#### December 2025



The Official Publication of the National Association for Family & Community Education

#### **Words from your President**

It's a sunny December afternoon here in Kansas as I am thinking about my last report to the National FCE Membership. Another year has passed. And FCE is still here and still functioning.

My goals for my three (3) year term of office were to work to keep FCE sustainable by stabilizing our finances and creating membership opportunities for a more diverse membership. This is actually the members' report ~ the members followed the lead of the National FCE Board and participated in projects and lessons that were presented. The National FCE Board presented a Zoom meeting for state presidents, here are the projects that they were promoting in their states ~ a



rabies clinic and bazaar, donated to "The Place" ~ 40 baskets for homeless youth, encouraged members to eat 1 plant based meal per day, scholarships for high school seniors, gave a scholarship to someone returning to college, made weighted blankets for an autism center, had hybrid meetings (in person and zoom), had a quilt raffle for scholarships.

The Future of FCE committee came up with a three (3) year project, Food Security, for all levels of FCE to work on for the next 3 years. That project will end at the 2026 Conference. I am excited to hear all the projects and lessons that FCE members shared in their communities. There will be a special celebration at the 2026 conference for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FCE.

The Headquarters office was closed in Florence, KY. Judy Jones continues to work as our Headquarters Secretary from her home. We do have storage in Florence for the items we chose to store.

The National FCE Board has met monthly via zoom, this is a benefit to the board to be able to touch base and keep on top of things. Thanks to Bonnie and Scott Teeples for making the zoom meetings available to the National FCE Board.

The Education committee has produced seven (7) Hearth Fires and six (6) FCL lessons during my term. They are available on the website. In addition the National Board presented four (4) topics at midyear zoom meetings.

#### **Hearth Fires**

Whole Grains ~ Nutrient Dense Food for a Healthier Diet Pollinators! They are not just Bees
Ovarian Cancer ~ The Silent Killer
Spilling the Beans on Beans
Family Meals for a Happier, Healthier Families
What is the American Red Cross?
What does Food Security Look Like?

#### FCL ~

Finesse + Civility = Leadership
Appreciating Generational Differences
1-2-3 Contact Your Government
16 Days of Activism
Music Magic ~ Music Therapy for the Aging Brain
Food Security ~ How Can I Help?

#### Midyear Zoom Meetings

Bologna

Food Waste ~ A World in Crisis Women Farmers in Mali Africa

**FCE Resources** 

Other projects completed during my term ~ the 25 Reasons was updated, the Resource Library was established, and the FCL lessons on the website were organized into the FCL categories. In recognition of FCE's roots with the USDA and State Extension Service I was able to award several clubs a certificate for 100 years of service. Some clubs and states were organized before the official organization of FCE in 1936. The National Board Executive Committee produced a Tool Kit for the Local FCE ~ everything you need for your local FCE to function. A membership form for National FCE membership was developed and is available on the website.

Why we FCE  $\sim$  a take-off on our neighbour to the north  $\sim$  Why we WI (Women's Institutes), pictures are available on the website and you may see someone you know there. We had 8 groups and 90+ members participate.

I attended State Conferences in Kansas, SW (Arizona, Texas, NM), Tennessee and Colorado. Lots of learning and making friends FCE is alive and well in our state associations.

National FCE submitted a resolution on Food Loss and Waste that was adopted at the 2023 ACWW Triennial.

FCE has several opportunities to financially support the organization ~~ a booth at Keeper's Corner, the Legacy Fund, the Honor Fund, Dollars for Leadership, Auction at conference ~ please check and see how you or your club could help National FCE Financially.

Pam McIntrye-Albaro was appointed as the ACWW Coordinator to National FCE. Margaret Polen, SW and Diane Nielsen, KS have been appointed to a Grant Committee, they will be searching for grants that FCE can apply for.

The National Board worked with Bonnie Teeples ACWW USA Area President on the 2025 ACWW USA Area Conference. It was a combined meeting of all ACWW Societies in the United States. National FCE was the Hostess Society. We were honored to have the ACWW World President Madgie de Kock join us. Three (3) National Societies ~ National FCE, National Volunteer Outreach Network, and Women's National Farm and Garden Association and the chair of CWC worked on the conference. There are numerous other societies that don't have a national organization.

There is a lot of information in this issue of the FCE Today ~ But if you have questions don't hesitate to contact one of the board members.

I wish the new 2026 National FCE Board success as they take over the leadership of this organization that we all love!! This report was what was done the past 3 years. The new board is working hard to provide the membership with new, timely lessons that can make a difference in your communities.

To all my FCE Friends ~ wishing all of you happy holidays ~ a very merry Christmas and a joyous time with family and friends.

Judy Fullmer National FCE President

#### Are you ready to get to work?! Let's get going!!!

That's how I feel after every National FCE Conference. I was never really into playing sports, but I imagine this is what it feels like after getting a big pep talk from a coach and then running out toward the competition.

I'm ready to go. I feel clarity on the changes I need to make. I am ready to refocus on my goal of getting new members, spreading information about who and what we are, polishing the image of FCE, and doing whatever it takes to get there.

And then I run out, and the game (opposition) starts. The distractions are everywhere. My poor habit routines fall back into place despite my good intentions. There are people to deal with and work with and contention to be dealt with. But that's where the hard work happens. And it is hard sometimes. It brings joy, but it still takes work. So, I don't give up. I have a rough few minutes and then I get back up, brush myself off, and try again.

FCE is a team sport! It's keeping the focus on FCE!! It's involving all FCE members to strengthen our FCE TEAM! Do you have faith that if you keep your focus, you will ultimately win, no matter what? Do you have trust in your FCE team to continue to grow the organization and keep the organization strong? That takes a lot of faith and trust. And then it just takes a lot of action. Get ready, this is going to be a lot of work. It is going to mean I will depend on you, my teammates, to do your share. But it's going to be so joyful, so rewarding, and such a blessing for the lives of others.

In this issue of the fceTODAY you will find a list of **100 ways to GROW membership**. Try one, then try another, but TRY to do something to grow FCE! you recruit a new member you can become an **FCE STAR**!!! National FCE has a membership recruitment award, and we would love to give out tons of them at conference this coming year! See the form in this newsletter.

So, let's go to work, spread the word about FCE, be a strong FCE team member and grow FCE in your groups, your states and your National FCE organization!!!

National FCE is 90 Years young this year!!! In this issue you will find an article about a memory book we would like to put together. great recipes you may or may not have gotten through FCE, your tips to make life simpler, and memories of your time and friendships within FCE! Also, in this newsletter there is a short 2026 conference 'save the date' article!

Please also find the **A2026** form for State FCE Treasurer use beginning January 2026. Please note the Treasurer information change for 2026!!

Let's GO TEAM FCE, we can GROW FCE!!!

**Bonnie Teeples- National FCE President Elect** 

#### **Ninety Years of Memories!**

Dear National FCE Members,

2026 is the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of FCE!!! That is a great accomplishment these days!

To help celebrate our Ninety-year journey, the National Board has voted to put together a booklet that will be a collection of great recipes you may or may not have gotten through FCE, your tips to make life simpler, and memories of your time and friendships within FCE!

Please think about your journey through FCE and some of the best times you had with others, search your files for recipes and household hints, and share your thoughts and special memories about this wonderfully unique and long-lived organization that we all love and honor.

We know that these memories, recipes and or tips that will be enjoyed by all National FCE members for many years to come.

Please send all submissions to (This is the preferred method)

**Bonnie Teeples** 

bdteeples@charter.net

If you need to mail your submission, please send to

**Bonnie Teeples** 

4338 Arthur Street

Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603

#### Let's Celebrate 90 Years of FCE!

National FCE is celebrating 90 years of building a better way of life for all by strengthening individuals, families and communities.

FCE is all about unity, building friendships and strong community bonds. It is about serving each other, strengthening each other, cheering each other on! For the last ninety years you have been the ones helping others grow in leadership, showing others new skills, and teaching each other to step outside their comfort zone.

The National FCE Board is planning a great conference and sharing good ideas to strengthen our members and the organization. As usual there will be two Hearth Fire and two FCL presentations, and we are getting presentations from some state FCE presenters. There will also be outside presenters and ACWW information. Our afternoon service project will be making tied fleece blankets to donate. Information for the blankets will be sent to all members in a future email and fceTODAY.

We are planning to have FUN!!! We invite you all to the Party!!

#### **CELEBRATE FCE! WE ARE FCE!**

National FCE 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

July 20-24<sup>th</sup> 2026

Erlanger KY



## National Association for Family & Community Education

#### FCE's 100 WAYS to RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS

- 1. Ask someone
- 2. Bring a guest to meetings
- 3. Advertise in the newspapers and cable TV
- 4. Have a clear club goal and strategic plan
- 5. Letters or personal contact with local businesses
- 6. Contact with Chamber of Commerce
- 7. Place customized bookmarks in library books
- 8. Have public meetings at malls, outdoors, etc.
- 9. Have a booth at malls, fairs, festivals, etc.
- 10.Place pamphlets in doctors' offices, hospitals, cafeterias, libraries, etc.
- 11. Host an open house
- 12. Hold a club meeting only on membership
- 13. Ask Alumni to rejoin your group
- 14. Give the membership chair one minute at every club meeting
- 15. Make the membership chair a club officer
- 16. Put together membership packets
- 17. Service projects that serve a need in the community
- 18.Invite family members to join
- 19. Send letters to people in the news with an invitation to visit the club
- 20. Print club business cards with club meeting location and time
- 21. Distribute extra copies of materials that relate to your club in waiting rooms, etc.
- 22. Hold high-profile meetings
- 23. Hold wine and cheese receptions for prospective members (or desserts or teas)
- 24. Ask for help from other clubs, counties, states, and National
- 25. Have a special guest day
- 26. Send club members to state and National meetings
- 27. Make prospective members feel important
- 28. Honor outstanding community members with awards
- 29.Don't take age into consideration
- 30. Make some meetings social events
- 31. Build a club website
- 32.Use group email to promote your club
- 33. Put posters in public areas

- 34. Ask corporations and employers to sponsor or subsidize membership
- 35. Have a reward program for those who bring in new members
- 36.Create more fun
- 37. Give a money back guarantee—if after 3 months a new member does not want to be a club member, return their fees
- 38. Invite the media to cover well-known speakers and events
- 39.Use word of mouth
- 40. Network with coworkers, other volunteers, friends and family
- 41. Follow up with guests
- 42. Place a colored dot on the watch of every member to remind them to bring a guest
- 43.Lead by example—how many members have you recruited?
- 44. Have members give talks at other organizations
- 45. Provide guests with free meals (if you meet over mealtime)
- 46.Look for members in ethnic groups not represented in your club
- 47. Provide brochures for prospective new members
- 48. Advertise at sporting events or other important events
- 49. Holds joint meetings with other organizations
- 50. Share your club experience with others, in a positive manner
- 51. Participate in community events
- 52. Write letters to the newspaper about projects your club is working on
- 53. If a prospect cannot attend your meetings due to time, suggest another club
- 54.Be flexible about when your club can meet
- 55. Publicize club successes, elections, events in local newspapers
- 56. Circulate the club newsletter widely
- 57. Design a club brochure
- 58. Hold recruiting events with two or more clubs
- 59. Form/join a speakers' bureau
- 60. Wear your club pin
- 61. Mention your club at meetings of organizations during announcements
- 62. Send newsletter to guests
- 63. When asked about your leadership skills and career success, tell them about your club
- 64. Ask every member to submit 3 prospects to the membership chair
- 65. Make it FUN
- 66. Give every member a club decal or bumper sticker for their car
- 67.Get a specialty license plate that identifies you as a member
- 68. Give testimonials about your club while guests are at the meeting
- 69. Repeatedly invite prospective members
- 70. Practice selling your club at club meetings—have a one-minute elevator speech ready
- 71. Conduct a membership satisfaction survey
- 72. The club president asks three club members as a personal favor to recruit one new member, each

- 73.Bring your boss to a club meeting (or other president/chairman of an organization you belong to)
- 74. Make direct contact with women's business associations
- 75.Bring your co-workers to a club meeting (or others you volunteer with in other organizations)
- 76.Bring your subordinates (or other volunteers) to a club meeting
- 77. Have new member kits
- 78. Use books, brochures, videos and posters from National
- 79. Hand out invitation cards for a "free" lunch (breakfast, dinner)
- 80. Have member constantly promote and rave about your club
- 81. Meet at a good location
- 82. Assign every member to a recruitment team, each team brings in a new member every six months
- 83. Develop a strategic plan membership is a year-round priority and to be planned
- 84. Have incentives for recruitment
- 85. Have a large poster that lists all the members who have sponsored a new member in the past year
- 86. Display a thermometer showing progress towards club goal
- 87. Feature a member's "benefit of the month" in the club newsletter
- 88. Induct new members with pizazz and invite spouse/partner
- 89. Develop a welcome letter from the president for all new members
- 90. Contact all members who have left in the past 3 years
- 91.Use billboards at bus stops and road sides
- 92. Ask club members to put club ads on their or others' commercial trucks
- 93. Recognize new members in newsletters
- 94. Invite spouses to social functions
- 95. Pay National dues for one year for a new member
- 96.Look outside the box—maybe a county who does not have FCE members
- 97.Ask FRANCES: friends, relatives, acquaintances, neighbors & newly retired, church friends & coworkers, event acquaintances, estranged members, and school acquaintances & senior centers
- 98.Meet at the local assisted living/long term care (they love to help with projects and can be members)
- 99. Tell potential members that you have membership & access to the National FCE organization and to ACWW and world-wide projects and information
- 100.Handout M&M's to remind members that "Membership Matters" and that we need "More Members"

#### Please send my FCE Star Pin

#### I signed up a new member:

Name of New MemberAddress					
Date Joined					
My Name is					
Address					
City	ST	Zip Code			
Membership ID Number					

Send form to National FCE Headquarters, PO Box 642, Florence, KY 41022-0642 Once the new member information has been verified a star pin will be mailed to you. You may also fax this information to headquarters at 859-525-6401 or you can email the info to <a href="mailto:nafcehq@fuse.net">nafcehq@fuse.net</a>.

Event/Item	Date due	То	From
Bylaws amendments	January 1	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
State Affiliate Officer information	January 1	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
Community Service Award	April 15	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
	·		
FCE Essay & Artwork Contest	April 15	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
4th Grade & High School	·		
FCE Recognition Form	April 15	National FCE HQ	Club/Unit
Heart of FCE Award Application	April 15	National FCE HQ	State Affilates
Open Category Brochures Contest	April 15	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
National FCE Program/Project	April 15	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
Scholarship report form	April 15	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
Spirit of FCL Award	April 15	National FCE HQ	State Affiliates
Women Walk the World	April 29	Members	ACWW
Proposed Bylaw Amendments	90 days prior to the first day of Conf -	State Presidents/	National Bylaws
	April 22, 2026	Delegates	Committee
ACWW Triennial Conference	April 24 - May 5, 2026 Ottawa, Canada	Members	ACWW
International Day of the Family	May 15	Members	ACWW
Nominations	60 days prior to the first day of	National FCE HQ	Candidate
	Conference - May 22, 2026		
Budget	30 days prior to the first day of Conf -	State Presidents/	National FCE
	June 21, 2026	Delegates	Treasurer
Annual Business Meeting	Tuesday July 21, 2026	State Presidents/	
		Delegates	
National FCE Week	2nd full week in October	Members	
	October 11-17, 2026		
CHARACTER COUNTS! ® Week	October 18-24, 2026	Members	
National Family Week	November 22-November 28, 2026	Members	
Dues	December 1	National FCE	State Treasurer
	deliquent Jan 1	Treasurer	
Application for Trademarks Use Form	Anytime	National FCE HQ	State/County/Club
Certificate of Insurance	Anytime		State/County/Club
Charters	Any time	National FCE HQ	Any group at
	**to be recognized at		community,
	conference due April 15		county, state level
Club/Unit/Group History	Any time ** to be recognized at	National FCE HQ	
	conference due April 15		Club/Unit/Group
fce Flash ~ Articles, photos, etc.	Anytime	National FCE HQ	Members
	Will appear in the next fce Flash.		
FCL Trainer/Leader Applications	Any time ~ **to be recognized at	National FCE HQ	Applicant
	conference due April 15		
Membership Recruitment Star	Anytime	National FCE HQ	Members
Pin Application			
National FCE Award for years	Any time ~ **to be recognized at	National FCE HQ	State President
of Membership	conference due April 15		
Report the death National FCE Board	Any time ~ **to be recognized at	National FCE HQ	l e
Member or Affiliated State President	conference due April 15		Member

Batch #	
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#### **Form A2026**

Make several copies of this form before using Revised 12-12-25

StateTreasurer's Name:	Date:		
Address:			
City:State:		Zip:	
Phone: Fax:			
E-mail Address:			
National FCE Membership Dues: 1 Regular @ \$35.00 2 Senior, age 80+, @ \$31.50 3 Family @ \$45.00 4 Youth @ \$5.00	Number	Amount \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	
(List as units - not family members) Sub-tota		\$	
National FCE Contributions:			
1 Dollars for Leadership (Leadership Traini	\$		
2 Dimes for NAFCE (donation)		\$	
3 Rural Women in Action Funds (ACWW F Pennies for Friendship, etc.)	\$		
4 International Peace Garden	\$		
5 Legacy Fund (list name & Donation Amou	unt)		
		\$	
6 Other - specify	\$		
Total Amount Enclosed:	\$		

Make copies of this form and send each time monies are sent. **First** mailing of dues must be postmarked before **December 1, 2025** to assure that your state is affiliated with the National organization. If no dues are paid by January 1, 2026 the state will not be in good standing, and a \$50 penalty fee will be assessed when the dues are paid. Checks should be made out to National FCE.

Send form A2026 and check to:

Sandie Bolyard 34043 Highway 97 N Chiloquin, OR 97624 Additional Memberships may be sent at any time without penalty.

Membership forms are sent to HQ - Please note batch # and the # of forms enclosed to PO Box 642 Florence KY 41042 Spreadsheets of memberships must be emailed to HQ at nafcehq@fuse.net and to the Treasurer for each A2026 at bmspray66@gmail.com



#### 2025 National FCE Conference

July 21-24, 2025 Erlanger, Kentucky

# Sustainable Growth for the Future... Shaping the Future

Awards and Recognition

#### 2025 Heart of FCE Winners

#### Alaska Bonnie Shurleff



Willow FCE Club President **Bonnie Shurleff** of Alaska has been a member of FCE for 20 Years. Bonnie has held numerous offices within FCE to include secretary for the state FCE and **Mat-Su district**. (Matanuska and Susitna - *These are the names of two rivers in the area*). Bonnie works behind the scenes doing important paperwork such as securing the gaming permit for the Mat-Su district for the past several years. Bonnie is an active volunteer for the Houston Booster Club, Willow Elementary and the community's after school programs. Boonie Shurleff

was awarded "The Good Neighbor Gold Pan Award" by community leaders. This award is given to individuals for their community service and non-profit work.

Colorado La Rayne Piper



La Rayne Piper of Colorado is a member of the Hilltop Doers FCE Club. And she is a 'Doer'! LaRayne has been a member of two other clubs before joining the Hilltop Doer's club in EL Paso County. LaRayne is a great support and helping hand at all club meetings and county projects. This year she delivered 109 boxes of Valentines to two charities in Colorado Springs. LaRayne has donated goods to the homeless youth center in Colorado Springs called "The Place." Her kindness doesn't stop there as she is the

caretaker for two adult women with multiple disabilities. LaRayne's steadiness and positive attitude has made her a valuable member of this club.

Hawaii Patricia Kubo



Patricia Kubo is a 42-year member of Winward Oahu Council in Hawaii. Not only has Pat served her council in every aspect (President, Secretary, Treasurer/Historian) she serves on the State Board currently as Treasurer. Pat continues to bring creative and inexpensive ideas, so members have fun to take back to their council. Besides being very active in FCE she continues to volunteer to do income taxes every year for the community. Pat is currently serving as the Ikebana Association 's president. (Ikebana is the art of Japanese flower arranging.) Pat's willingness to serve is unprecedented and there is always a SMILE!

#### Kansas Earlene Ganoung



**Earlene Ganoung** of What's New FCE in Kansas is a 46-year active member. Serving in many positions of leadership during those years as president, vice president, and county council representative. Earlene's service has continued as secretary and treasurer on the council as well.

Earlene is meticulous in planning and carrying out a plan. We have been privileged to have her input on so many projects. Earlene puts her heart into FCE and her baking since her pie won the FCE

Grand Champion Food at the fair.

#### Maryland Jeanne Gillis



Jeanne Gillis of the Lunch Bunch Club in Maryland, is a secondgeneration member joining after her mother. Jeanne serves as the membership chair for Maryland FCE and as County treasurer. Jeanne works with the FCE Blanket making project making blankets for those in need and also participates in the yard and craft sales.

Ms. Gillis along with her sister, began the "You be the Judge" contest at the County Fair. This program encourages exhibitors to make/donate items and lets fairgoers vote on their favorites. Jeanne

partnered with another FCE member to present the Rabies Program with specifics for our county to club members.

Nebraska
Jane Mehaffey



Jane Mehaffey is an enthusiastic member of Rawhide FCE in Nebraska since 1976. Along with local, county, and state leadership positions, Jane is serving as the 2025 Southwest District Director. In 2022 Jane organized the State Convention in Fremont. As a former elementary school teacher Jane still substitute teaches and helps with the schools contests as an organizer and judge. Jane is very involved in her church as a member of the choir and a CCD teacher (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine). Jane still finds time to help her husband Richard with his ham radio duties

# Oregon Anna Massingham



Anna Massingham is a 50-year member of the Lost Creek FCE Study Group in Oregon. Anna has spent many years as the District Director and has also served as the Alumni Study Group Council President. Anna has served as the Vice President and President of our local group. During State Conferences you will find Anna working and helping in the 'county store.' For many years Anna traveled to central Oregon to be at the state board meetings.

## Tennessee Melinda Browning



Melinda Browning has been a member of the FCE Sharing Hearts Club in Tennessee for five years. Melinda has served as the Vice President of her club for the past three years. Melinda represents her club at the county council meetings. She contributes over 1500 CVU's annually, impacting well over 10,000 individuals. Throughout the years she has actively participated in ALL club projects, including donating school supplies, collecting canned goods for the local food pantry, teaching craft classes and making wreaths and Alzheimer's

blankets for local nursing homes. Melinda's commitment to FCE is unwavering, she truly embodies what FCE is all about

#### Virginia Jessica Penn



Jessica Penn of Virginia, a member of The Madison-Seminole FCE Club has a rich background in FCE as she is a third-generation member. During Jessica's 22-year FCE membership, she has proven to be a great asset to our club, county, and state; having served as club secretary, currently serving as club president, county treasurer, and state ODE (Oregon Department of Education) newsletter editor.

Jessica also participates in various projects within her church and community with an emphasis on area youth. This young lady is an exemplary example of the benefits of FCE!

#### **SPIRIT of FCL**



**WINNER for 2025** 

Our Spirit of FCL winner for 2025 was a project manager for the installation of a Storybook Trail for the City of Erin. She worked with city leaders, coordinated efforts of volunteers from the Arts & Heritage Council, County Community Health Foundation, State Arts Commission, Safe Harbor Recovery Center and the Erin Rotary to assemble and install this very special trail.

She used her FCL training to actively take steps to organize and coordinate this large team to complete this Storybook Trail. She used newly learned delegation skills to make this all happen. She also learned how to properly pack concrete.

In the end the Storybook Trail is now part of a beautiful city park. Hundreds used this park and trail on a weekly basis. Children now enjoy walking with parents and reading a story along the way.

MELINDA CONWELL Erin, TN



Congratulations!

# 2025 National FCL Certifications from 2024 Conference to Present

#### **30 Hour Leader Certification**

Melissa Browning, TN Sandra Deming, TN

Dana Evans, TN Janie Jones, TN

Joy McLerran, TN Callie Moody, TN

Tammy Patterson, TN Martha Peters, TN

Sandra Poston, TN Carol Zurawski, TN

#### **60 Hour Training Certification**

Myra Fisher, TN

Barbara Isabell, TN

Susie Rogers, TN

Teresa Vinson, TN

### Thank you for your hard work in FCL!!



# 2025 ESSAY and ARTWORK Trustworthiness 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

1st Place ~Samantha Lamenew, Maryland "The Power of Trustworthiness"

> 2<sup>nd</sup> Place ~Brielle Kite, Colorado "Trustworthiness"

3<sup>rd</sup> Place ~ Forrest McKinny, Kansas "Forrest's Trustworthiness Essay"

# 2025 ESSAY Trustworthiness Highschool

First Place~ Ashley Nugent-Mississippi "Trustworthiness"

Second Place~ Lucas Smith-Oregon "Fueling the Machine"

#### **2025 AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES**

The following awards and certificates were presented at the 2025 National FCE Conference. All vouchers presented are money toward the 2026 National FCE conference registration. All winners and entries received a certificate of recognition or appreciation.

#### **Open Category Brochure** (recognition certificate)

Membership/Marketing

\$100 voucher 1st place Scott Teeples - Oregon

FCE Tools

\$100 voucher 1<sup>st</sup> place Scott Teeples - Oregon

<u>Other</u>

\$100 voucher 1<sup>st</sup> place Scott Teeples - Oregon

#### Program/Project Report (appreciation certificate)

Barbara Thomas - Alaska

DeLores Walden - Kansas

Kaycee Smith – Tennessee

Betty Mayo - Missouri

Scott Teeples - Oregon

Judy Grove - Virginia

#### **Scholarship Report** (appreciation certificate)

Barbara Thomas - Alaska

Denise Smith - Hawaii

Betty Mayo - Missouri

#### **Program Award Book** (recognition certificate)

#### EDUCATION

\$50 voucher 2nd place Tennessee \$25 voucher 3rd place Kansas

<u>LEADERSHIP</u>

\$25 voucher 3rd place Tennessee

**ACTION** 

\$100 voucher 1st place Kansas \$50 voucher 2nd place Tennessee

#### An FCE Star paperweight along with a certificate of appreciation

was awarded to Scott Teeples for administration of the National FCE Website.

#### **Community Service Reports**

(Certificate of Appreciation was awarded to each)

#### Randolph County - Missouri

"Craft and Gift Show"

All 15 members are involved in our 45th annual fund raiser to help high school seniors and anyone at any age to continue their education. Our 2024 show had 109 vendors. Each shopper pays a small fee. There were 78 volunteer hours, and we reached approximately 810 nonmembers. We did not reach the amount of money that we usually get from the annual Craft and Gift Show because we had to have the show in a different place in 2024. With our profits we gave two \$500 scholarships to a senior student in each of the 4 high schools. We are not going to give scholarships at the college because in the last 4 years we have not heard who received the scholarships and never got a thank you from those.

#### **Southwest Association for Family & Community Education**

"Rabies Prevention in Canines"

We could work with the Humane Society of Yuma and sponsor a rabies clinic for canines and thereby support the Sustainable Goals of ACWW, which is to eliminate canine rabies by 2030. The FCE Annual Community Bazaar is held on the same day and in the same place. The Humane Society and FCE each did their own publicity but included the other in the ads.\$1200 was the dollar amount set per event. 2024 was our 53<sup>rd</sup> year holding this event. The 4 of us monitored the rabies clinic and managed all the vendors and shoppers for the bazaar. The humane society has about 20 volunteers with 60 hours and FCE has 10 hours per year. Our project has reached 600 canines for the rabies vaccination, we have spent \$3600, with 210 hours contributed and have reached at least 15,000 over the three years.

#### **Lewisburg FCE Club – Tennessee**

"A Helping Hand for Junior's House"

Junior's House operates a satellite in our community. Their initiative is to ease the pain of having to relive a bad experience by assisting a child from an abuse situation to tell their story once, have it videotaped so that it will follow them through their court process, having to only relive the incident one time. Our club decided to adopt Junior's House for one of our community outreach projects. We enjoy supplying office needs and items for child growth and entertainment. We never cease to be gratified by the enthusiasm our help receives. 22 members will continue our effort. We estimate 125 were touched including family, staff, and clients. The total dollar amount estimate was \$439 with 126 items donated. From the thank you notes we deemed the project a success. A representative spoke at our meeting to inform the group about their mission and goals.

#### **Overton County – Tennessee**

"Fidget Quilts for Nursing Homes"

Our goal was to help residents, especially those with dementia that live in our nursing homes, to each have their own fidget quilt. Donations covered most of the cost, but we did have a fundraiser of a sale of trash to treasure. An average of 8 members worked from week to week with 200 hours being spent. We were able to make 16 quilts to give away. Each quilt had different sensory materials attached. All quilts were 16" x 16", machine washable with very durable materials.

#### **Lawrence County – Tennessee**

"Quilts for Veterans"

26 FCE members each contributed in one way or another. We held a bake sale to help cover costs that amounted to \$165.14. 443 volunteer hours were spent making quilts and we gave 19 quilts to veterans. The Elks Lodge donated the location for our ceremony, musicians donated talent, and the Senior Center donated space for sewing. Our quilter is a veteran, and she gave her services for free. We had a booth during a District Fair and during the health fair at the Senior Center.

#### <u>Cheatham County Day Club – Tennessee</u>

"Blankets From Ben"

The Blankets From Ben organization gives homemade blankets to organ donors and their families. We thought this was a great cause and wanted to participate. Six members spent \$80 on materials and also donated money. 55 non-FCE people were reached and 40 volunteer hours spent on the project. We planned to make 10 but were able to present 15 blankets. It was a great feeling to exceed our goal. We partnered with the Cheatham County Public Library to deliver the blankets. A member of their staff was a recipient of a blanket from the organization.

#### <u>Smith County – Tennessee</u>

"Chocolate Extravaganza"

Smith County FCE clubs organized a chocolate extravaganza to be held on Valentine's Day, to raise money to donate to the Heritage Museum. This will help ensure the history and culture of our county while spreading information about FCE. We had 115 members that participated and volunteered 439 hours preparing for the sale. Each member donated/made two dozen plus homemade chocolate candy. We sold a sandwich size box for \$5.00 with a dozen pieces in each box. The Chamber is free to use for the sale. We sold 272 boxes of chocolate and made \$1360.

#### Wilson County - Tennessee

"Blankets of Love"

175 "Blankets of Love" were needed to give each police officer patrol car in the county a blanket. The blankets are given at accident scenes to those in need. WCFCE got a \$500 grant from Walmart. Some supplies were purchased from Smart Art who gave a discount in honor of the project. 40 FCE members cut, folded, sewed, pressed, and packaged the blankets in 1,400 hours of volunteer work! We finished with 187 blankets that were then donated to four different police/sheriff's departments. 387 people were reached. The Wilson County Fairgrounds provided free workspace.

