

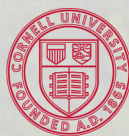


Cornell Cooperative Extension Chautauqua County



2017 ANNUAL REPORT





Cornell Cooperative Extension Chautauqua County

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.

Youth Development

The Chautauqua County 4-H Youth Development Program connects youth to hands-on learning opportunities that help them grow into competent, caring, contributing members of society.

New York State 4-H Vision:

A world in which youth and adults, learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change.

Page 2 and 3

Agriculture

The Chautauqua County Agricultural Program offers various educational programs to meet the needs of farm managers, their family members and farm employees. We also support our county's farms through financial management, and education. Positively impacting the productivity and profitability of their agricultural businesses, and enhancing the county economic development.

Page 4 and 5

Nutrition

The Chautauqua County Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) addresses critical societal concerns by educating participants about the impacts of healthy nutrition and physical activity behaviors. The program focuses on assisting low-income families, particularly those with young children.

Page 6 and 7

Grape

The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program consists of Extension Educators and research faculty/staff from Cornell University and Penn State University devoted to projects aimed at increasing yields, product quality, diversity and improvement of cultivars, efficiency of production, profitability and adoption of environmentally sound cultural and pest management strategies.

Page 8

Vegetable

The Cornell Vegetable Program provides educational programs and information to growers, processors and agri-business professionals, arming them with the knowledge to profitably produce and market safe and healthful vegetable crops, contributing to the viability of farms and the economic wellbeing of New York State.

Page 9



Youth at the Winifred Crawford Dibert Boys and Girls Club worked hard to grow leafy greens and radishes in their garden.



Area 5th graders learned about boating safety at the 2017 Conservation Field Days.

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Kate Ewer



The Fredonia Star Riders collected food and food items for their local food bank.

2017 4-H Youth Development Impacts

- Three hundred youth were connected to hands-on learning opportunities that helped them grow into competent, caring, contributing members of society in traditional, year-round 4-H programming.
- Over 120 volunteers served an estimated 8,000 hours leading club and animal programming, fundraising, and mentoring youth enrolled in 4-H programming. Their time is valued at \$214,800.
- Nearly 800 youth from schools countywide had the opportunity to further their knowledge in various conservation topics at the 51st annual Conservation Field Days event held May 24-25, 2017 at the Lake Chautauque Lutheran Center.
- Ten 4-H clubs completed 25 community service projects totaling 77 hours of service.
- Eleven youth were recognized as “4-H SuperYouth” for their accomplishments in various 4-H Programming. These youth are leaders among their peers, have an extensive knowledge base in a variety of projects, and encourage others to do their best in 4-H.
- Gardening programming at the Winifred Crawford Dibert Boys and Girls Club in Jamestown engaged 40 youth in eight weeks of programming. Youth learned about the basics of gardening through the Cornell Garden Based Learning Seed to Salad curriculum.
- Over \$22,000 was raised at the 5th annual Have a Heart for 4-H Green Tie Affair on February 26, 2017, thanks to the hard work of many 4-H youth and volunteers.



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH



Anna Talbot



Andrew Waag



Sara Holthouse



Jacob Lesch



Melinda Waag



Dexter Ormond



4-H GROWS HERE

2017 4-H Super Youth



Jordyn Majka



Heidi Moss



Kenny Marion



Alyssa Graziano



Hope Catanese



Agriculture

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2017 Agricultural Impact Highlights

- Successful program and curriculum design for L.E.A.F. (Learn. Empower. Achieve. Farm.) where 22 workshops were presented with a total of 343 participants utilizing \$20,000 in grant funding and had a total economic impact of \$172,000 with 91% of participants rating the program as being something they would attend again and recommend.
- Continued facilitation, promotion, and refinement of the Chautauqua Grown program, which has had over 5,000 unique views and continued success with connecting farms with consumers and wholesale buyers, helping to improve the economic viability of direct-to-consumer farms and the health of our community where \$2.29 is generated for every \$1 of local food that is purchased.
- Over 200 consultations with beginning farmers and established members of the agriculture community on management topics to help improve the profitability of their agribusiness.
- Improved Agricultural Literacy for 2,800 students through the Ag Literacy Week program where 38 volunteers worked to read to students at 24 locations to help our local youth better understand where their food comes from and better appreciate the potential career opportunities within agriculture.
- Completed Beef Farm Business Summary analysis program utilizing FINPACK to help with the financial management and analysis for six area livestock producers.



The Dairy Profit Team meetings involve dairy farm family members, farm employees, and the farm's agribusiness advisors discussing the dairy farm business. This results in recommendations and actions to improve the productivity and profitability of the dairy farm business.

- These discussions also help to improve communication between family members, as well as with their advisors.
- Farm families have improved the management of their dairy herd and replacements, including increased milk production, improved herd health, improved calf and heifer health and growth, and decreased production costs.



The Visit the Farm Day provided an opportunity for the general public to visit a modern operating dairy farm and learn about the dairy industry and agriculture.

- Over 900 people attended.
- Participants were provided an educational walking tour of the dairy farm, and learned about dairy farm production practices and the importance of agriculture to our area.
- Consumers gained a better understanding of where their food comes from.
- Excellent collaboration with agribusinesses serving and supporting our local agriculture.

The Beef Field Day educational program provided producers with on-farm presentations, hands-on learning activities and demonstrations on beef cattle management topics.

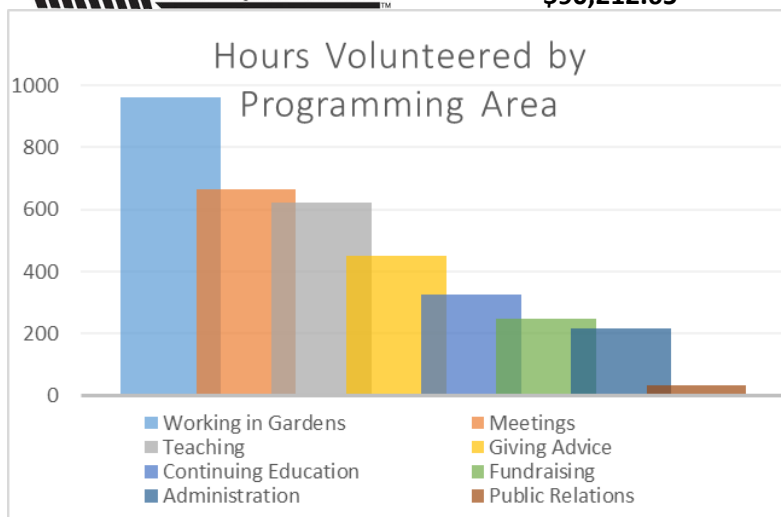
- Producers learned best management practices in beef cattle production and marketing from a veterinarian, agribusiness representatives, and from other beef producers' experiences.
- Beef producers used the information in making decisions in managing their own beef cattle businesses.

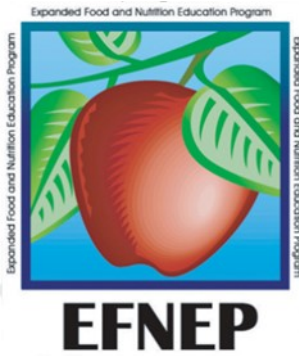


Chautauqua County



Master Gardeners volunteered 3,829 hours in 2017 and reached 11,082 individuals. That's an estimated economic impact of **\$90,212.65**

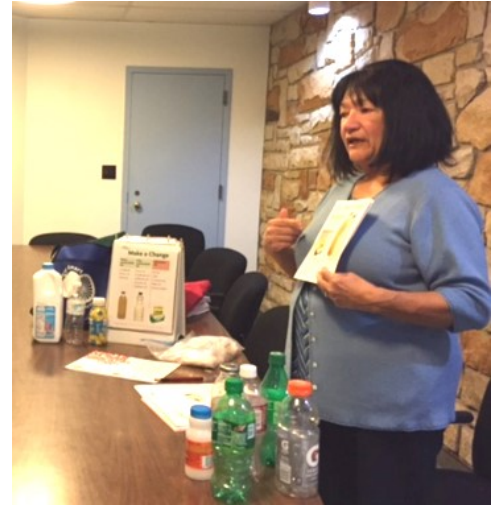




Learned Some Life Skills

Success Story by Iris Ruiz, EFNEP Educator

A Young Mom had a small child, who was failing to thrive. She had a lot of agencies involved in her life. I was referred to her to help with improving her diet, to help notice when her child was hungry and to show her what a healthy plate looked like. She was very apprehensive at first, but as I continued visiting, she started talking more and enjoying the visits. I would go out of my way to cook easy recipes that she could prepare at home on her own. I would prepare the recipe ahead of time for her to taste and share with her child. Her child started to gain weight and was smiling more and being more active. She shared with me that she would be taking her son to visit Children’s Hospital for a checkup. On my next visit with her, she said that it was a “good visit”, that her child had gained weight. I got her connected to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and to speech/physical therapy for her child. On my last visit with her, she said “I normally don’t do this,” and she gave me a hug and thanked me.



Changing of a Diet

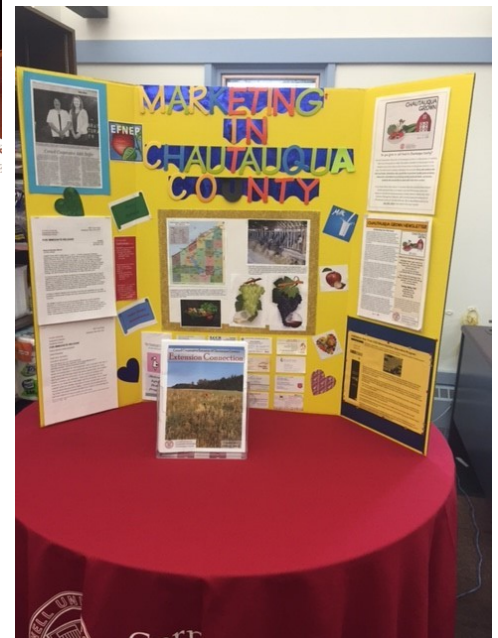
Success Story by Iris Ruiz, EFNEP Educator

A pregnant Mom was referred to me by the Chautauqua Center Maternal Infant Health Program. There were some concerns about her nutrition/diet during her pregnancy. In the last year this mom was running out of food before the end of the month at least 2-3 times. She did not have a spending plan in place and her diet consisted of drinking high sugar sodas. I presented her with a water bottle and encouraged her to drink more water, I gave her some recipes on how to quench her thirst without having to buy soda all the time, such as “Water With A Twist”. She learned to read unit pricing labels. She learned to compare prices, learned the tricks of the stores to spend her money, and learned to make a shopping list. She began stocking her cupboards. At the end of our sessions, she was hardly drinking any soda, eating more protein, less sugar and was eating turkey bacon and eating whole wheat bread.

Nutrition

The Chautauqua County Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) addresses critical societal concerns by educating participants about the impacts of healthy nutrition and physical activity behaviors. The program focuses on assisting low-income families, particularly those with young children.

Iris Ruiz & Else Alonge





Portion Control and Label Knowledge Helps Family Eat Healthier
Success Story by EFNEP Educator Else Alonge

I started working with this mother who was receiving food stamps and had a limited, fixed income. The woman stated her food budget was so tight they sometimes do not have much food at the end of the month. The family used WIC and SNAP, but no other community resources. I completed the “Eating Smart Being Active” lesson plan with the mother which she said was very helpful with learning portion sizes, reading nutrition labels, and learning about new foods.

After the classes were complete, the mother requested additional classes and curriculum. I decided the Healthy Cents curriculum would fit perfect with this family’s needs.

Upon completion, the mother explained she came from a “meat and potatoes” family so that is what she has always fed her family. She stated she was happy to learn about other grain foods since she usually chose pasta as her grain for meals. The mother also told me that she challenged her family to eat correct portions. The mother reported back that her kids stated they were still hungry after dinner so she created a healthy dessert made up of a variety of fruit- all of which she bought in season! After feeding her family the healthy dessert they decided, they were content. The mother felt accomplished and proud of creating a healthy meal and was eager to tell me about this positive change. I commended the mother for her problem solving and drive to create positive changes. This mother also stated that now that she knows how to read food labels, she looks at the fat content of the products in the store and feels more knowledgeable and confident in choosing healthy foods. The mother told me that she feels that if she can continue feeding her family correct portions this will save on her grocery bill in the long run. After completing the community resource section of Healthy Cents, the mother also decided she would consider going to local food pantries to help stretch meals to get them through the month more easily.



New Mother Feels Empowered and Educated Through Breastfeeding Education Classes

Success Story by EFNEP Educator Else Alonge

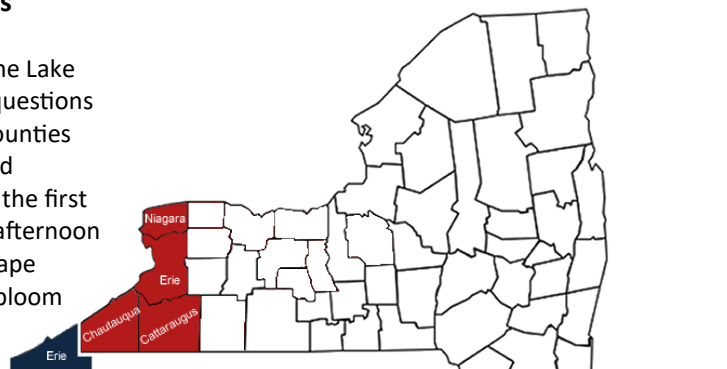
I started working with this new mother around 30 weeks gestation. Although the mother was interested in breastfeeding, and knew it was the best food source for her baby, she felt she would fail due to the many barriers she faced. I helped her talk through these perceived barriers and started the breastfeeding curriculum with her. I encouraged this mother to keep an open mind throughout the classes and decide for herself what would be best for her and her baby. Through supportive research, worksheets, and examples the mother decided to initiate breastfeeding in the hospital after having her baby. She reported back that the baby latched on perfectly and was surprised how natural and easy it was for both her and baby. She stated she received better, practical, more relatable, education from me than she did from the hospital in regards to breastfeeding. She stated she remembered the different breastfeeding holds and tried each to find out which was most comfortable. The mother stated that before having the baby, she received negative comments from family members about breastfeeding. The mother stated she was able to



educate these family members and felt even more empowered and confident in doing so. Nine weeks post-partum, mom is still breastfeeding and stated she felt really good about giving her baby the best nutrition possible.

Coffee Pot Meetings a Hit with Lake Erie Grape Growers

For the 24th consecutive year, Coffee Pot meetings were held across the Lake Erie grape belt. These meetings have no agenda, it is set by growers' questions as each meeting progresses. Thirteen meetings were held in the five counties involved in the LERGP, and were attended by a total of 204 growers and members of the Lake Erie grape industry. Coffee Pot meetings started the first Wednesday in May with morning meetings only. Both a morning and afternoon meeting were held each week in June to ensure the entire Lake Erie grape region was covered during the critical immediate pre-bloom and post bloom period. Coffee Pot meetings continued through the third week in July.

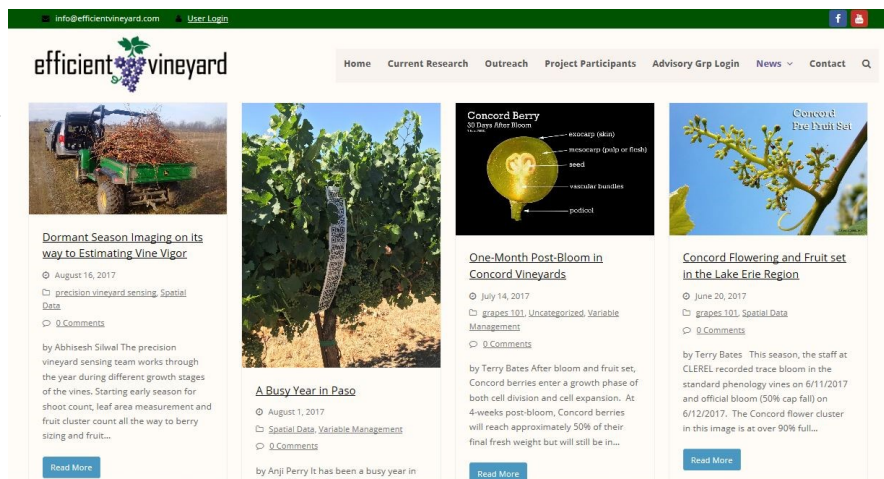


Efficient Vineyard SCRI Project



The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Extension team continues to provide leadership for the Technology and Adoption team for the \$6 million dollar SCRI project Efficient Vineyard. As the second full year of the project comes to completion, it is interesting to examine the tools developed, and their use, to move project information into grower vineyards. The most obvious tool is the project website found at <https://efficientvineyard.com> that provides access

to current research articles, bios, interviews and contact information for project participants (broken down by team), general outreach information on the project, as well as blog posts, project publications, photos, and general resources found in the dropdown menu under News. Since the start of the project, 12 current research articles and 28 blog posts have been posted. Current research articles provide project team members the chance to provide in-depth information on their portion of the project and are posted every other month. The Efficient Vineyard blog posts have more of a "what's happening now" spin and are posted on a bi-weekly basis. Once current research, or blog articles are posted to the website, the research team and advisory committee members are notified via email to allow them to distribute the information to their specific groups. Posts are pushed out on social media (Facebook) to increase the audience for the project <https://www.facebook.com/EfficientVineyard-1105411842849154>.



Grape

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Team Leader, Tim Weigle



LERGP Celebrates 25th Anniversary with Open House

Approximately 85 members of the local community took the opportunity to meet extension and research staff from the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, NYS IPM Program, Cornell Vegetable Program and Cornell Willow Breeding Program. Senator Cathy Young started the Open House with a presentation of a proclamation for the 25th anniversary of the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program. Jacqueline Chariot of Congressman Tom Reed's staff was also on hand to present a commendation congratulating LERGP on their 25th anniversary. Open House participants were then off to explore the CLEREL facility and learn about the various research and extension projects through displays in and around the main building. A hay wagon ride amongst the vineyards, vegetable plots, willow plantings and hop yards found at CLEREL was available and participants heard directly from a project team member at five stops along the route. After filling up with knowledge, open house participants enjoyed a hotdog and hamburger BBQ courtesy of the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program.

Fresh Market Field Days and Research Trials in Western NY, by Darcy Telenko

The 2017 season kicked off with a second year of collaboration between the Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) and the Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory (CLEREL) as six fresh market vegetable research trials were planted in early June alongside grapes and hops in Portland, NY. The Towards Sustainability Foundation provided support for the CVP specialist, Darcy Telenko, to establish these research and demonstration plots in two western New York locations in Batavia and Portland, and offer two field days to showcase research findings. The data collected will help identify new varieties and disease management programs for use by fresh market vegetable growers. On August 29, CVP hosted the 2nd annual Sustainable and Organic Vegetable Pest Management Field Day at CLEREL. Thirty-two participants were able to hear from Cornell faculty and CVP specialists about pest management, tour the vegetable research trials, fertility management, cover crops and season extension. The evening program ended with a sweet corn variety tasting and a dinner. The Cornell Vegetable Program is excited about this new collaboration and looks forward to continue to utilize the CLEREL for future research and educational programming.



Advancing Season Extension



Chautauqua County vegetable growers are using high tunnels to improve the quality and availability of locally grown produce in the county, but even experienced farmers can run into challenges. To meet the demand for season extension research and education, Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP) specialist Judson Reid has led a project to develop best management practices for high tunnel soil health and nutrient management. The project compares soil, water and foliar analyses and current management practices with economic yields in high tunnels across the state over several years. This research provides the foundation for a set of management practices that support long term productivity from intensively cultivated high tunnels. Vegetable growers participating in this project have improved their ability to manage soil and nutrients through targeted fertility management and strategies to increase soil organic

matter. In the first year of the current project, growers reported an average increase in net high tunnel income of 13.3% over the previous growing season. Reid shared results from project with beginning and experienced Chautauqua county growers at three meetings in 2017: February 16 in Jamestown, NY, February 17 in Clymer, NY, and August 8 in Frewsburg, NY. These meetings are the result of a strong partnership between the Cornell Vegetable Program and CCE Chautauqua, providing growers in the area with the expertise needed to succeed. Results from the final year of this project will be shared with Chautauqua county growers at meetings in 2018, including a L.E.A.F (Learn. Empower. Achieve. Farm.) Series workshop scheduled for February 18 in Jamestown.

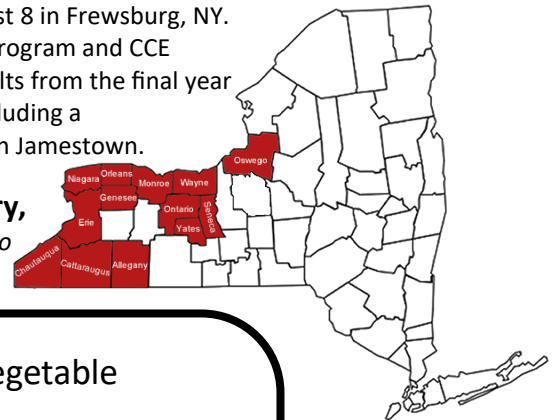
A New Pest Observation Tool Available for New York Vegetable Industry,

by Darcy Telenko

A new resource focusing on the distribution of pests (pathogens, insects, weeds)

throughout New York and the United States is available for the NY vegetable industry. The Integrated Pest Information Platform for Extension and Education (iPiPE), is a national program working to enhance integrated pest management (IPM) and food security. The main idea of this platform is to recruit growers and their consultants to submit pest sightings into a database for local and national historical data for a variety of pests. These records can then be used for forecasting future pest occurrences, thus aiding researchers, extension agents, growers and their consultants. CVP specialist, Darcy Telenko, is the Crop Pest Program Coordinator for NY Vegetables.

During the last two summers four CVP student interns have assisted Darcy in scouting fresh market vegetable crops to contribute to the development of a vegetable crop pest portion of the iPiPE program. We have been creating interactive tools to share pest observations, risk maps, and commentary for extension professionals. We have collected on-farm pest data from over 23 farms logging over 300 pest observations in to iPiPE. The program has also allowed us to mentor undergraduates in agricultural research and extension activities.



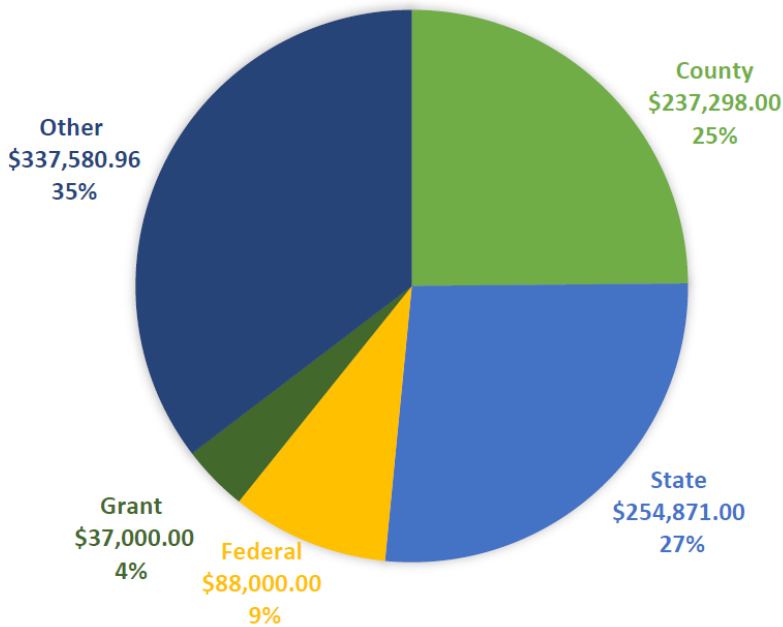
Vegetable

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Team Leader, Julie Kikkert



**CCE Chautauqua County
Estimated Sources of Support**



* other sources of income includes, but is not limited to fundraising, program participation, and community contributions.

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OF CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
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- Elisabeth T Rankin: County Legislative Representative
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COMMUNITY EDUCATORS



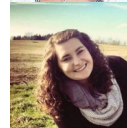
Iris Ruiz
Food and Nutrition, Ext. 217



Else Alonge
Food and Nutrition, Ext. 221



Kate Ewer
4-H Youth Development, Ext. 212

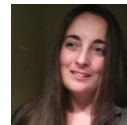


Katelyn Walley-Stoll
Agriculture, Ext. 202

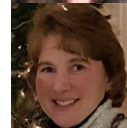


Lisa Kempisty
Agriculture, Ext. 203

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



Emily Reynolds
Executive Director, Ext. 201



Darcy Cramer
Finance, Ext. 208



Lucia Conti
Administrative Assistant, Ext. 209



Lisette Cabrera
4-H Administrative Assistant, Ext. 214

**CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
OF CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY**

3542 Turner Road; Jamestown, NY 14701
Phone: 716-664-9502
Fax: 716-664-6327

Email: Chautauqua@cornell.edu
Website: www.cce.cornell.edu/chautauqua
REGIONAL OFFICES

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program
716-792-2800

Cornell Vegetable Program
585-394-3977

Harvest New York
607-255-6619

