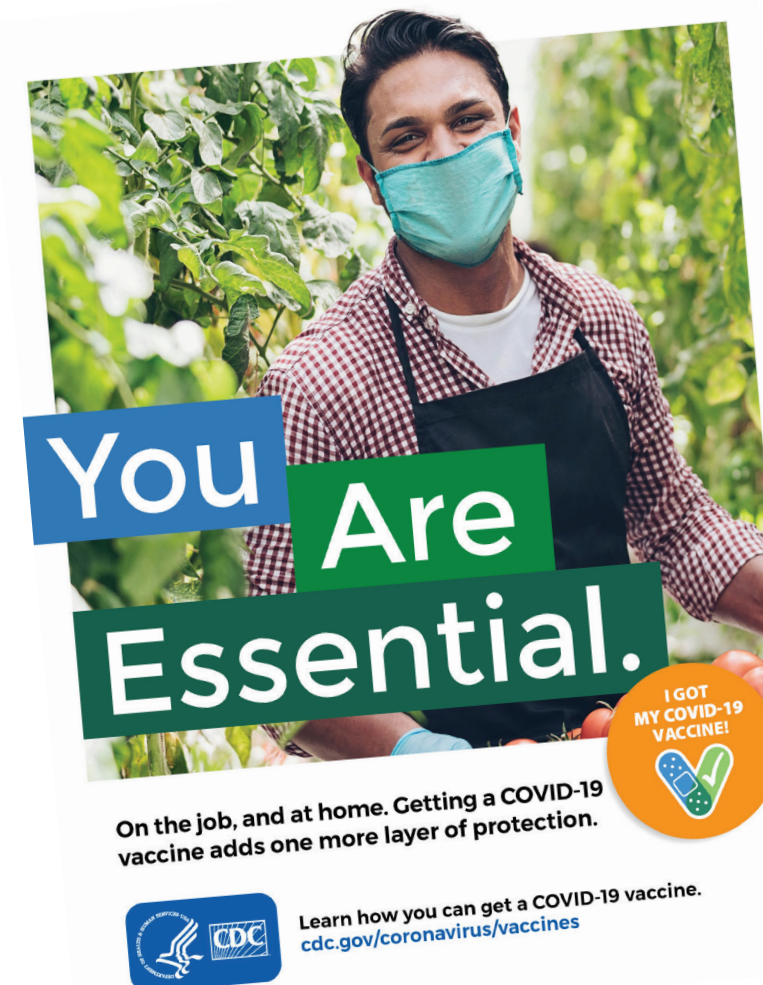


AGRICULTURE



Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County, in cooperation with New York State Agriculture and Markets, is providing a helping hand to farmers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Production farms of any type were welcomed at our new office location on Collamer Road in East Syracuse, picking up supplies. All parts of our food system were aided, including dairy, livestock, grape, and vegetable farms, farm stands, U-Picks, nurseries, equine, and craft beverage institutions. Pickup was designed to be contact-less, with orders organized outside of our second entrance and able to be picked up at any time. PPE masks and sanitizer is still available for pickup!

Since May 11, 2020, CCE Onondaga has distributed over 700 gallons of hand sanitizer, 7,000 cloth face masks to 1,500 employees of Onondaga farms and u-pick operations. Our goal is to help farmers continue their work safely and to be able to sell their products safely.



2020 Highlights

164 Events
3,926 Direct Contacts
44,599 Indirect Contacts

NATURAL RESOURCES

CCE Onondaga joined in partnership with Skaneateles Lake municipalities, the City of Syracuse and Onondaga County Soil and Water Conservation District (collectively known as the Skaneateles Watershed Municipal Partnership) to design a website for Skaneateles Lake. The Skaneateles Watershed Municipal Partnership's goal is to work collectively to bring the most up to date information regarding the Skaneateles Lake Watershed through the website, and to work together to promote a healthy future for the beautiful water source that is Skaneateles Lake.

Skaneateles Lake is a vital, shared natural resource for Central New York, providing recreational, aesthetic, and financial value to the community. The lake also serves as the primary drinking water source for residents in the watershed and the City of Syracuse. There are so many resources for information about topics affecting Skaneateles Lake, like harmful algal blooms, invasive species, and landscaping for water quality. However, this information was spread across several different websites, making it difficult to locate. The new Skaneateles Lake website pulls together all important information about the lake and its watershed in one place for those who live in, visit, recreate on, and love Skaneateles Lake.

In the fall of 2019, the City of Syracuse reached out to CCE Onondaga about putting together a website for the watershed. A partnership of municipalities interested in creating this website formed with CCE Onondaga taking the lead role in populating and designing the website, with feedback from the committee of stakeholders. Over the course of about eight months, the Skaneateles Watershed Municipal Partnership met and discussed content and changes for each draft version of the website.

CCE Onondaga and the Skaneateles Watershed Municipal Partnership collaborated on designing the website, which successfully launched on July 1st, 2020. CCE Onondaga Water and Ecology Educator, Camille Marcotte, was featured on the local Syracuse Bridge Street on News Channel 9 program to highlight the launch and talk about the new website (estimated reach of over 320,000 households).

The website has been an immense success - since its launch on July 1st, 2020, the website has 1,146 visits, 2,859 page views and 1,007 unique visitors.

Feedback from Skaneateles residents, stakeholders and other partners has been extremely positive. The website will serve as a hub of information about the lake and its watershed now and into the future, providing updates on harmful algae blooms, boat launch and wash station locations, answers to frequently asked questions, and more. For all watershed residents and anyone who enjoys visiting and recreating on Skaneateles Lake, this website provides comprehensive information on topics that contribute to promoting a healthy future for the lake and protecting its water quality.

The Skaneateles website is the result of a partnership between Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County, the City of Syracuse, Onondaga County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Skaneateles Lake Watershed municipalities (Town of Niles, Town of Spafford, Town and Village of Skaneateles, Town of Scott, and Town of Sempronius).



Check out the new watershed website with real time lake data, information on harmful algal blooms, how you can help protect water quality, and much more!

www.skanlakeinfo.org

2020 Highlights

7,661 Total Direct Contacts
449,456 Total Indirect Contacts
320 Events

NUTRITION AND HEALTH



2020 Highlights

7,661 Total Direct Contacts
449,456 Total Indirect Contacts
1,075 Events



Food insecurity, meaning individuals having limited or uncertain access to enough food for a healthy and active lifestyle increased significantly with the onset of Covid -19 pandemic. Low income families eligible/ receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits were now faced with new problems with purchasing foods due to scarcity of food items in supermarkets because of food hoarding and panic purchasing in Onondaga County. In addition, individuals already financially struggling lost their jobs, were laid off or had reduced hours as a result of the pandemic complicated food insecurity matters. Food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens were now faced with an uptick in customers needing food to feed their families.

Nutrition educators worked with the coordinators of food pantries/soup kitchens on a weekly basis providing them with informational flyers in both English and Spanish on proper handwashing techniques, food planning during coronavirus, eating healthy on a budget, food resource management, physical activity and healthy recipes that could easily be modified/adapted based on availability of food in food pantries and supermarkets. Over 16,500 resources were distributed to thousands of families in Onondaga County since Covid.

The SNAP Ed nutrition team in Onondaga County reached out to a total of 17 food pantries and soup kitchens to offer assistance during these uncertain times. The CCE Onondaga nutrition team continues to provide food pantries with resources that will help their customers save time, save money so they can eat healthy!

"During this pandemic, you have been the silver lining for us! The materials you provide-healthy recipes, information on food resources, how to shop on a budget and eat healthy, etc... have been so helpful. We are extremely thankful to CCE for always staying connected with us, and continuing to provide vital information to our community members"

-Colleen Belge, Family Support Network Supervisor, Huntington Family Center

Westside PEACE site is a Family Resource Center (FRC), and serves as a food pantry to a mostly Hispanic population. CCE Onondaga's relationship with this agency started during Covid 19. Anita Bono, nutrition educator established a relationship with Stephanie Bingham, director of this site, in early May. She welcomed our materials and recipes, which were provided in both Spanish and English. She started adding them to the 85-90 food pantry boxes they distributed to the community each week.

Anita proposed the idea of an outdoor program, with all of our SNAP Ed and social distancing guidelines in place including having Stephanie finding a volunteer in the community to help with the food demonstration of a healthy recipe and finding a volunteer to recruit community members to attend the workshop with a staff member to translate the class for a Spanish audience, so all could participate.

The participants had many good questions and were eager to schedule another outdoor class while the weather allowed. At the end of the program, all participants left with a bag containing ALL the ingredients which would allow them to make a full recipe of "Fresh Corn Salad" at home, courtesy of PEACE.

Because of this initial event, there have been 2 more outdoor workshops at another PEACE FRC site, and Marybeth Welch, director of Family Resources at PEACE, has proposed that Anita teach a series of workshops to teens and young adults who attend Westside FRC, as an alternative High school site for the Syracuse City School District. This partnership continues to grow!

FUNDERS, PARTNERS, SUPPORTERS & DONORS

AMERICAN DAIRY ASSOCIATION	LEMOYNE LIBERTY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM	SETON FOOD PANTRY
APPLE ACRES	LISA BASSETT- IN MEMORY OF DONNA LAW	SHULMAN, GRUNDNER ETOLL & DANAHER- IN MEMORY OF DONNA LAW
ARC HEALTH FOOD PANTRY	LOCKHEED MARTIN CORPORATION	SOUTHSIDE PEACE FOOD PANTRY
BALDWINSVILLE PEACE F. PANTRY	MELANIE HENSON	SOUTHERN HILLS GARDEN CLUB
BASCOL	NATIONAL 4-H FOUNDATION	SPADE & TROWEL GARDEN CLUB
BLESSED SACRAMENT F. PANTRY	NATIONAL GRID	ST CECILIAS FOOD PANTRY
BRADY FARM	THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	ST. JOSEPH'S FOOD PANTRY
BREWERTON FOOD PANTRY	NEW YORK STATE AG & MARKETS	ST LUCYS FOOD PANTRY
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BROWN MEMORIAL CHURCH	NEW YORK STATE FAIR	SUNY ESF
CHITTENANGO GARDEN CLUB	NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION	SUNY UPSTATE HOSPITAL
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FINGER LAKES PARTNERSHIP FOR REGIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT	ONONDAGA CO. PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM	WESTSIDE PEACE FRC
FOOD BANK OF CENTRAL NEW YORK	ONONDAGA CO. SOIL & WATER	WIC
GARDENERS IN THYME	ONONDAGA CO WEP	YMCA AND YWCA
HELPING HANDS URBAN FARM	ONONDAGA EARTH CORPS	SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!
HOBART & WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGES	ONWEGO HOLSTEIN CLUB	4H VOLUNTEERS AND CLUB LEADERS
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JAMESVILLE FOOD PANTRY	SAMARITAN CENTER	MASTER FOREST OWNERS
JESSICA MONTENA		MASTER GARDENERS
LAFAYETTE APPLE FESTIVAL		
LEARN AS YOU GROW		
LERNER CENTER AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY		

2020 PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

2020 Onondaga County Maple School - Maple for Beginners and Backyarders
4-H Activities in a Bag - Monthly Series
4-H Shooting Sports Training
4H Virtual Information Session
Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development/SyRAP Agricultural Program
Books and Cooks
Farmland Protection FPIG Grant Program Workshops
Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop
Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Training and Snowshoe Hike
Invasive Mussels Webinar - Online
Keep Forests Healthy While Social Distancing
Landscaping for Shorelines Webinar
Local Roads (and Streets) Done Right
Managing the Risk: Tick Bite Prevention Workshop Series
Maple Candy Making Workshop
Master Forest Owner Program
Master Gardener Presentation: Beautiful Backyards with Birds
Master Gardener Presentation: Composting - Online
Master Gardener Presentation: Container Gardening - Online
Master Gardener Presentation: Gardening 101 - Online
Master Gardener Presentation: Natural Weed Control - Online
Master Gardener Presentation: Rain Garden Presentation - Online
Master Gardener Presentation: Vegetable Gardening 101 - Online
MyPlate for My Family
Onondaga County 2020 4-H Youth Fair Virtual Activities
Onondaga County 4-H Public Presentations
Onondaga County Winter Weekend
Skaneateles Watershed Municipal Stakeholders Meeting
Smart Energy Choices Workshops and Tabling
SNAP-Ed Programming (Adult & Youth)
South Central New York Dairy & Field Crop Team Workshops
Stewardship in Skaneateles
Syracuse Youth Leadership Program
Tool Sharpening Workshop

Running 38 Programs

Directly Impacting
18,934 People in
Onondaga County

Indirectly Influencing
530,555 People

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