

FCCLA[®]

ANNUAL REPORT

2025-2026



FAMILY, CAREER AND COMMUNITY LEADERS OF AMERICA[®]

A YEAR BUILT ON CONNECTION



More than 270,000 FCCLA Members came together through leadership, career preparation, service, competition, and shared purpose. This is the story of what connection made possible.

270,000+
FCCLA MEMBERS NATIONWIDE

7,500+
ADVISERS SUPPORTING
STUDENT SUCCESS

SINCE 1945
PREPARING STUDENTS FOR
LEADERSHIP, CAREERS, AND LIFE

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As the 2025-2026 fiscal year comes to a close, FCCLA reflects on a year defined by meaningful connection, remarkable growth, and transformative opportunity. Since 1945, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America has empowered students through Family and Consumer Sciences education, equipping them with the knowledge, leadership, and workforce-ready skills needed to thrive in their families, careers, and communities.

This year's theme, *ConneCTed*, called on FCCLA Members to build relationships, engage with purpose, and recognize the power of collaboration. More than 270,000 members, supported by over 7,500 educators, participated in experiences designed to strengthen leadership, advance career readiness, and create lasting impact. Across the nation, members demonstrated that connection is not simply about bringing people together. It is about creating the conditions for growth, confidence, and achievement.

FCCLA's impact extended far beyond chapter meetings and conferences. Through Competitive Events, National Programs, advocacy, community service, national visibility efforts, and strategic partnerships, FCCLA Members applied classroom learning in meaningful ways while demonstrating the value of Family and Consumer Sciences education. These experiences helped students strengthen practical skills, explore future careers, contribute to their communities, and prepare to lead.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report were made possible through the leadership of FCCLA's Board of Directors, the dedication of chapter and state advisers, the support of business and industry partners, and the commitment of FCCLA National Staff. Most importantly, they reflect the passion, determination, and potential of FCCLA Members who continue to shape the future of the organization and the communities they serve.

As FCCLA looks ahead, we remain committed to expanding opportunity, strengthening career preparation, and empowering students to lead with confidence and purpose. By staying connected to the mission, to one another, and to the possibilities ahead, FCCLA will continue preparing the next generation to succeed in the workforce, strengthen communities, and make a lasting difference.

With gratitude and enthusiasm for what lies ahead,

Sandy Spavone,
FCCLA Chief Executive Officer

“
*Leadership is strongest
when people come together
around a shared purpose.*
”

THE TEAM BEHIND THE MISSION

FCCLA National Staff bring the organization's mission to life by supporting the programs, experiences, resources, and relationships that serve FCCLA Members and Advisers nationwide.

NATIONAL FCCLA STAFF

Sandy Spavone, Chief Executive Officer

Karen Patti, Chief of Staff

Jessica Aggen, CPA, Finance Director

Beth Carpenter, Leadership and Programs Director

Kelley Conners, CMP, Conference Director

Abigail Lee, Development and Communications Director

Linda Spahr, Adviser Professional Development and Membership Director

Tara Swenson, Competitive Events Director

Michelle Hedrick, Senior Executive Manager

Angela Amadio, Conference Manager

Tina Chanthakhoun, Competitive Events Manager

Samuel Lee, Membership Manager

Reese Orwig, Communications and Public Relations Manager

Roshia Chohan, Staff Accountant

Ella Clough, Graphic Designer and Marketing Coordinator

Sumeya Ahmed, Administrative Assistant

Ella Fernandez, Development and Communications
Administrative Assistant

Adrian Navarro-Castro, Administrative Assistant

CONNECTED

WHERE CONNECTION BECOMES POSSIBILITY

In today’s world, workforce readiness begins with connection. FCCLA gives students the opportunity to connect classroom learning with real experience, personal interests with career direction, and ambition with the skills needed to succeed.

Throughout 2025-2026, FCCLA Members were challenged to get **ConneCTEd** to their purpose, their future, and the people and experiences that could help shape both. Through Career and Technical Education, Family and Consumer Sciences education, and FCCLA, students strengthened their leadership, explored Career Clusters, and applied what they learned in meaningful ways.

ConneCTEd was more than an annual theme. It was a reminder that success is built through relationships, purposeful action, and opportunities to grow. Across the country, FCCLA Members gained the confidence, professional skills, and real-world experience to prepare not only for future careers, but also to make an impact now.



FCCLA connects education with opportunity, leadership with action, and students with the futures they are ready to build.



CONNECTION
IN ACTION

LEARN

Connecting classroom instruction with hands-on experiences and practical skills.

LEAD

Building confidence, communication, responsibility, and the ability to influence others.

SERVE

Turning community needs into purposeful projects, partnerships, and measurable impact.

PREPARE

Developing the skills, experience, and career direction needed for the future workforce.

EXPLORE THE FCCLA EXPERIENCE

Each section of this report highlights the achievements and impact made during the 2025-2026 fiscal year, celebrating nationwide impact defined by connection, leadership, and career readiness.

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The FCCLA Annual Report is a national publication of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, a Career and Technical Student Organization that helps students become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education, or as determined by the state department of education. For a full audited financial statement, email national@fcclainc.org.

GUIDED BY VISION

Strong governance helps FCCLA remain focused on its mission while preparing the organization to meet the needs of future generations. The FCCLA National Board of Directors provides strategic guidance, organizational oversight, and thoughtful leadership that keep members, values, and long-term impact at the center of the organization’s work.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

The 2025-2026 year has been one of vision, transformation, and meaningful progress for FCCLA. The National Board of Directors has remained steadfast in its commitment to strengthening the organization for future generations while honoring the voices of current and future members.

Among the most significant accomplishments was the thoughtful review and modernization of FCCLA’s governance and guiding documents. Through this work, the Board helped ensure that member perspectives, FCCLA’s values, and future aspirations remain at the center of the organization.

Looking ahead, there is great optimism for FCCLA’s future. The work accomplished this year reflects a shared commitment to thoughtful leadership, strong governance, and member-centered decision-making. Together, these efforts have reinforced the foundation laid by FCCLA’s governance and guiding documents, helping ensure the organization remains well-positioned to serve members for years to come.

The Board is grateful for the dedication of members, advisers, partners, and staff whose contributions continue to shape FCCLA.

K. Blatnick-Gagné

Katy Blatnick-Gagné, Ed.D.
2025-2026 National Board of Directors Chair



“The work accomplished this year reflects a shared commitment to thoughtful leadership, strong governance, and member-centered decision-making.”

BOARD IMPACT

MODERNIZED GOVERNANCE

Reviewed and strengthened FCCLA’s governance and guiding documents to support the organization’s current needs and future direction.

CENTERED MEMBER VOICES

Helped ensure member perspectives, FCCLA’s values, and future aspirations remained central to organizational decision-making.

STRENGTHENED THE FUTURE

Reinforced the foundation needed to keep FCCLA strong, responsive, and prepared to serve future generations.

2025-2026 FCCLA NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS



BOARD OFFICERS

- Katy Blatnick-Gagné, Ed.D., Chair
- Brenda Osman, Past Chair
- Susan Turgeson, Ed.D., CFCS, Vice Chair
- Tannen Turman, Treasurer
- Brandon Weibel, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Ann Arnold, MBA, CASE | Joni Lam |
| Karin Athanas | Pamela Lee |
| Karin Davis | Eva Orr |
| Stacey Dworzanski | Corey Seaman |
| Kaitlyn Dyer | Sandy Spavone |
| Madison Goodwin | Sherry Vogel |

LEADERSHIP IN MOTION

The 2025-2026 National Executive Council represented FCCLA Members across the country while expanding opportunities to connect, lead, serve, and grow. Through national outreach, digital engagement, conferences, partnerships, and organizational initiatives, the National Officers elevated the member experience and strengthened FCCLA's national presence.



NEC VISION

"Leading authentically, serving genuinely, and offering opportunities that turn passion into purpose and keep FCCLA connecTEd."

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP BY THE NUMBERS

100+



Meetings attended

1,000+



Social media messages shared

1 MILLION+



Individual social media account views

\$15,000+



Raised for the Ultimate Leadership Fund

33



FCCLA Chapters supported through Ultimate Leadership Fund Grants

5,500+



Followers reached on the @FCCLANEC Instagram account

16



State Leadership Conferences attended

IMPACT IN ACTION

CONNECTING LEADERS

Hosted National Network calls to strengthen relationships and communication between state and national officers.

AMPLIFYING OPPORTUNITY

Promoted all eight National Programs and highlighted the six Career Clusters through social media, interviews, and member-focused storytelling.

REPRESENTING FCCLA

Represented FCCLA at State Leadership Conferences and national partner and related organization events.

SHAPING THE MEMBER EXPERIENCE

Provided student perspectives on Alumni & Associates, the updated Student Body National Program, the Individual Recognition Award, membership campaigns, and National Program classroom activities.

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT



Eva Orr, 2025-2026 FCCLA National President

"Growth, connection, and opportunity defined the NEC's work over the past year."

Growth, connection, and opportunity defined the NEC's work over the past year. Through leadership development, advocacy, member outreach, and strategic initiatives, the NEC remained focused on strengthening FCCLA and creating meaningful experiences for members nationwide.

From conferences and workshops to National Programs, social media engagement, and chapter support, National Officers worked to connect members with opportunities to lead, serve, and grow. Efforts to promote the Career Clusters, enhance resource accessibility, and increase member engagement helped members explore future careers, develop leadership skills, and maximize their FCCLA experience.

The accomplishments of the past year reflect the dedication of FCCLA Members, Advisers, State Associations, partners, and National Officers who work each day to advance the organization's mission. As FCCLA continues to grow, the future remains bright because of the passion, service, and leadership demonstrated throughout the nation. Thank you for making this year one of growth, achievement, and impact.

2025-2026 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Eva Orr, Arkansas
National President

Joey Miller, Virginia
National First Vice President

Kendall Slaughter, Kentucky
National Vice President of Development

Emma Pitman, Georgia
National Vice President of Community Service

Madison Goodwin, Florida
National Vice President of Finance

Macalie Hoffmann, Pennsylvania
National Vice President of Parliamentary Law

Sutton Sherrard, Kentucky
National Vice President of Programs

Tennyson Elrod-Spears, Oklahoma
National Vice President of Competitive Events

Lauren McBurney, Oregon
National Vice President of Membership

Logan Guynn, Arkansas
National Vice President of Public Relations



BUILT FOR LIFE. PREPARED TO LEAD.

Since 1945, FCCLA has connected Family and Consumer Sciences education with leadership development, career preparation, and the practical skills students need for life. The organization's mission, vision, and purposes guide every National Program, Competitive Event, leadership experience, and chapter activity.

Together, these guiding principles ensure FCCLA Members are prepared to succeed in their careers, contribute to their families and communities, work productively with others, and lead with confidence and purpose.



MISSION

To promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education. Focusing on the multiple roles of family member, wage earner, and community leader, members develop skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge, and career preparation.

VISION

Through FCCLA, students across the country will be prepared by Family and Consumer Sciences educators to pursue and prepare for their careers, work productively with others, serve as leaders in their community, and develop foundational knowledge to build strong families.

PURPOSES

- 1 To promote personal development and preparation for adult life.
- 2 To strengthen the function of the family as a basic unit of society.
- 3 To encourage democracy through cooperative action in the home and community.
- 4 To encourage individual and group involvement in helping achieve global cooperation and harmony.
- 5 To promote greater understanding between youth and adults.
- 6 To provide opportunities for making decisions and for assuming responsibilities.
- 7 To prepare for the multiple roles of men and women in today's society.
- 8 To promote Family and Consumer Sciences and related careers.

A MESSAGE FROM...

Rosie the Llama

**Great leaders do not just follow the path.
They help shape it!**

FCCLA's mission, vision, and purposes give every FCCLA Member a strong foundation for learning, leading, serving, and preparing for the future. Throughout the year, members put those principles into action by building confidence, exploring careers, strengthening communities, and discovering what they are capable of achieving.

To the FCCLA Advisers, Partners, and Supporters who make these experiences possible, thank you for helping potential become purpose.

**Keep learning, keep
leading, and never be
afraid to stand tall!**



VALUES IN ACTION. VISION FORWARD.

FCCLA's core values shape how members learn, lead, serve, collaborate, and prepare for the future. These values guide the experiences offered through Family and Consumer Sciences education and provide a strong foundation for personal growth, career readiness, and community impact.

FCCLA's Strategic Goals through 2028 turn those values into action, strengthening the organization's ability to support advisers, expand career preparation, build industry connections, and deliver high-quality resources to members nationwide.



OUR VALUES DEFINE WHO WE ARE. ”
OUR GOALS GUIDE WHERE WE ARE GOING.



LEADERSHIP

FCCLA develops confident and capable leaders by connecting classroom learning with real-world experiences. Through student-led programs, chapter involvement, and service to their schools and communities, FCCLA Members learn to take initiative, communicate with purpose, and lead in their future careers.



CHARACTER

FCCLA promotes integrity, responsibility, respect, and compassion. Members strengthen the ethical decision-making and personal accountability needed to build healthy relationships, contribute to strong families, and succeed in professional environments.



EXCELLENCE

FCCLA challenges members to set high standards and continually grow. Competitive Events, leadership roles, and hands-on learning encourage students to pursue excellence in academics, career preparation, service, and personal development.



TEAMWORK

FCCLA prepares members to collaborate, communicate, solve problems, and build trust. Through team-based projects and chapter experiences, students develop the skills needed to work productively with others in their families, communities, and future workplaces.



SERVICE

FCCLA Members connect learning with action through service that strengthens families, supports schools, and improves communities. These experiences build civic responsibility while preparing students to lead with awareness, compassion, and purpose.

FCCLA STRATEGIC GOALS

**THROUGH
2028**



01



STRENGTHEN ADVISER SUPPORT AND TRAINING

Provide comprehensive training, tools, and resources that help new and experienced FCCLA Advisers deliver exceptional member experiences while addressing the needs of educators entering the profession through different preparation routes.

02



EVOLVE INNOVATION IN CAREER CLUSTERS

Strengthen FCCLA's role in Career and Technical Education by demonstrating the connection between Family and Consumer Sciences education and Career Clusters while using data to communicate relevance, participation, and impact.

03



EXPAND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Position FCCLA as a leading organization for career preparation by strengthening relationships with business and industry, enhancing career alignment, and creating meaningful opportunities for leadership development and workforce readiness.

04



ENHANCE RESOURCE ACCESSIBILITY AND QUALITY

Improve how members, advisers, and stakeholders access FCCLA resources while ensuring materials remain current, useful, and aligned with the needs of today's classrooms and chapters.

**FCCLA'S VALUES BUILD STRONG LEADERS. ITS STRATEGIC GOALS ENSURE THEY HAVE THE
SUPPORT, OPPORTUNITIES, AND EXPERIENCES TO SUCCEED.**

PARTNERS IN POSSIBILITY

FCCLA's national impact is amplified by organizations that invest in the skills, confidence, and career direction of students nationwide.

Through financial support, educational resources, industry expertise, scholarships, recognition, and career-connected experiences, FCCLA's sponsors, contributors, and experience partners help transform participation into preparation. Their support helps more FCCLA Members participate in meaningful opportunities to lead, serve, explore Career Clusters, and prepare for the future workforce.

“WHEN ORGANIZATIONS INVEST IN FCCLA MEMBERS, THEY INVEST IN THE FUTURE WORKFORCE.”

PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION



EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY

Supporting programs, scholarships, recognition, and experiences that help more students participate, grow, and succeed.



CONNECTING EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY

Helping FCCLA Members connect classroom learning and leadership development with real careers, industries, and professional expectations.



STRENGTHENING STUDENT SUCCESS

Providing expertise, resources, and support that help students build confidence, practical skills, and career direction.

PLATINUM LEVEL



KENDRA SCOTT



PRINCE GEORGE'S
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



U.S. AIR FORCE



WeHelp^{two}



GOLD LEVEL



EVERY PARTNERSHIP OPENS A DOOR.

From National Programs and Competitive Events to scholarships, conferences, recognition, and workforce exploration, partner support helps FCCLA deliver relevant, high-quality experiences to students across the country.

National FCCLA gratefully recognizes the organizations whose contributions helped make the achievements and opportunities of the 2025-2026 year possible.

SILVER LEVEL



BRONZE LEVEL



TOGETHER, WE ARE PREPARING STUDENTS FOR **WHAT COMES NEXT.**



Thank you to every sponsor, contributor, and experience partner for helping FCCLA connect education with opportunity, leadership with action, and students with the futures they are ready to build.



EVERY FCCLA JOURNEY STARTS WITH **AN INVITATION TO BELONG.**

Through chapter recruitment efforts each fall, students discover opportunities to develop leadership skills, prepare for careers, and connect with something bigger than themselves. Whether attending an informational meeting, learning about membership benefits, or participating in chapter activities, new members begin a journey that will shape their future.

Joining FCCLA is more than becoming a member. It is the first step toward leadership, career readiness, and lifelong impact.



“

I started FCCLA as a 7th grader, and I had never felt so empowered until I joined. FCCLA has helped me grow in confidence, leadership, and responsibility, and it pushed me out of my comfort zone in the best way. FCCLA has shaped me into the person I am today and given me experiences I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

— HADLEY D., ETHAN FCCLA, SOUTH DAKOTA

MOMENTUM THAT MOVES THE FUTURE FORWARD

In 2025-2026, FCCLA reached 271,861 affiliated members, its highest affiliated membership total since the 1991-1992 affiliation year. Surpassing a benchmark that had stood for 33 years, this milestone reflects the growing strength of Family and Consumer Sciences education and the continued demand for experiences that prepare students to lead, work, serve, and succeed.

Each new affiliation expands access to leadership development, Competitive Events, National Programs, service, career exploration, and classroom-connected learning. Across the country, FCCLA Members are building confidence, strengthening communication and collaboration skills, and preparing for careers in Education and Training, Hospitality and Tourism, Arts and Design, Financial Services, Human Services, and Public Service.

This record-setting year reaffirmed FCCLA's role as the nation's #1 career preparation and workforce readiness organization for students pursuing these fields through Family and Consumer Sciences education.

MEMBERSHIP AT A GLANCE



271,861

AFFILIATED MEMBERS
+11,642 since 2024-2025



7,524

AFFILIATED ADVISERS



5,447

AFFILIATED CHAPTERS

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR CAREERS IN



ARTS &
DESIGN



HOSPITALITY &
TOURISM



FINANCIAL
SERVICES



EDUCATION &
TRAINING



HUMAN
SERVICES



PUBLIC
SERVICE

OVER A DECADE OF EXTRAORDINARY GROWTH

+117,371

MORE FCCLA MEMBERS



76% MEMBERSHIP GROWTH IN
ELEVEN YEARS



2014-2015



154,490

AFFILIATED MEMBERS

VS.

2025-2026



271,861

AFFILIATED MEMBERS

In just eleven years, FCCLA grew from 154,490 to 271,861 affiliated members, welcoming 117,371 more students into experiences that develop leadership, strengthen career preparation, and connect classroom learning with real-world opportunity.

This momentum has also carried FCCLA beyond the 268,025 member benchmark recorded in 1991-1992, marking a significant return to membership levels not seen in more than three decades. The achievement reflects far more than growth in numbers. It signals the renewed strength of Family and Consumer Sciences education, the leadership of dedicated FCCLA Advisers, the energy of thriving chapters, and the increasing demand for experiences that prepare students to contribute with confidence in their families, careers, and communities.

LEADING THE NATION

TOP 10 STATE ASSOCIATIONS BY TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

1	Oklahoma	28,260
2	Georgia	26,264
3	Texas	20,117
4	California	19,638
5	Florida	16,939
6	Iowa	15,911
7	Virginia	15,229
8	Kentucky	11,297
9	Alabama	10,807
10	Missouri	10,053

These 10 State Associations represent a significant share of FCCLA's national membership and reflect the power of strong chapters, dedicated FCCLA Advisers, and programs that give students meaningful ways to apply what they learn.

A MILESTONE

with meaning

AT 271,861 AFFILIATED MEMBERS STRONG, FCCLA IS NOT ONLY GROWING. IT IS PREPARING A GENERATION TO SHAPE WHAT COMES NEXT.

FCCLA's growth is ultimately measured by the students behind the numbers. More members means more young people preparing for the future with purpose, practical skills, and the confidence to make an impact.

MEMBERSHIP ACROSS THE NATION



A state-by-state look at FCCLA Members, Advisers, and Chapters for 2025-2026.

STATE ASSOCIATION	MEMBERS	ADVISERS	CHAPTERS
Alabama	10,807	397	299
Alaska	225	3	1
American Samoa	23	1	1
Arizona	5,927	331	265
Arkansas	6,521	264	214
California	19,638	207	123
Colorado	2,162	179	103
Connecticut	287	17	15
Delaware	62	4	4
Florida	16,939	139	96
Georgia	26,264	433	286
Hawaii	438	44	17
Idaho	1,290	112	70
Illinois	2,671	169	123
Indiana	7,402	101	74
Iowa	15,911	259	232
Kansas	3,336	181	155
Kentucky	11,297	265	159
Louisiana	433	22	16
Michigan	1,273	47	31
Minnesota	4,090	66	52
Mississippi	1,456	91	58
Missouri	10,053	482	381
Montana	1,485	71	62
Nebraska	2,829	101	92
Nevada	3,020	69	36
New Hampshire	15	2	1
New Jersey	4,630	81	53
New Mexico	1,976	56	38
New York	1,099	35	29
North Carolina	8,801	214	109
North Dakota	1,537	83	65
Ohio	9,531	227	218
Oklahoma	28,260	432	400
Oregon	252	16	11
Pennsylvania	1,391	83	64
Puerto Rico	6,173	184	166
Rhode Island	40	2	2
South Carolina	375	40	22
South Dakota	1,706	64	59
Tennessee	3,835	181	126
Texas	20,117	726	447
Utah	2,711	258	130
Virginia	15,229	412	285
Washington	5,408	193	110
West Virginia	115	8	6
Wisconsin	2,187	139	115
Wyoming	634	33	26
TOTAL	271,861	7,524	5,447

MEMBERSHIP *Stories*



Behind every membership milestone is a chapter where students are finding their voice, discovering new possibilities, and building connections that shape what comes next. These stories show how dedicated FCCLA Advisers, creative recruitment, and meaningful member experiences helped chapters across the country grow stronger during 2025–2026.

1



APPALACHIAN HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | ALABAMA

Chapter Adviser: Briar Fowler



Appalachian High School FCCLA experienced an extraordinary year of growth, expanding from 37 members to 102 active members. Through intentional recruitment, stronger visibility across the school, and a renewed focus on leadership development, the chapter created an experience that more students wanted to join.

The chapter earned State Gold Star Chapter recognition, an honor awarded for excellence in chapter leadership, programming, and engagement. It also celebrated a historic county first when one member advanced to compete at the national level.

Appalachian High School FCCLA's story shows how a clear sense of purpose, consistent outreach, and meaningful opportunities can transform a chapter and open the door for more students to lead.

2



UPPERMAN HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | TENNESSEE

Chapter Adviser: Taylor Key



Upperman High School FCCLA turned recruitment into a celebration by hosting a "Chapters in Hollywood" event that welcomed 54 new FCCLA Members. A red-carpet entrance, themed décor, music, popcorn, candy, and prizes created an experience designed to make students feel excited, included, and ready to participate.

The event did more than attract attention. It gave prospective members an immediate sense of the chapter's energy, creativity, and community.

By combining thoughtful outreach with an unforgettable first impression, Upperman High School FCCLA showed how recruitment can become the beginning of a meaningful member experience.

3



SALINE HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | MICHIGAN

Chapter Adviser: Lauren Williams



Saline High School FCCLA restored a longstanding chapter tradition and rebuilt its membership around a more active and engaging member experience. After a period of limited participation, the chapter grew to more than 40 active FCCLA Members and earned several state-level awards recognizing chapter growth, leadership, and overall excellence.

Twenty-one members competed at the Michigan State Leadership Conference, where students demonstrated their knowledge and skills through FCCLA Competitive Events. Eighteen advanced to the National Leadership Conference to represent their school and state.

The chapter's renewed success reflects what can happen when students are given meaningful ways to participate, achieve, and see themselves as part of something larger.

4



WEST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | SOUTH DAKOTA

Chapter Adviser: Dr. Jennifer Poulos



West Central High School FCCLA strengthened its chapter by creating a greater sense of belonging and connection throughout the school year. With the addition of a new school leadership program, the chapter welcomed more than 20 new FCCLA Members and introduced more students to opportunities for service, competition, and personal growth.

Members participated in FCCLA National Programs, which guide students through hands-on projects connected to leadership, careers, families, and communities. Their work earned the chapter the Ultimate Chapter Award, recognizing its strong participation and commitment to the full FCCLA experience.

West Central High School FCCLA's growth demonstrates how a welcoming culture and consistent opportunities can turn initial interest into lasting involvement.

5



WASHINGTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | ARKANSAS

Chapter Adviser: Tiffany Bolding



Washington Junior High School FCCLA experienced a year of remarkable growth, expanding from fewer than 20 members to more than 90 FCCLA Members.

Through leadership activities, service projects, teamwork, and Competitive Events, students built confidence, strengthened communication skills, and learned how to apply what they were learning in real situations. At the State Leadership Conference, members earned three gold medals, five silver medals, and one bronze medal for their performance in FCCLA Competitive Events.

Washington Junior High School FCCLA's story reflects the momentum that grows when students are invited to contribute, challenged to improve, and recognized for what they achieve.

6



RANCHO HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | NEVADA

Chapter Adviser: Christina Sargent



Rancho High School FCCLA selected the Unlimited Membership Package, a simplified affiliation option designed for large, growing, or high-enrollment programs seeking full use of FCCLA resources. Selecting this package helped the chapter simplify affiliation and support broader student participation across its Family and Consumer Sciences classes.

The chapter adviser integrated FCCLA National Programs and Competitive Events into classroom instruction, connecting academic learning with leadership, career preparation, and service. Members also partnered with a local elementary school to plan and host a haunted house for a family fall festival, giving students an opportunity to collaborate, serve their community, and put their ideas into action.

Rancho High School FCCLA shows what becomes possible when all Family and Consumer Sciences students are affiliated, classroom learning comes to life through FCCLA, and more students are given meaningful opportunities to lead, serve, and grow.



Six chapters, six distinct stories, and one shared belief that when students are given meaningful opportunities to belong, lead, and grow, the impact can reach far beyond membership numbers.

ENGAGE



ENGAGEMENT IS WHERE BELONGING BECOMES ACTION.

After joining FCCLA, members take the next step by getting involved in chapter meetings, leadership activities, National Programs, service projects, and classroom-based experiences that bring Family and Consumer Sciences education to life. Through hands-on opportunities, FCCLA Members build confidence, strengthen connections, and begin applying their skills in meaningful ways.

Engaging in FCCLA helps members move from participation to purpose, discovering how leadership, service, and career readiness can make an impact in their schools, families, and communities.



“

Through FCCLA, my students have learned how to collaborate, solve problems, support one another, and step outside of their comfort zones.

— MRS. FREELAND, NORTHWOOD FCCLA ADVISER, INDIANA

THE FUTURE WORKFORCE

FCCLA's six Career Clusters connect Family and Consumer Sciences education with essential industries that shape everyday life, strengthen communities, and support the nation's workforce.

Through classroom instruction, leadership, Competitive Events, National Programs, and real-world experiences, FCCLA Members build the skills, confidence, and career direction needed to turn their passions into purpose.



ARTS & DESIGN

Creating with Purpose and Impact

Emma Gaffney
South Dakota | Grade 11

Future Goal:
Fashion Designer and Business Owner

Arts & Design careers transform creative ideas into products, communications, and experiences. Emma is preparing for this industry by combining artistic talent with entrepreneurship, advocacy, and hands-on design experience.

Through FCCLA, she has strengthened her confidence, expanded her professional network, secured career opportunities, and learned to keep creating when her original plans changed.

"FCCLA gave me the confidence, professional knowledge, and hope to dream bigger, want more, and never settle."



HOSPITALITY & TOURISM

Building a Business Through Service

Antonio Hernandez
Iowa | Grade 11

Future Goal:
Food Service Business Owner

Hospitality & Tourism careers create experiences that welcome, serve, and connect people. Inspired by his father's restaurant, Antonio plans to build a food service business that brings his community together.

FCCLA has helped him develop leadership, hospitality, culinary, sales, and problem-solving skills while growing from a quiet participant into a confident Chapter President.

"FCCLA helped me grow from the member sitting in the corner into a Chapter President with the skills to build my future business."



FINANCIAL SERVICES

Turning an Idea Into Opportunity

Sophia Knetter
Wisconsin | Grade 11

Future Goal:
Entrepreneur and Business Owner

Financial Services careers help individuals and organizations manage resources, make informed decisions, and build sustainable futures. Sophia is already gaining practical experience through FCCLA leadership, Competitive Events, and her work at a local credit union helping customers with everyday financial transactions.

She also created Youth Emerging Entrepreneurs Day, connecting more than 80 students with business professionals, networking opportunities, and scholarships. The experience taught her how to respond to setbacks, manage risk, and turn an idea into measurable impact.

"FCCLA turned entrepreneurship, business, and finance from a dream into a reality."

Today's Family and Consumer Sciences classrooms are preparing tomorrow's workforce.

WORKFORCE IS HERE.



EDUCATION & TRAINING

Preparing to
Lead a Classroom

Angel Camarena
Kentucky | Grade 10

Future Goal:
Family and Consumer Sciences Educator

Education & Training careers prepare individuals to teach, mentor, communicate, and support the development of others. Angel plans to become a Family and Consumer Sciences educator, inspired by the teachers and classrooms that shaped his own future.

Through FCCLA he is building the communication, organization, and instructional skills he will one day use to empower future students. Each experience is helping him understand what it takes to lead a classroom, support student growth, and turn his passion for education into a meaningful career.

"FCCLA transformed me from a classroom learner into an active leader."



HUMAN SERVICES

Designing a Better
System of Care

Lauren Field
Texas | Grade 11

Future Goal:
Psychiatrist and Medical Entrepreneur

Human Services careers support the well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Lauren wants to improve psychiatric care by making pharmacogenomic testing more affordable and widely available.

Through FCCLA and FinanceForFuture, she has gained experience in research, publishing, project management, community partnerships, and organizational leadership. Her initiative has reached more than 4,300 students and shown her how business strategy can support meaningful human-centered solutions.

"FCCLA gave me the executive blueprint to manage the systems and human dynamics needed to create meaningful change."



PUBLIC SERVICE

Finding a Voice
for Justice

Kai Tran
Florida | Grade 7

Future Goal:
Criminal Defense Attorney

Public Service careers strengthen communities through advocacy, leadership, communication, and informed decision-making. Kai wants to become a criminal defense attorney because he believes every person deserves someone who will listen carefully and understand their story.

Through FCCLA's Career Investigation STAR Event, he researched the profession, conducted interviews, organized information, and presented his findings under pressure. The experience strengthened his confidence and helped transform an interest in law into an achievable career goal.

"FCCLA helped me understand that I can begin preparing for my future now."

*FCCLA gives students the skills, experience,
and confidence to arrive ready.*

NATIONAL PROGRAMS

WHERE STUDENT IDEAS BECOME NATIONAL IMPACT

FCCLA's eight National Programs give students the structure to turn classroom learning into meaningful action. Through project-based experiences, FCCLA Members identify real needs, explore practical solutions, collaborate with others, and lead work that strengthens schools, families, and communities.

From career exploration and financial literacy to wellness, traffic safety, service, advocacy, and personal growth, each program creates a clear connection between what students are learning today and the skills they will need tomorrow. Members practice communication, teamwork, decision-making, research, project management, and leadership while addressing issues that matter to the people around them.

The result is learning that extends far beyond an assignment. Students see that their ideas can influence behavior, bring people together, raise awareness, and create measurable change.

NATIONAL PROGRAM IMPACT

AUGUST 1, 2025 - MARCH 2, 2026



1,517

Projects Completed



87,977

Members Involved



824,676

People Reached



10,561,133

Public Relations and Media Reach

“THESE PROJECTS MATTER BECAUSE THEY DEMONSTRATE THE TRUE PURPOSE OF FCCLA: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES, SERVING COMMUNITIES, AND DEVELOPING LEADERS.”

- REAGAN KERNS

Rye Cove FCCLA Adviser, Virginia
First Runner-Up, Families First National Program Award

These numbers reveal the scale of FCCLA's National Programs, but the strongest story is found in the students behind them. Across the country, FCCLA Members stepped forward to lead campaigns, educate peers, support families, serve communities, explore careers, and improve their own lives.

Each project began with an idea and grew through student initiative. Together, those ideas reached hundreds of thousands of people and carried the FCCLA message to millions more.



EIGHT PROGRAMS. ONE SHARED PURPOSE.

FCCLA National Programs make learning relevant by giving students the opportunity to apply knowledge in ways that are visible, practical, and deeply connected to their future.

When students are trusted to lead meaningful work, their impact can reach far beyond the classroom.

CAREER CONNECTION

SPONSORED BY GOODHEART-WILCOX

TURNING POSSIBILITY INTO A PLAN

Choosing a career can feel overwhelming. Career Connection helps FCCLA Members move forward with greater clarity by exploring their interests, identifying strengths, connecting with professionals, and practicing the skills needed to succeed in the workplace.

This year, students transformed career preparation into experiences that reached entire schools and communities. They organized interview days, introduced classmates to professionals from across Career Clusters, completed career assessments, practiced workplace responsibilities, and gained a clearer understanding of how education connects to the future they want to build.

CAREER CONNECTION IMPACT



176
Projects
Completed



5,325
Members
Involved



40,179
People
Reached



893,848
Public
Relations
& Media Reach



30
States &
Territories
Represented



HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Carthage High School FCCLA | Missouri
Connecting CTC Seniors to Careers Through Mock Interviews

FCCLA Members organized a Senior Mock Interview Day for 370 graduating seniors and partnered with approximately 25 local employers. Through résumé preparation, interview practice, and direct employer feedback, students strengthened professional communication, confidence, and career readiness.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Ross Middle School FCCLA | Ohio
Career Carnival

FCCLA Members created a schoolwide Career Carnival for 568 students and partnered with 33 community professionals representing a wide range of careers. Students explored future possibilities through interactive presentations while chapter members strengthened organization, communication, teamwork, and time-management skills.



NATIONAL RUNNER-UP

Feagin Mill Middle School FCCLA | Georgia
Clocked In: Learning Life and Leadership

FCCLA Members explored more than 20 careers, completed career assessments, practiced job applications, participated in job-shadowing, and gained workplace experience by operating the school concession stand. The project strengthened responsibility, leadership, professionalism, and employability skills through hands-on career preparation.

“THE FUTURE BECOMES **CLEARER** WHEN STUDENTS CAN EXPERIENCE IT.”

Career Connection helps FCCLA Members look beyond the question of what they want to become and begin understanding how to get there. Through exploration, preparation, and real-world practice, students gain the confidence to make informed choices and take their next step with purpose.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

WHEN SERVICE BECOMES LEADERSHIP

Community Service helps FCCLA Members recognize needs around them and take purposeful action to improve the lives of others. Through student-led projects, members build partnerships, organize volunteers, solve problems, and discover how leadership can strengthen schools and communities.

During the 2025-2026 year, chapters turned compassion into measurable results through food drives, mentoring, environmental projects, community events, health initiatives, and support for local organizations. As members planned and carried out each project, they strengthened communication, teamwork, responsibility, creative thinking, and the ability to lead work that matters.



353
Projects Completed



56,559
Members Involved



254,318
People Reached



6,835,697
Public Relations & Media Reach



35
States & Territories Represented



HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Valley Falls High School FCCLA | Kansas
Service Made Simple

FCCLA Members created accessible service opportunities through weekly "Whammy Wednesdays," schoolwide service days, and partnerships with local organizations. Students completed projects ranging from mentoring younger students to supporting food pantries, nursing homes, public spaces, and community events while strengthening leadership, teamwork, responsibility, and civic connection.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Stuarts Draft Middle School FCCLA | Virginia
Fill the SNAP Gap

FCCLA Members responded to local food insecurity by hosting a schoolwide Friendsgiving, volunteering with community food organizations, and collecting 1,200 pounds of food, enough to provide approximately 1,000 meals. The project helped students understand the realities of hunger while developing skills in service, hospitality, planning, budgeting, and community partnership.



NATIONAL RUNNER-UP

Timpview High School FCCLA | Utah
Sewing for Her Future

FCCLA Members used sewing and leadership skills to create 50 reusable menstrual hygiene kits for Days for Girls, supporting health, dignity, and continued education for girls in underserved communities. Through careful production, peer training, and quality control, members strengthened technical skills, collaboration, patience, and problem-solving while addressing a global need.

“SERVICE CREATES **CHANGE** IN BOTH DIRECTIONS.”

Community Service allows FCCLA Members to improve the places they call home while discovering their own capacity to lead. Through planning, collaboration, and action, students learn that meaningful service does not begin with having every answer. It begins with noticing a need and choosing to help.

FACTS

SAFER CHOICES START WITH INFORMED LEADERS

Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety, known as FACTS, gives FCCLA Members the knowledge and tools to promote safer decisions on the road. Through student-led education and outreach, members address seat belt use, distracted and impaired driving, passenger responsibility, and the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and scooter riders.

Over the past year, FCCLA Members transformed traffic safety messages into experiences people could see, feel, and remember. Chapters conducted safety surveys, developed interactive campaigns, partnered with first responders and transportation professionals, and helped peers understand how one decision can change a life. Along the way, members strengthened research, advocacy, communication, collaboration, and responsible decision-making skills.



291
Projects
Completed



6,564
Members
Involved



158,966
People
Reached



1,070,189
Public
Relations
& Media Reach



26
States
Represented



HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Twin River Jr./Sr. High School FCCLA | Nebraska

The Decisions While You Drive, Decide if You Survive

FCCLA Members created and filmed a realistic mock crash with local first responders, law enforcement, emergency dispatchers, businesses, and the school's digital media class. Shared at major school and community events, the experience demonstrated the consequences of unsafe driving while strengthening student leadership, community partnerships, and awareness of seat belt use and responsible choices.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Holmes Middle School FCCLA | Colorado

Safe Travels: Navigating Passengers, Pedestrians, Bikes & Scooters

FCCLA Members used surveys, interactive events, safety demonstrations, and community partnerships to educate students and families about pedestrian, bicycle, scooter, and passenger safety. The project equipped students to make safer choices while strengthening members' leadership, data analysis, public communication, and advocacy skills.



NATIONAL RUNNER-UP

James Wood High School FCCLA | Virginia

Distractions and Reactions

FCCLA Members partnered with the school's driver education department to provide safety resources for new drivers and their families and create an interactive obstacle course focused on distractions and reaction time. Through simulations, pre- and post-assessments, and peer education, students gained a clearer understanding of how distraction, passengers, and delayed reactions affect driving decisions.

“ONE DECISION CAN **CHANGE** THE ROAD AHEAD.”

FACTS empowers FCCLA Members to make traffic safety personal, relevant, and impossible to ignore. By turning research into education and awareness into action, students help their peers and communities understand that safer roads begin with the choices each person makes.

FAMILIES FIRST

STRONGER FAMILIES BEGIN WITH STRONGER CONNECTIONS

Families First empowers FCCLA Members to explore the relationships, responsibilities, and everyday skills that help families thrive. Through peer education, classroom learning, and student-led projects, members strengthen communication, support well-being, practice safety, care for others, and develop the confidence to contribute at home and in their communities.

Across classrooms and communities nationwide, students brought family-focused learning to life in ways that responded to real needs. They taught younger children about passenger safety, created hands-on lessons centered on teamwork and communication, supported families experiencing food insecurity, and built resources that encouraged healthier, safer, and more connected lives. Through this work, members strengthened empathy, planning, collaboration, problem-solving, and leadership.

Following a full program modernization, Families First continues to reflect the realities of family life today while supporting Career and Technical Education and preparing students for careers that serve individuals, families, and communities. Its five units, Dynamics, Balance, Development, Safety, and Skills, provide flexible pathways for meaningful classroom integration and action.

FAMILIES FIRST IMPACT



233

Projects Completed



6,497

Members Involved



105,483

People Reached



770,005

Public Relations and Media Reach



30

States Represented



HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Licking Valley High School FCCLA | Ohio
Safe Riders Start as Panthers

FCCLA Members taught more than 150 elementary students about passenger safety through interactive lessons, hands-on crash simulations, seat belt checks, family resources, and partnerships with school resource officers. The project strengthened members' communication, leadership, and child-development skills while helping younger students and their families build safer habits.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Pocahontas Middle School FCCLA | Virginia

Flying Together: Building Family, Communication, and Teamwork Through Learning

FCCLA Members partnered with third-grade students for a hands-on learning experience centered on creativity, communication, and teamwork. Through read-alouds, group discussions, and a paper-airplane design challenge, students practiced sharing ideas, solving problems, learning from mistakes, and supporting one another.



NATIONAL RUNNER-UP

Rye Cove High School FCCLA | Virginia
Cans With Care

FCCLA Members addressed food insecurity through two canned food drives, seven holiday meal bags, and continued support for a school Care Closet serving students with food, hygiene products, and clothing. By organizing donations, tracking needs, and protecting the dignity of those receiving assistance, members strengthened leadership, resource management, compassion, and community awareness.

“ WHEN FAMILIES GROW STRONGER, COMMUNITIES DO TOO. ”

Families First helps FCCLA Members understand that healthy relationships are built through communication, care, responsibility, and action. By applying these skills to real needs, students become more prepared to support the people around them and lead with empathy in their homes, careers, and communities.

FINANCIAL FITNESS

BUILDING CONFIDENCE ONE DECISION AT A TIME

Financial Fitness helps FCCLA Members develop the knowledge and habits needed to earn, spend, save, and protect money wisely. Through peer education and hands-on projects, members explore budgeting, banking, credit, saving, entrepreneurship, consumer choices, and the long-term impact of everyday financial decisions.

In communities across the country, members transformed financial concepts into experiences grounded in real life. They launched student-run businesses, practiced managing income and expenses, partnered with financial professionals, completed interactive simulations, and taught peers how to make informed choices with money. Along the way, members strengthened financial literacy, problem-solving, entrepreneurship, communication, and the confidence to take greater responsibility for their futures.

FINANCIAL FITNESS IMPACT



126

Projects Completed



4,178

Members Involved



50,203

People Reached



180,646

Public Relations and Media Reach



24

States Represented



HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Buffalo High School FCCLA | Texas
Get Financially Fit!

FCCLA Members combined peer-led lessons, budgeting simulations, community banking partnerships, and schoolwide outreach to make financial literacy practical and relevant. The project helped students strengthen money-management knowledge, evaluate financial choices, and approach saving, spending, and planning with greater confidence.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Bonaire Middle School FCCLA | Georgia
Water Equals Profit

FCCLA Members completed interactive financial literacy lessons and applied what they learned by operating a student-run water cart business. Through budgeting, tracking expenses, managing profits, and setting savings goals, students gained firsthand experience with entrepreneurship and responsible financial decision-making.



NATIONAL RUNNER-UP

Nemo Vista High School FCCLA | Arkansas
ConneCTed Financial Futures in Action

FCCLA Members launched a student-run edible printing business and paired the experience with peer education, expert guidance, and real-world financial simulations. By managing costs, pricing products, tracking revenue, and planning for growth, students strengthened budgeting, entrepreneurship, collaboration, and long-term financial thinking.

POWER OF ONE

Power of One helps FCCLA Members recognize their ability to create meaningful change in their own lives. Each participant identifies a personal goal, develops a plan, takes action, and reflects on the progress made through the experience.

Goals may focus on academic achievement, confidence, family relationships, career preparation, wellness, or community involvement. While every project is personal, each one develops skills that members can carry into school, future careers, relationships, and everyday life.

POWER OF ONE IMPACT



2,024

Students completed Power of One



34

States Represented

“**STRONG FUTURES ARE BUILT THROUGH INTENTIONAL CHOICES.**”

Financial Fitness prepares FCCLA Members to make informed decisions with their resources, while Power of One gives them the structure to invest in their own growth. Together, these programs show students that meaningful progress begins with a clear goal, a practical plan, and the confidence to take the first step.

STAND UP

FINDING A VOICE. CREATING A WAY FORWARD.

Stand Up helps FCCLA Members recognize issues affecting their schools and communities and use advocacy to move meaningful solutions forward. Through research, education, outreach, and collaboration, members learn how to communicate a clear message, build support, and participate confidently in decisions that shape the lives of others.

Across the nation, students turned deeply felt concerns into informed and purposeful action. They strengthened connections with veterans, proposed changes to local ordinances, developed resources for disaster preparedness, and advocated for safer, healthier, and more supportive communities. In the process, members strengthened critical thinking, public speaking, research, collaboration, and civic leadership while discovering that their age does not limit their ability to influence change.



STAND UP IMPACT



159
Projects
Completed



3,992
Members
Involved



147,065
People
Reached



608,198
Public
Relations
& Media Reach



28
States
Represented



HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Clyde A. Erwin High School FCCLA | North Carolina

Stand Up for Those Who Stood First

FCCLA Members hosted a formal luncheon that brought students and more than 50 local veterans together for a shared meal and meaningful conversation. By combining culinary arts, hospitality, student leadership, and community partnerships, the chapter moved beyond recognition to create a genuine sense of connection, belonging, and appreciation for those who served.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Sioux Valley Middle School FCCLA | South Dakota

The COOP Initiative: Community Outreach for Operation Poultry

FCCLA Members researched ordinances from 14 communities and developed a proposal that would allow Volga residents to responsibly raise a limited number of backyard hens. Through surveys, educational resources, public presentations, and collaboration with city officials, members earned more than 75% community support and prompted formal consideration of a policy designed to strengthen food security, sustainability, and family self-sufficiency.



NATIONAL RUNNER-UP

South Laurel High School FCCLA | Kentucky

Are They Prepared?

FCCLA Members advocated for natural disaster preparedness education in Kentucky schools by developing ready-to-teach safety lessons, researching state policy, and working with legislators, educators, and local media. The project built support for integrating life-saving preparedness skills into existing instruction while demonstrating how student advocacy can influence education and public safety.

“CHANGE BEGINS WHEN STUDENTS *SPEAK UP* FOR WHAT MATTERS.”

Stand Up gives FCCLA Members the tools to move from concern to informed action. By researching issues, engaging decision-makers, and advocating for practical solutions, students learn that leadership includes the courage to raise their voices and the preparation to make those voices count.

STUDENT BODY

WELLNESS BECOMES A LIFELONG SKILL

Student Body helps FCCLA Members strengthen physical, mental, and emotional wellness through practical experiences connected to Family and Consumer Sciences education. By researching health topics, creating peer education, and leading hands-on activities, members learn how everyday choices can influence energy, confidence, relationships, academic success, and long-term well-being.

From classrooms to schoolwide events, members made wellness relevant, engaging, and easier to understand. They taught students how to evaluate nutrition information, introduced peers to enjoyable forms of physical activity, created personal wellness plans, and developed experiences that encouraged families and communities to spend meaningful time together. Through this work, members strengthened communication, planning, collaboration, self-awareness, and the confidence to promote healthier choices.



STUDENT BODY IMPACT



179
Projects
Completed



4,862
Members
Involved



68,462
People
Reached



202,550
Public
Relations
& Media Reach



27
States &
Territories
Represented



HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Bonney Lake High School FCCLA | Washington

ConneCTed to Real Roots: Sugar Awareness

FCCLA Members created age-appropriate lessons and interactive activities that helped children, students, and families better understand natural and added sugars. Through classroom education, nutrition-label activities, community events, games, and partnerships with educators, members strengthened nutrition knowledge while building leadership, communication, and instructional skills.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NATIONAL WINNER

Feagin Mill Middle School FCCLA | Georgia

Becoming Four Strong: Building Healthy, Fit, Real, and Resilient Students

FCCLA Members promoted whole-person wellness through physical activity, nutrition education, taste testing, student news broadcasts, and personal wellness planning. With support from a school counselor and community partners, the project helped students explore healthy eating, enjoyable movement, and strategies for mental and emotional well-being.



NATIONAL RUNNER-UP

Strasburg High School FCCLA | Virginia

Reindeer Relay

FCCLA Members brought school organizations and community partners together for a family-centered holiday 5K and wellness event. The experience combined physical activity, games, creative activities, and opportunities for families to connect while strengthening members' event planning, teamwork, communication, and community leadership.

“HEALTHY HABITS CREATE **STRONGER** FUTURES.”

Student Body helps FCCLA Members understand that wellness is shaped by the choices, relationships, and routines built each day. By making health education practical and personal, students gain the knowledge and confidence to care for themselves, support others, and lead healthier communities.

NATIONAL BE A TEACHER DAY

ONE DAY. A NATIONWIDE CALL TO TEACH.

Every profession begins with a teacher.

On October 9, 2025, FCCLA officially launched National Be A Teacher Day at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., creating a nationwide initiative to elevate the teaching profession, strengthen the educator pipeline, and inspire students to consider careers in education. The launch brought together future educators, classroom teachers, school and district leaders, postsecondary institutions, and national education organizations for a timely conversation about the growing need for qualified teachers. Speakers explored recruitment, career preparation, mentorship, college opportunities, alternative routes into education, and the lasting influence one teacher can have on a student's life.

National Be A Teacher Day gives students interested in education and early childhood careers an opportunity to connect with colleges, teacher preparation programs, scholarships, training resources, and educators already making a difference. Through interactive events, students begin to understand not only why teaching matters, but how they can build a future within the profession.

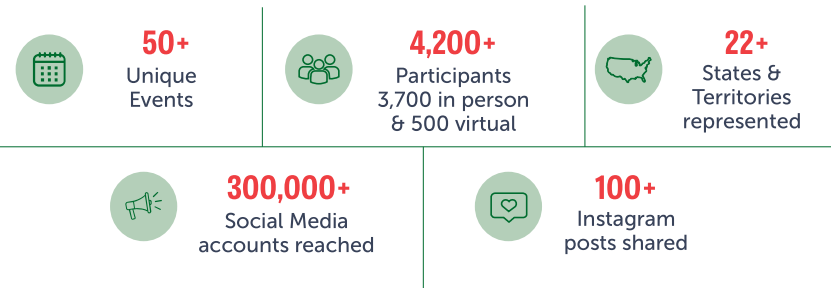
A NATIONAL MOVEMENT TAKES SHAPE

The first National Be A Teacher Day extended far beyond the launch event in Washington, D.C.

FCCLA Chapters, schools, colleges, universities, and education organizations hosted experiences that introduced students to opportunities across the education field. Events included educator panels, classroom activities, college fairs, teaching demonstrations, campus visits, career exploration, recognition activities, and conversations with current and future teachers.

Each event carried the same message: teaching offers students the opportunity to build a career around purpose, creativity, leadership, and lasting impact.

2025 IMPACT AT A GLANCE



Hundreds of schools hosted on-campus celebrations, and Kentucky recognized the initiative through a gubernatorial proclamation. The response demonstrated that students, educators, institutions, and communities were ready to rally around a stronger and more visible future for teaching.



“Teaching is more than a profession. It is the foundation of every profession.”

— Sandy Spavone
FCCLA Chief Executive Officer



UNITED FOR THE EDUCATOR PIPELINE

National Be A Teacher Day was supported by a coalition representing teacher preparation, Career and Technical Education, Family and Consumer Sciences, workforce readiness, school leadership, and student organizations.

Coalition partners helped host events, share resources, expand access to teacher preparation programs, and connect students with the people and institutions that can support their journey into education.

COALITION PARTNERS

- American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
- American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences
- AFSA Education Foundation
- Business Professionals of America
- Colorado State University
- Future Business Leaders of America
- Goodheart-Willcox Publisher
- HOSA—Future Health Professionals
- Jacksonville State University
- Lead FCS Education
- Missouri State University
- National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs
- National Technical Honor Society
- Texas Tech University
- University of Central Missouri
- University of Georgia
- University of Nevada, Reno
- University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point

FROM FCCLA MEMBER TO CLASSROOM INNOVATOR

BROOKLYNN GROSS

FCCLA ALUMNA AND HARRISBURG HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATOR

National Be A Teacher Day is built around the belief that students who are encouraged to lead today can become the educators who transform classrooms tomorrow.

Brooklynn Gross represents that promise in action.

An alumna of both FCCLA and Harrisburg High School, Gross returned to her South Dakota community as an English teacher. Her work reflects the lasting influence of educators who challenge students to think creatively, ask meaningful questions, and recognize their ability to make an impact.

Gross developed *Hot and Cold: Exploring AI Temperature in the English Classroom*, an interactive lesson that helps students understand how generative artificial intelligence selects language and how a setting known as temperature changes whether AI-generated writing becomes more predictable or more unexpected.

The lesson began with a student question: *How does AI decide which words come next?*

Gross transformed that question into a hands-on classroom experience. Students completed sentence starters, ranked possible words from predictable to unexpected, and worked together to write stories one word at a time. They then used an AI story generator to compare how different temperature settings affected word choice, tone, structure, and creativity.

Rather than asking students to simply accept or avoid artificial intelligence, Gross gave them the tools to examine it critically. Her lesson helped students understand probability, language, technology, and the importance of protecting their own ideas and voices.



FROM ONE QUESTION TO NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Gross submitted *Hot and Cold* to the 2026 Presidential AI Challenge, a national competition supported by the Office of the President and the U.S. Department of Education.

The lesson was named a South Dakota state champion and earned top honors in the West Central Region, advancing Gross to the national finals in Washington, D.C. There, she presented the project to education and technology leaders and connected with educators from across the country who were developing innovative approaches to artificial intelligence in the classroom.

Her work demonstrates the influence educators can have when they listen closely to student curiosity, connect learning to real questions, and create experiences that help young people use emerging tools responsibly.

A RECORD OF CREATIVITY AND SERVICE

Gross has continued to build a career shaped by creativity, education, and service. In addition to her Presidential AI Challenge recognition, she was selected for Disney's 100 Teachers Celebration and has been a valued national contributor, helping develop student and educator resources for FCCLA. Her earlier accomplishments also include recognition through Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honor society, and an internship with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Each experience reflects the same commitment that guides her classroom today: helping students discover their voices, engage deeply with ideas, and see learning as something that can shape their futures.

THE PIPELINE BEGINS WITH POSSIBILITY

Students rarely choose teaching because they read a job description. They choose it because an educator made them feel seen, challenged them to grow, or helped them recognize something within themselves.

National Be A Teacher Day creates more opportunities for that inspiration to become a plan for the future. It gives students access to educators, colleges, teacher preparation programs, scholarships, and meaningful experiences that help them move from wondering whether teaching could be right for them to understanding how they can pursue it.

Brooklynn Gross shows what becomes possible when a student is encouraged to lead, create, and imagine a future in education. Today, she is giving the next generation of students that same opportunity.

BE A TEACHER. SHAPE WHAT COMES NEXT.

Teaching is where knowledge becomes confidence, curiosity becomes direction, and potential becomes purpose.

SAFE RIDES, SAVE LIVES

STUDENT VOICES DRIVING SAFER CHOICES

A powerful message does not need to be long to make an impact.

Sponsored by The National Road Safety Foundation and connected to FCCLA's Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety National Program, the Safe Rides, Save Lives PSA Contest challenges FCCLA Members to transform traffic safety research into an original 25-second public service announcement created for teen drivers and passengers.

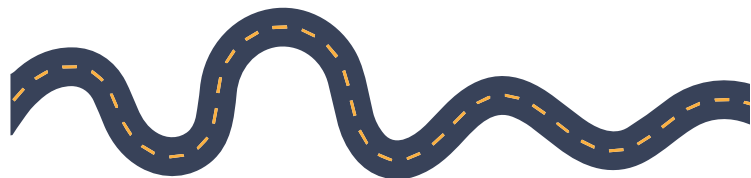
The contest gives students the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge through concept development, research, persuasive writing, advocacy, filming, editing, collaboration, and visual storytelling. Whether participating individually or as a team, members learn how to communicate an urgent message clearly and creatively while gaining experience connected to careers in Public Service and Arts and Design.

BEFORE YOU HIT THE ROAD

The 2025-2026 theme focused on the decisions drivers make before a vehicle moves.

FCCLA Members explored how simple actions such as fastening a seat belt, adjusting mirrors, setting a destination, silencing a phone, and preparing mentally for the drive can reduce distractions and create safer outcomes. Their videos reminded viewers that readiness does not begin after the engine starts. It begins the moment someone enters the vehicle.

Students responded with messages that were thoughtful, memorable, and designed to influence the choices of their peers.



FROM AN IDEA TO NATIONAL IMPACT

The Safe Rides, Save Lives PSA Contest invites students to do more than repeat a safety message. They must understand an issue, identify the audience they need to reach, and determine how to make that audience stop, think, and act differently. In the process, FCCLA Members become researchers, writers, advocates, directors, editors, and community educators. They gain confidence using their voices and discover that a student-created idea can contribute to a national effort to prevent crashes and save lives.

CONTEST IMPACT

 **65** PSA Submissions

 **27** States Represented

 **48** FCCLA Chapters participating

 **25** Seconds to deliver a message that could save a life



2026 NATIONAL WINNER

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | MISSOURI

Central High School FCCLA earned the national title with a creative PSA demonstrating how thoughtful preparation before driving can lead to safer decisions on the road. They received a **\$3,500 cash prize** and the opportunity to work with an award-winning production professional to transform their student-developed concept into a professionally produced PSA. The finished video will support national traffic safety outreach and extend the students' message far beyond their school and community.

Their success demonstrates the full potential of the contest. What began as a classroom idea became a nationally recognized message with the power to influence how young drivers prepare for the road.



PARTNERS IN SAFER ROADS

FRED MANOCHERIAN AND MICHELLE ANDERSON
The National Road Safety Foundation



The Safe Rides, Save Lives PSA Contest is made possible through the vision and continued support of The National Road Safety Foundation.

FCCLA extends sincere appreciation to NRSF founder **Fred Manocherian** and Director of Operations **Michelle Anderson** for their commitment to youth traffic safety education and their belief in the power of student voices.

For more than 13 years, NRSF has worked alongside FCCLA to engage young people in developing traffic safety messages, contribute to educational resources, and create opportunities for students to turn their ideas into national outreach. Through Anderson's leadership, encouragement, and passion for youth engagement, FCCLA Members have been trusted not only to learn about traffic safety, but to help lead the conversation.

Their support has made it possible for student creativity to become public awareness, professional experience, and potentially life-saving action.

SAFE ROADS CHALLENGE

EVERY TRIP IS A CHANCE TO LEAD

The FCCLA Safe Roads Challenge transformed everyday driving into a nationwide competition centered on responsibility, consistency, and safer habits. Through the Safe Roads Challenge app, FCCLA Members recorded their trips, received driving scores, and contributed to the overall performance of their State Association team.

The challenge gave members an opportunity to apply traffic safety knowledge in the place where it matters most: behind the wheel. Each recorded trip encouraged participants to remain attentive, avoid risky behaviors, and recognize that responsible driving protects passengers, pedestrians, and everyone sharing the road.

Throughout the challenge, monthly prizes created additional opportunities to recognize participation and keep members engaged. At the conclusion of the season, the State Associations with the 10 highest safety scores were celebrated nationally for demonstrating a shared commitment to safer roads.

CHALLENGE IMPACT

 7,800+ Members Participated	 40 States Represented
 28,400+ Trips Logged	 10 Top State Associations recognized

 **Challenge season: Oct. 15, 2025 - Mar. 3, 2026**
Monthly drawings awarded \$20 gift cards to 10 members each month!

FROM KNOWLEDGE TO EVERYDAY ACTION

The FCCLA Safe Roads Challenge gave members a way to turn classroom learning into measurable behavior. Participants practiced personal responsibility, built awareness of their driving habits, and contributed to a shared goal with members across their states.

Through real-time feedback and friendly competition, students could see how small, consistent decisions create safer outcomes.

THE SAFEST DRIVE IS THE ONE YOU CHOOSE TO MAKE.

Every recorded trip represented a decision to remain focused, act responsibly, and protect the people sharing the road.

Through the Safe Roads Challenge, FCCLA Members proved that safer communities are built through the habits people practice every day.



FCCLA SAFE DRIVER OF THE YEAR



CADENCE SMITH | WISCONSIN

Cadence Smith earned the title of 2026 FCCLA Safe Driver of the Year by achieving the highest overall safe driving performance during the challenge and received an all-expense-paid trip to the 2026 National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., valued at \$2,500.

The honor celebrates more than a high score. It reflects the consistency, awareness, and responsibility required to make safe choices on every trip. Cadence's achievement demonstrates how individual actions can contribute to safer roads and set a positive example for other young drivers.



FIRST-EVER FCCLA ADVISER MODEL OF EXCELLENCE IN TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARD



JEFFREY COLLINS | TEXAS

Jeffrey Collins elevated the Safe Roads Challenge through exceptional participation and a visible commitment to practicing the behaviors the contest promotes. Over the course of the challenge, Collins recorded an outstanding 809 trips while maintaining a 96% safe driving score.

His involvement reflected leadership in its most authentic form. Rather than simply encouraging students to participate, he modeled the responsibility, consistency, and attention required to make safe driving a daily practice.

In recognition of his achievement, the Safe Roads Challenge established the first **FCCLA Adviser Model of Excellence in Traffic Safety Award**.

The honor celebrates an educator who demonstrated that traffic safety leadership is not limited to instruction. It is strengthened when adults set the example themselves. By participating alongside students and maintaining an exceptional safety score across hundreds of trips, Collins showed FCCLA Members that responsible driving is a lifelong commitment. His example helped reinforce the challenge's central message: leadership continues beyond the lesson and is demonstrated every time someone gets behind the wheel.

INVESTING IN WHAT COMES NEXT



FCCLA Members spend their high school years developing leadership skills, serving their communities, exploring possibilities, and preparing for the futures they hope to build. Through scholarships, recognition opportunities, and experiences made possible by FCCLA and generous national partners, members and chapters were celebrated for their accomplishments while receiving support that helped advance future goals and expand the impact of their work.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP IMPACT



**MORE THAN
\$152,000**

in scholarships and international exchange support



**22 FCCLA
MEMBERS**

recognized through scholarship opportunities



FCCLA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

GRANT HUBLEY | OHIO

The FCCLA Memorial Scholarship honors the leadership and enduring contributions of past FCCLA Members and leaders. It recognizes a graduating senior who demonstrates outstanding leadership, meaningful community service, and a well-rounded commitment to personal growth.



NATIONAL TECHNICAL HONOR SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIPS

MYRKA ROJAS-BATEN | NORTH CAROLINA

MATTHEW KIESLOR | SOUTH CAROLINA

MARYIA BABKO | GEORGIA

Presented in partnership with the National Technical Honor Society, these scholarships recognize members who demonstrate leadership, service, achievement, and commitment through both FCCLA and NTHS.



HOSPITALITY SCHOLARSHIPS

OLIVIA JACKSON | ALABAMA - DESTINATION DC
ASHTON OSBAHR | NEVADA - MARRIOTT MARQUIS
GRACE REUTER | MISSOURI - WESTIN DC DOWNTOWN

Through investments from Destination DC, Marriott Marquis, and Westin DC Downtown, three graduating seniors received support to pursue degrees and careers in hospitality. These scholarships help prepare future professionals in tourism, lodging, events, guest service, and hospitality leadership.



ZWILLING CULINARY ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

AUBREY REEVES | WISCONSIN

The Zwilling Culinary Arts Scholarship recognizes a graduating senior demonstrating exceptional interest and potential in the culinary field. The scholarship was made possible through the sale of FCCLA-branded Zwilling culinary knife kits, with each purchase also supporting the Ultimate Leadership Fund and the participating State Association.



NATIONAL CHAPTER PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD

SIOUX VALLEY FCCLA | SOUTH DAKOTA

The National Chapter Public Relations Award recognizes a chapter that demonstrates excellence in planning and implementing a public relations campaign that increases awareness of FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences education.



OPPORTUNITY MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH PARTNERSHIP & RECOGNITION

Scholarships and national recognition celebrate more than a single accomplishment. They reflect the leadership, talent, initiative, and potential demonstrated by FCCLA Members and chapters. Together, these investments and honors help students continue their education, strengthen their communities, and move forward with greater confidence as they pursue the careers and lives they envision.

FCCLA JAPANESE EXCHANGE

SIX WEEKS. A NEW CULTURE. A LIFETIME OF PERSPECTIVE.

True international understanding begins when students move beyond learning about another culture and begin experiencing it for themselves.

Through the FCCLA Japanese Exchange Program, members spend approximately six weeks living with a host family in Japan. The program is made possible through the longstanding support of Kikkoman Corporation and the international exchange expertise of Youth For Understanding USA.

For the 14 FCCLA Members selected in 2026, the scholarships represented more than \$139,930 in international exchange support and a life-changing opportunity to deepen their understanding of themselves, their communities, and the world.



2026 EXCHANGE IMPACT



14
FCCLA
Members
Selected



11
States
Represented



6
Weeks of
Cultural
Immersion



More Than
\$139,930
In Scholarship
Value



LEARNING THROUGH DAILY LIFE

At the heart of the program is the belief that meaningful cultural understanding grows through personal experience and family living. Recipients become part of the rhythm of everyday life in Japan through traditional tea ceremonies, local summer festivals, family activities, community traditions, and the smaller moments that shape daily life.

By sharing meals, communicating across languages, navigating unfamiliar surroundings, and building new relationships, students become more independent, adaptable, curious, and confident while developing a deeper appreciation for culture, community, and global connection.



2026 FCCLA JAPANESE EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Gabriel Argleben | California
Sofia Romero | Colorado
Haleigh Nelson | Georgia
Zoey Bush | Georgia
Lindsey Cabrera | Georgia
Yetzali Lucas-Santos | Idaho
Samuel Mejia | Iowa

Evelyn Duitsman | Iowa
Kaimbre Ann Hansen | Minnesota
Juan Martinez | Nebraska
Valerie Perez | New Jersey
Kaya Kent | Utah
Annika Hendl | Virginia
Addison Evenstad | Wisconsin



FROM EXCHANGE PARTICIPANT TO GLOBAL AMBASSADOR

The learning continues after recipients return home. Students share reports, photographs, and presentations with their schools and communities, introducing others to Japanese culture and encouraging more young people to consider international exchange.

Their stories extend the impact of the program beyond one summer. Each recipient returns prepared to share a broader perspective and help others understand how personal relationships can bring the world closer together.

Through the FCCLA Japanese Exchange Program, members discover that leadership is strengthened by curiosity, understanding, and the courage to step beyond what is familiar.



PARTNERS IN GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING

FCCLA extends sincere appreciation to **Kikkoman Corporation** and **Youth For Understanding USA** for making this experience possible. Kikkoman's continued investment provides FCCLA Members with a meaningful opportunity for cultural immersion and personal growth, while YFU coordinates the preparation, host-family placement, travel, orientation, insurance, and in-country support that make each exchange safe and meaningful.

Together, these partners help students build confidence, form lasting relationships, and return home with a deeper understanding of the world.

COMPETE



COMPETITION IS WHERE CLASSROOM LEARNING BECOMES REAL-WORLD APPLICATION.

Through FCCLA Competitive Events, members apply classroom knowledge, technical skills, creativity, and leadership to challenges connected to careers and community needs. By researching, planning, creating, and presenting before evaluators, students learn to communicate their ideas clearly, respond under pressure, and take pride in what they can accomplish.

Competing in FCCLA helps members strengthen problem-solving, collaboration, time management, and professional skills. Every project completed and presentation delivered builds confidence and prepares students to succeed in college, careers, and future leadership.



“

Preparing for competitions taught me how to organize my ideas, communicate clearly, think critically, and confidently answer judges' questions under pressure.

EDDIE HUDSON | GEORGIA

WHERE LEARNING TAKES ACTION



FCCLA Competitive Events give members meaningful opportunities to apply classroom knowledge, demonstrate technical and professional skills, and respond to challenges connected to careers, families, and communities.

Across more than 50 events, FCCLA Members research complex issues, develop original ideas, solve problems, collaborate with teammates, demonstrate technical abilities, and present their work for evaluation. Every experience calls for preparation, precision, creativity, professionalism, and the confidence to communicate clearly when the moment matters.

Competitive Events bring Family and Consumer Sciences education to life. Members apply what they learn through assessments, simulations, live demonstrations, projects, and presentations connected to FCCLA's six Career Clusters. In the process, they strengthen communication, critical thinking, collaboration, time management, adaptability, and leadership skills that will serve them in college, careers, and communities.

The outcome reaches far beyond a score or medal. Each event gives students evidence of what they can accomplish, meaningful feedback for continued growth, and greater confidence in their ability to meet high expectations.

2026 COMPETITIVE EVENTS AT A GLANCE



50+

Events connecting classroom instruction with practical application



4

Competition levels serving members through postsecondary education



5

Event formats offering distinct ways to demonstrate knowledge and skill



FIVE WAYS TO SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW



CHALLENGE TESTS

Presented by G-W Publisher, Challenge Tests allow individual members to demonstrate academic and technical knowledge through rigorous assessments aligned with Family and Consumer Sciences education. Participants compete during the fall online testing window or in person at the National Leadership Conference.



FCCLA/LIFESMARTS KNOWLEDGE BOWL

The FCCLA/LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl brings five-member teams together for a fast-paced test of preparation, recall, strategy, and teamwork. Competitors demonstrate knowledge in personal finance, consumer rights and responsibilities, technology, health and safety, the environment, and FCCLA.



VIRTUAL BUSINESS CHALLENGE

Presented in partnership with Knowledge Matters, the Virtual Business Challenge places teams inside competitive simulations focused on Personal Finance or Fashion Management. Members analyze information, make strategic decisions, and respond to changing conditions as they work toward national rankings and championship recognition.



SKILL DEMONSTRATION EVENTS

Skill Demonstration Events place technical ability at the center of competition. In live, timed settings, members demonstrate skills developed through classroom instruction and FCCLA participation, including culinary techniques, design, teaching, interviewing, public speaking, and professional communication.



STAR EVENTS

Students Taking Action with Recognition, known as STAR Events, challenge members to identify an issue or opportunity, conduct research, develop and carry out a project, and present the results of their work. Participants advance through regional or district and state competition before reaching the national level, where their projects showcase the depth, creativity, and purpose of Family and Consumer Sciences education.

READY FOR REAL EXPECTATIONS

Competitive Events reflect many of the expectations students will encounter beyond high school. Members must interpret detailed guidelines, manage deadlines, organize complex information, make thoughtful decisions, communicate professionally, and respond constructively to feedback.

Individual events challenge members to take ownership of their preparation and performance. Team events require participants to divide responsibilities, combine ideas, resolve challenges, and perform as one entry. Across every format, students learn that strong results are built through preparation, persistence, teamwork, and the ability to adapt.



MEMBERS COMPETE AT THE LEVEL ALIGNED WITH THEIR GRADE OR POSTSECONDARY STATUS:



LEVEL 1

Members through grade 8



LEVEL 2

Members in grades 9 and 10



LEVEL 3

Members in grades 11 and 12



LEVEL 4

Postsecondary members

GUIDED BY EXPERIENCE

2025-2027 COMPETITIVE EVENTS ADVISORY TEAM

Behind every event is a commitment to creating experiences that are rigorous, relevant, and worthy of the students who accept the challenge.

The Competitive Events Advisory Team helps evaluate, strengthen, and advance FCCLA's Competitive Events program. Composed of chapter advisers, State Advisers, student leaders, and national representatives, the team brings together classroom expertise, competition experience, and a deep understanding of the needs of FCCLA Members.

Their work supports event development, guideline review, evaluation practices, training, and continued innovation. FCCLA extends sincere appreciation to the members of the 2025–2027 Competitive Events Advisory Team for sharing their knowledge, time, and perspective to ensure each event remains a meaningful demonstration of learning, leadership, and career preparation.

★ **Pamela Lee** | Mississippi
Board of Directors Representative

★ **Ginger Hill** | South Carolina
Lead Coordinator

★ **Mary Jo Kohl** | Nevada
Assistant Lead Coordinator

★ **Caitlin Roberson** | Georgia
Past Lead Coordinator

★ **Jennifer Wray** | Arkansas
Chapter Adviser

★ **Alison Hertenstein** | Iowa
Chapter Adviser

★ **Tennyson Elrod-Spears** | Oklahoma
National Vice President of Competitive Events

★ **Claire Cantrell** | Alabama
Past Vice President of Competitive Events

★ **Macs Harkins** | Oklahoma
Student Member

★ **Hope Moreno** | Nevada
Student Member



PREPARE. PERFORM. GROW.

Through FCCLA Competitive Events, students do more than demonstrate what they have learned. They discover what they are capable of achieving when preparation matters, expectations are high, and the moment is theirs.

KNOWLEDGE PUT TO THE TEST

FCCLA Challenge Tests, presented by G-W Publisher, give members the opportunity to demonstrate what they know across a growing range of Family and Consumer Sciences subjects. Through focused academic assessments, students apply classroom learning, measure their understanding of essential concepts, and build confidence in the knowledge that supports future education and career goals.

Offered through an online fall testing window and in person at the National Leadership Conference, Challenge Tests provide two opportunities for members to participate during the year. The format allows students to compete individually while representing the strength of the instruction, preparation, and encouragement taking place within FCCLA Chapters and Family and Consumer Sciences classrooms nationwide.

DURING 2025-2026, MEMBERS COMPLETED 1,176 CHALLENGE TEST ENTRIES ACROSS THE TWO TESTING OPPORTUNITIES



611

Fall online entries



565

National Leadership Conference entries



15

Challenge Test areas offered during the year

These assessments covered subjects connected to apparel and design, child development, culinary math, financial literacy, food science, hospitality, human services, education, wellness, and FCCLA knowledge. Each test gave students a focused opportunity to demonstrate academic preparation while exploring subjects connected to FCCLA's six Career Clusters.



CHALLENGE TESTS



Presented by G-W Publisher



BUILT AROUND THE CLASSROOM

Challenge Tests are designed to reinforce what students are already learning. Rather than separating competition from instruction, the program creates a direct connection between classroom content and national recognition.

With the exception of the FCCLA Knowledge Challenge, the tests are based on curriculum provided by **Goodheart-Willcox Publisher** and align with state and national Family and Consumer Sciences standards. This alignment gives advisers a clear connection between instructional materials and assessment content while helping students understand how the concepts they study can be applied in a competitive setting.

Test Readiness Resources further support preparation by identifying the aligned curriculum, essential areas of study, important topics and terminology, and sample questions. These tools help advisers incorporate Challenge Test preparation into classroom instruction and give students a stronger understanding of the knowledge they will be expected to demonstrate.



**CLASSROOM KNOWLEDGE.
NATIONAL RECOGNITION.**

Challenge tests turn academic preparation into a visible achievement. For students, each assessment is an opportunity to confirm what they have learned, identify where they can continue growing, and experience the confidence that comes from being prepared.

CHALLENGE TESTS PARTICIPATION



Challenge Tests provide members with meaningful opportunities to apply knowledge, build confidence, and prepare for the future.

2025-2026 CHALLENGE TEST PARTICIPATION

CHALLENGE TEST	FALL ONLINE	NLC
Apparel: Fashion Design and Construction	42	31
Child Development: Early Stages Through Adolescence	60	46
Counseling and Mental Health Services	24	28
Culinary Math	29	43
FCCLA Knowledge	52	89
Hospitality Services	47	45
Housing and Interior Design	41	21
Interpersonal Relationships	19	30
Math for Financial Literacy	24	25
Nutrition and Wellness for Life	98	34
Principles of Food Science	50	19
Principles of Human Services	17	20
School to Career	27	49
Teaching	29	34
Working with Young Children	52	51
TOTAL ENTRIES	611	565



Fall totals reflect the 2025 online testing window. NLC totals reflect participation at the 2026 National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Participation totals represent event entries.



A PARTNERSHIP THAT STRENGTHENS PREPARATION

FCCLA extends sincere appreciation to **Goodheart-Willcox Publisher** for helping make the Challenge Test program a meaningful extension of classroom instruction.

Through curriculum alignment, instructional resources, and continued collaboration, G-W helps connect competition with the concepts students are learning every day. The partnership has strengthened clarity for advisers, supported more intentional preparation, and contributed to the continued growth of Challenge Tests across the country.

By bringing curriculum and assessment together, FCCLA and Goodheart-Willcox provide students another way to recognize their progress, demonstrate their knowledge, and prepare for what comes next.



FCCLA/LIFESMARTS KNOWLEDGE BOWL

The FCCLA/LifeSmarts Knowledge Bowl transforms classroom knowledge into a fast-paced test of preparation, strategy, and teamwork. Five-member teams combine individual strengths as they answer questions, solve problems, and make decisions when every response counts.

The competition challenges FCCLA Members across six content areas that influence everyday life, future careers, and responsible decision-making.



2025-2026 KNOWLEDGE BOWL IMPACT



**116
TEAMS**

Entered the national competition



**24
STATES**

Represented across the field



**40
TEAMS**

Advanced to compete at the National Leadership Conference



**1
NATIONAL CHAMPION**

FROM A NATIONAL FIELD TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP STAGE

1 During the fall qualifier, five-member teams completed 75 questions spanning six content areas. The 40 highest-scoring teams advanced and continued preparing through a second virtual round before arriving at the National Leadership Conference (NLC).

2 At NLC, months of preparation gave way to live competition. Teams entered pool play, faced fast-paced buzzer rounds, and worked to build the cumulative scores needed to advance. The top 16 moved into a single-elimination bracket, where quick thinking, communication, and trust became increasingly important with every question.

3 The final two teams advanced to the championship match during a general session, bringing the yearlong competition to an exciting conclusion before FCCLA Members and Advisers from across the country.



2026 NATIONAL CHAMPION

Bartlett FCCLA | Texas

Led by Coach Linda Huebner

Bartlett FCCLA earned the title of Knowledge Bowl National Champion after advancing through virtual qualifying rounds, pool competition, and head-to-head elimination matches. The team's achievement reflected far more than the ability to recall facts. Success required each member to listen carefully, think quickly, trust the knowledge of their teammates, and remain composed when every response mattered.



LifeSmarts
Learn it. Live it.

KNOWLEDGE BUILDS CONFIDENCE

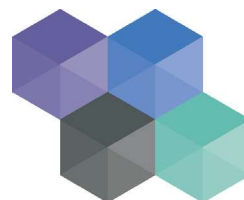
Knowledge Bowl turns academic preparation into an active demonstration of communication, teamwork, and decision-making under pressure. As students rely on one another's strengths and contribute when every answer matters, they gain confidence in using what they know to solve problems and make informed decisions. For advisers, the competition offers an engaging way to reinforce classroom instruction, encourage curiosity, and unite members around a shared goal.

REAL-WORLD PREPARATION THROUGH VIRTUAL SIMULATION

The FCCLA/Knowledge Matters Virtual Business Challenge gives members the opportunity to apply business, financial, and industry knowledge through competitive online simulations. Rather than responding to hypothetical questions, students make decisions, manage changing conditions, and see how each choice affects performance.

The 2025-2026 competition featured two tracks: Personal Finance and Fashion Management. In both, members were challenged to analyze information, set priorities, solve problems, and adjust their strategies as the simulations evolved.

Through the experience, FCCLA Members strengthened decision-making, financial literacy, time management, communication, and strategic thinking. The competition also gave students a closer look at the responsibilities involved in managing personal finances and operating within the fashion industry.



**Knowledge
Matters**
Virtual Experience Learning



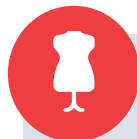
PERSONAL FINANCE

The Personal Finance simulation placed students in situations that reflect the financial decisions they will face as adults. Competitors managed income, expenses, banking, credit, taxes, housing, transportation, insurance, investing, and long-term planning.

Success required students to understand how everyday choices affect financial stability. Members had to balance immediate needs with future goals, evaluate risk, and make decisions that supported both independence and long-term security.



2026 NATIONAL WINNER
Will Davis | Alabama



FASHION

The Fashion simulation introduced students to the business decisions behind the fashion industry. Teams conducted trend research, developed products, selected pricing strategies, managed merchandising, planned promotions, and evaluated financial performance.

Competitors learned that success in fashion depends on more than design. It requires an understanding of customers, marketing, inventory, staffing, sales, and the financial decisions that determine whether a business can grow.



2026 NATIONAL WINNERS
Joehein Bhattacharyya, Thillai Vazan,
Ram Maddirala | Minnesota

LEARNING THROUGH SIMULATION

Virtual Business Challenge brings classroom concepts into an environment where students can immediately see the results of their decisions. A strong strategy can improve performance, while a poor decision requires students to reassess, adapt, and try again. That process makes the learning practical and memorable. Members leave the competition with a stronger understanding of how knowledge, judgment, and preparation work together in real business and financial settings.



A NEW CHALLENGE AHEAD

The competition will take on a new direction in 2026-2027 as **Entrepreneurship and Hospitality** replace the Personal Finance and Fashion Management tracks. These new simulations will challenge FCCLA Members to build businesses, manage operations, respond to customers, and make the strategic decisions that shape success in two fast-moving industries.



PRACTICAL SKILLS, DEMONSTRATED



FCCLA Skill Demonstration Events give members the opportunity to perform specific technical and professional skills developed through Family and Consumer Sciences education and FCCLA participation.

Unlike project-based events completed over an extended period, Skill Demonstration Events place students in live, structured settings where preparation must translate into performance. Competitors work independently, follow detailed requirements, manage limited time, and demonstrate their abilities while remaining focused and professional.

The 2026 National Leadership Conference featured nine Skill Demonstration Events spanning culinary arts, pastry arts, fashion design, early childhood education, technology, interviewing, and public speaking. Together, these events reflected the range of knowledge and abilities students develop through Family and Consumer Sciences classrooms.



2026 SKILL DEMONSTRATION EVENTS IMPACT



462
National Competitors



9
Skill Demonstration Events



3
Competition levels serving members through grade 12



100%
Individual competition



PERFORMANCE UNDER PRESSURE

Every Skill Demonstration Event requires members to move beyond describing what they know and demonstrate how effectively they can use it.

Some competitors work with tools and materials, producing precise results that must meet established specifications. Others organize their thoughts and speak with little or no preparation, respond to interview questions, evaluate technology, or present an original resource they designed and constructed.

Although the tasks vary, the expectations are consistent. Members must understand the requirements, prepare carefully, manage their time, communicate clearly, and maintain composure throughout the experience.



SKILLS THAT TRAVEL WITH THEM

The abilities demonstrated during competition extend far beyond the event space. Students strengthen attention to detail, organization, communication, safety, creativity, adaptability, and professional confidence.

For many members, Skill Demonstration Events also provide an early opportunity to experience the expectations of a job interview, technical assessment, classroom presentation, client interaction, or workplace performance. Each event helps students recognize that career readiness is not built through knowledge alone. It is strengthened through practice and the ability to perform when the work is placed in their hands.

2026 NATIONAL PARTICIPATION

SKILL DEMONSTRATION EVENT	PARTICIPANTS
 Culinary Knife Skills	61
 Fashion Sketch	53
 FCCLA Creed Speaking and Interpretation	38
 Impromptu Speaking	62
 Interviewing Skills	101
 Pastry Arts Technical Decorating Skills	61
 Speak Out for FCCLA	18
 Technology in Teaching	16
 Toys That Teach	52
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	462

Participation totals reflect entries at the 2026 National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.


462
 NATIONAL
 COMPETITORS


9
 SKILL
 DEMONSTRATION
 EVENTS


100%
 INDIVIDUAL
 COMPETITION

FROM PREPARATION TO PERFORMANCE

Skill Demonstration Events reveal the discipline behind strong performance. A finished cake decoration reflects hours spent mastering pressure, movement, and control. A precise knife cut depends on safety, consistency, and technique. An effective interview requires preparation, self-awareness, and the confidence to communicate personal strengths. An impromptu speech asks a student to organize ideas and deliver them with clarity in a matter of minutes.

These moments make learning visible. They show not only the final result, but also the concentration, judgment, and persistence required to produce it.

INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE, LASTING CONFIDENCE

Because each Skill Demonstration Event is completed individually, members are responsible for every decision they make during competition. They must trust their preparation, respond to the situation in front of them, and continue working when the pressure increases.

That responsibility makes the experience especially meaningful. Students leave with a clearer understanding of their strengths, greater confidence in their abilities, and practical feedback they can carry into future classes, competitions, interviews, and careers.

The variety represented across these nine events demonstrates the breadth of Family and Consumer Sciences education. Whether a member is preparing food, designing a product, speaking before an audience, evaluating technology, or practicing employment skills, each experience connects classroom instruction with expectations students will encounter beyond high school.

STAR EVENTS

STAR Events are where FCCLA Members transform classroom learning into meaningful action. Across 37 event areas, students investigate complex topics, develop original ideas, apply technical and professional skills, and create solutions connected to careers, families, schools, and communities.

Projects range from business plans, fashion collections, culinary performances, and interior designs to public policy campaigns, teaching strategies, service initiatives, and programs that strengthen the lives of others. Although the subjects vary, every STAR Event calls on students to think critically, manage a substantial body of work, communicate professionally, and take responsibility for the quality of the final result.



2025-2026 STAR EVENTS IMPACT



16,000+

Participants
Nationwide



5,470,000+

People Impacted Nationwide
from student projects



5,486

Competitors at the 2026
National Leadership Conference



37

STAR Events



During the 2025-2026 school year, over 16,000 FCCLA Members participated in STAR Events nationwide. Through the projects, programs, presentations, and community initiatives completed as part of their events, participants reported reaching and positively impacting more than 5.4 million people.



THE WORK BEHIND THE PRESENTATION

A STAR Event begins long before a competitor enters the evaluation room. Members identify a topic or need, conduct research, establish goals, organize resources, carry out their plans, measure results, and prepare to explain the decisions they made throughout the process.

That work develops skills students will use well beyond competition. They learn to manage deadlines, revise ideas, respond to unexpected challenges, collaborate with others, and communicate their work to an audience. For team events, members must also divide responsibilities, rely on one another's strengths, and remain accountable to a shared result.

By the time students present, they are not simply describing what they completed. They are demonstrating the judgment, persistence, preparation, and professional confidence required to carry an idea from its earliest stages to a finished result.



FROM AN IDEA TO NATIONAL COMPETITION

The journey to the National Leadership Conference begins in classrooms, chapters, districts, regions, and State Associations across the country. At each stage, members refine their work, receive feedback, and strengthen their ability to communicate the purpose and results of their projects.

The 5,486 competitors who advanced to NLC represented months of planning, practice, and determination. Their projects showed the reach of Family and Consumer Sciences education while demonstrating how students can use what they learn to respond to real needs and prepare for future careers.

2025-2026 STAR EVENT PARTICIPATION



Participation in STAR Events reflects the passion, preparation, and purpose of FCCLA Members across the nation.

STAR EVENT	PARTICIPANTS NATIONWIDE	NLC COMPETITORS
AI for Impact	48	34
Baking and Pastry	438	68
Career Investigation	912	193
Chapter in Review Display	206	132
Chapter in Review Portfolio	223	119
Chapter Service Project Display	596	249
Chapter Service Project Portfolio	343	194
Culinary Arts	614	78
Digital Stories for Change	102	60
Early Childhood Education	316	64
Entrepreneurship	522	204
Event Management	558	206
Fashion Construction	461	99
Fashion Design	364	98
FCCLA Chapter Website	127	69
Focus on Children	1,178	376
Food Innovations	712	258
Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation	404	221
Instructional Video Design	116	65
Interior Design	675	202
Interpersonal Communications	292	136
Job Interview	697	144
Leadership	298	113
National Programs in Action	454	234
Nutrition and Wellness	369	153
Parliamentary Procedure	806	273
Personal Finance	77	51
Professional Presentation	967	236
Promote and Publicize FCCLA	336	148
Public Policy Advocate	245	139
RED Talks on Education	49	23
Repurpose and Redesign	1,027	221
Say Yes to FCS Education	139	73
Sports Nutrition	627	216
Sustainability Challenge	205	141
Teach or Train	349	130
Teaching Strategies	214	66
TOTAL	16,066	5,486



ATTEND



CONFERENCES ARE WHERE LEARNING EXTENDS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM AND NEW POSSIBILITIES COME INTO VIEW.

Through FCCLA conferences, members experience leadership, career exploration, recognition, competition, and learning alongside peers and professionals from across the country. Workshops, sessions, and shared experiences introduce students to new ideas, strengthen relationships, and help them recognize possibilities beyond their own chapters and communities.

Attending an FCCLA conference helps members return home with greater confidence, stronger skills, renewed motivation, and ideas they can put into action. Each experience reminds students that they are part of something larger and that one connection can help shape what comes next.



“

FCCLA has introduced me to opportunities and experiences I would not have had anywhere else. Through leadership events, competitions, and meeting people from across the state and country, I have gained confidence, learned valuable life skills, and discovered new opportunities for my future. Those experiences have helped shape who I am today.

- POPPY WETRICH | IOWA

LEARNING THAT MOVES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



FCCLA conferences create the kind of learning that students and educators remember because they can see it, experience it, and carry it forward. During the 2025-2026 year, Fall Leadership Institute and the Chapter Adviser Summit brought classroom instruction together with industry insight, professional expectations, leadership development, and practical strategies for future success.

FALL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE ORLANDO, FLORIDA | OCTOBER 15-18, 2025 ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA | OCTOBER 22-25, 2025

At Fall Leadership Institute, FCCLA Members stepped into immersive learning environments where leadership, teamwork, creativity, hospitality, and innovation could be observed in action.

Through Disney Imagination Campus, students participated in Leadership the Disney Way, Teamwork the Disney Way, Immersive Storytelling, and Theme Park Design. Each experience challenged members to examine how strong organizations develop ideas, communicate a shared vision, respond to challenges, and create experiences that leave a lasting impression.



These workshops helped students see that workforce readiness is built through more than technical knowledge. It also requires collaboration, adaptability, attention to detail, professional communication, and the ability to understand how individual responsibilities contribute to a larger goal.

FCCLA-led sessions helped members connect those lessons to their own leadership. Students reflected on how they could strengthen their chapters, approach projects with greater intention, and carry new confidence into future classrooms, conferences, and careers.

CHAPTER ADVISER SUMMIT WASHINGTON, D.C. | JANUARY 14-18, 2026

The Chapter Adviser Summit invested in the educators who make every FCCLA experience possible.

New and experienced FCCLA Advisers followed dedicated learning tracks designed around the different stages of chapter leadership. Sessions addressed affiliation, membership growth, chapter planning, National Programs, Career Clusters, officer development, classroom integration, Competitive Events, partnerships, digital resources, branding, and the responsible use of artificial intelligence.



INSIDE HOSPITALITY LEADERSHIP

In Orlando, select FCCLA Members experienced an extraordinary day inside the hospitality industry through Marriott's Day in the Life of a General Manager program.



Students shadowed leaders at premier Marriott properties, attended operations meetings, toured guest-facing and behind-the-scenes areas, and met professionals responsible for culinary operations, food and beverage, sustainability, events, human resources, and property management.

“The experience revealed what it takes to lead a complex organization where hundreds of decisions, departments, and people must work together to deliver one seamless result.”

For FCCLA Members considering careers in Hospitality and Tourism, the day provided more than career exploration. It offered a firsthand view of the expectations, responsibilities, and possibilities within a global industry and demonstrated the powerful role partners can play in helping students move from imagining a future career to understanding how to prepare for it.



The Summit was built for application. Advisers exchanged ideas with colleagues from across the nation, participated in mentorship and roundtable discussions, and developed strategies they could take directly back to their classrooms and chapters.

When advisers are equipped with current resources, strong professional networks, and practical tools, the impact reaches far beyond one conference. It strengthens instruction, expands student opportunity, and creates more meaningful ways for FCCLA Members to build leadership, career readiness, and confidence throughout the year.

Together, Fall Leadership Institute and the Chapter Adviser Summit demonstrated the full strength of the FCCLA experience: students learning directly from industry, educators growing through focused professional development, and both returning home prepared to turn new ideas into meaningful action.

CAPITOL LEADERSHIP

WHERE STUDENT VOICES ENTER THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. | NOVEMBER 15-19, 2025

Capitol Leadership brought FCCLA Members to the nation's capital to discover that advocacy is not reserved for elected officials or policy experts. It begins when someone understands an issue, recognizes why it matters, and has the confidence to speak.

Throughout the conference, students connected leadership with civic responsibility, explored careers across FCCLA's six Career Clusters, and prepared to advocate for Family and Consumer Sciences and Career and Technical Education. By the time they arrived on Capitol Hill, they were ready to turn preparation into action.



A NATIONAL DELEGATION READY TO LEAD



25

STATES
REPRESENTED



192

FCCLA
MEMBERS



80

FCCLA
ADVISERS

Students and educators from across the country formed a national delegation united by a belief in the value of Family and Consumer Sciences education, student leadership, and career preparation. Each participant brought a different experience and perspective to Washington, D.C., creating a powerful collective voice for FCCLA.



FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE TO INFORMED ADVOCACY

Effective advocacy begins with understanding both the issue and the people affected by it. Students explored how federal policy and Perkins funding influence Career and Technical Education, classroom resources, and career preparation, then practiced researching elected officials, building a clear message, and responding confidently during congressional meetings.



CAREERS THAT SHAPE THE WORLD AROUND US

The Business and Industry Career Panel connected FCCLA Members with professionals representing all six FCCLA Career Clusters. Students heard how careers develop, what skills employers value, and how education, leadership, and professional experiences can shape future opportunities.



LEADERSHIP ON CAPITOL HILL

Hill Day transformed preparation into action as FCCLA delegations met with members of Congress and congressional staff to advocate for Family and Consumer Sciences education, Career and Technical Education, and the programs preparing students for the workforce. Members shared personal experiences, explained how policy reaches local classrooms, answered questions, and adapted their message for each audience.



FROM THE CAPITOL TO THE COMMUNITY

Capitol Leadership did not end when the final meeting concluded. Members returned home prepared to continue conversations in their schools and communities, using what they learned to speak clearly about the value of Family and Consumer Sciences education and help others understand how education shapes careers, communities, and the workforce.



LEADERSHIP AT A NATIONAL SCALE



For five days in Washington, D.C., FCCLA became a living picture of what the future workforce can look like when students are given the opportunity to lead, compete, learn, connect, and be challenged at the highest level.

More than 10,000 FCCLA Members, Advisers, partners, volunteers, and guests gathered in the nation's capital for the 2026 National Leadership Conference. They arrived during an extraordinary moment in American history, just as the United States commemorated 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. FCCLA Members were surrounded by reminders of the leaders and decisions that shaped the nation while preparing to take their own place in its future. FCCLA's designation as an official Supporting Partner of America250 made that connection even more meaningful.

Washington, D.C. became more than the location of the conference. It became part of the learning experience. Students practiced communicating their ideas, responding to high expectations, collaborating with others, and presenting themselves professionally. They met people working in careers they may one day pursue and discovered how the skills developed through Family and Consumer Sciences can translate into leadership in the workplace and beyond.

Throughout the week, learning took many forms. Some students stood before evaluators after months of Competitive Event preparation. Others explored new career interests, learned directly from industry professionals, formed connections with peers from across the country, or stepped onto a national stage to be recognized for what they had accomplished. Every experience gave students another opportunity to test their abilities, broaden their perspective, and see what becomes possible when classroom learning is put into action.



2026 NLC IMPACT



10,000+
ATTENDEES

FCCLA Members, Advisers,
partners, volunteers,
and guests



47
DELEGATIONS REPRESENTED

Representing 45 states,
American Samoa, and
Puerto Rico



1,300+
VOLUNTEERS

Supported Competitive
Events



5
DAYS

Dedicated to leadership
development and career
preparation

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

The National Leadership Conference gives FCCLA Members the chance to use what they have learned in settings that feel very different from a typical school day. They present their work to evaluators, meet professionals from across industries, take part in national conversations, and learn alongside students from communities across the country.

What students gain from NLC is often difficult to measure in a single statistic. It can be greater confidence, a clearer sense of direction, or the realization that the skills they are developing now have a place in the world beyond high school. The conference gives students a broader view of what may be possible for them and the experience of beginning to step into it.



FROM EXPERIENCE TO IMPACT

One of the defining moments of the 2026 National Leadership Conference brought thousands of FCCLA Members together on Capitol Hill before they set out across Washington, D.C., for congressional visits and conversations with national leaders.

Against one of the most recognizable backdrops in the country, a sea of FCCLA red represented chapters, schools, and communities nationwide. Members saw firsthand that leadership includes understanding the issues that affect people, listening to different perspectives, and having the confidence to communicate what matters.

The Rally gave students a closer view of civic engagement before they entered congressional offices to share their experiences and perspectives. Standing together on Capitol Hill made an important part of the FCCLA experience tangible: students do not have to wait for the future to contribute. Their voices, experiences, and ideas already have value.



MAKING THE EXPERIENCE POSSIBLE

For many FCCLA Members, the journey to NLC begins long before they arrive. Members across the country spend months fundraising, building community support, and preparing for the opportunity to attend. For some students, however, circumstances beyond their control can make that opportunity harder to reach.

The NLC Scholarship Program provides full financial support for members who have faced financial hardship and might otherwise be unable to attend. Scholars are selected through a competitive application and interview process, then travel and participate together as a cohort, function as their own FCCLA Chapter, and take part in dedicated leadership training throughout the conference.

In 2026, the program made the journey to Washington, D.C., possible for twelve FCCLA Members, giving each scholar the opportunity to experience NLC alongside thousands of fellow student leaders while building new relationships, gaining new perspectives, and seeing what may be possible next.

2026 NLC SCHOLARS

Lucas Foster American Samoa	Shaylen Shepherd Indiana
Ayden McNamee Arkansas	LeVaigh Wilborn Iowa
Avery Willis Arkansas	Tayeanna Bekise New Mexico
Riya Kumar Arkansas	Alivia Johnson Ohio
Calvyn St. Clair Florida	Jadeyn McDonough South Dakota
Mazzy Kennedy Idaho	Kenny Ortega Texas



PARTNERSHIP THAT MAKES THE JOURNEY POSSIBLE

The NLC Scholarship Program began with a vision shared by **Jonathan Adkins, Chief Executive Officer of the Governors Highway Safety Association**: create an opportunity for more students to experience the National Leadership Conference when financial circumstances might otherwise prevent them from attending.

What began as an idea discussed over lunch grew through Jonathan's continued financial support and advocacy. He has also championed FCCLA's traffic safety work, helping strengthen partnerships with state Departments of Transportation that have generated support for FCCLA Members across the nation.

FCCLA extends special appreciation to Jonathan for believing in the potential of FCCLA Members and for helping turn an idea into opportunities that are changing student experiences. His leadership, friendship, and continued commitment were recognized during NLC with the FCCLA Partner Award.

The Governors Highway Safety Association was joined by United Services for Effective Parenting—Ohio, the Ohio FCCLA Foundation, Iowa FCCLA, Indiana FCCLA, and Dr. Peggy Wild of Advancing Connections, Inc. in supporting the 2026 scholars.



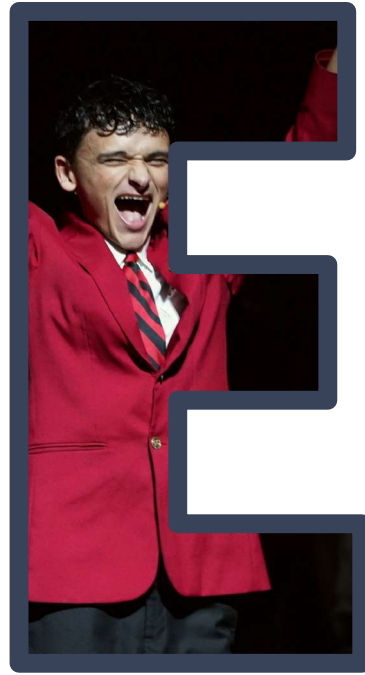
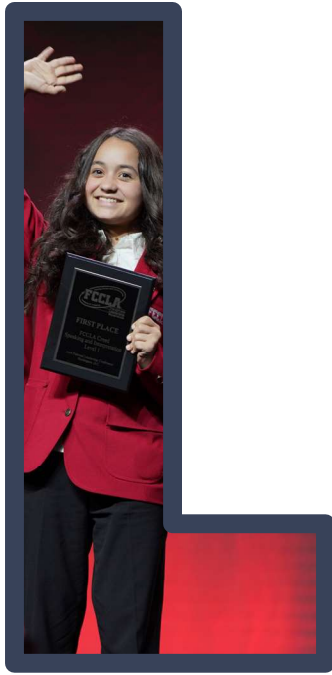
WHAT STUDENTS TAKE HOME

The conference may have ended, but its influence does not.

Students return home with a different sense of what they can do and where their interests might lead. A first national competition can become the confidence to pursue a bigger goal. A conversation with a professional can bring a career into focus. A visit to Capitol Hill can change how a student understands their own voice. A connection made with another FCCLA Member can grow into a friendship, an idea, or an opportunity that lasts well beyond the conference.

That is where the significance of NLC is ultimately found. Not only in the thousands who gathered in one place, but in what happens when they return to classrooms, communities, and eventually workplaces across the country.

Washington, D.C., gave FCCLA Members a national stage. What they carry forward from the experience has the potential to influence careers, communities, and lives for years to come.



LEADERSHIP IS WHERE STUDENTS DISCOVER THE STRENGTH OF THEIR VOICE.

Through chapter offices, service projects, mentoring, and state and national leadership roles, FCCLA Members learn to lead with purpose. They practice setting goals, making decisions, guiding teams, and representing their chapters with professionalism while developing the confidence to speak up, step forward, and serve others.

Leading in FCCLA helps members strengthen communication, responsibility, adaptability, and initiative. As they encourage peers, solve problems, and take ownership of their impact, students discover that leadership is not only a title. It is action, example, and service that prepares them for life.



“

FCCLA transformed me from a classroom learner into an active leader, giving me the confidence, communication skills, and leadership experience to make an impact.

- ANGEL CAMARENA | KENTUCKY

NATIONAL MEMBER OF THE YEAR

ADDY HOYER | WISCONSIN

More than a quarter of a million FCCLA Members participated in the organization during the 2025-2026 year. From that national membership, **Addy Hoyer of Wisconsin was selected as the 2026 FCCLA National Member of the Year**, the highest individual honor presented to an FCCLA Member.

The award recognizes a student whose leadership, service, character, and contributions reflect the very best of FCCLA. With support from the U.S. Army, the selection process also recognizes qualities reflected in the Army core values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

From the national applicant pool, fifteen members advanced as semifinalists before five national finalists were selected.

A RECORD BUILT THROUGH PURPOSEFUL LEADERSHIP

For Addy Hoyer, FCCLA became more than a place to participate. It became a place to take on greater responsibility, test new abilities, and create opportunities for others.

At Dodgeville FCCLA, Addy served at both the chapter and state levels, including as Chapter President and Wisconsin FCCLA Vice President of Engagement. In those roles, she strengthened chapter communication, developed resources for members, created a statewide chapter toolkit, and launched a podcast designed to help Wisconsin chapters better understand and use FCCLA National Programs.

Competitive Events became another expression of that growth. Addy earned Gold in Fashion Design at the regional, state, and national levels, including a perfect score at the Wisconsin State Leadership Conference. At the 2025 National Leadership Conference, she earned first place in the #TEACHFCS STAR Event, using the experience to advocate for Family and Consumer Sciences education and the opportunities it creates for students.

Service remained a consistent part of her FCCLA experience. Addy documented more than 100 hours of service across the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years while continuing to lead through FCCLA, school activities, and her community.

Taken together, the accomplishments tell the story of a member who continued to make each opportunity matter. Leadership positions became ways to strengthen the experience for others. Competition became an opportunity to deepen knowledge and advocate for a field she believes in. Service became a commitment sustained over time.

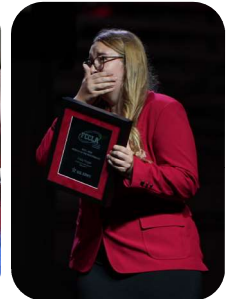
Among more than a quarter of a million FCCLA Members nationwide, Addy distinguished herself not by one defining accomplishment, but by the consistency with which she chose to lead, contribute, and grow.

Her selection as the 2026 FCCLA National Member of the Year recognizes an exceptional record of achievement and the character demonstrated along the way.

RECOGNIZING CHARACTER IN ACTION

The U.S. Army joined FCCLA in recognizing members whose leadership reflects qualities that matter wherever responsibility is entrusted: integrity, service, respect for others, courage, and the willingness to follow through when others are counting on them.

For the fifteen members recognized nationally in 2026, those qualities were already visible in the way they represented their chapters, served their communities, and used FCCLA to make a meaningful difference.



NATIONAL FINALISTS

Brian Muirhead | New Jersey
Leia Rombough | South Dakota
Cameron McGee | Virginia
Aidan McNeil | Washington
Addy Hoyer | Wisconsin

NATIONAL SEMIFINALISTS

Ny'Asia Walsh | Arizona
Faith Bohrer | Missouri
Taylor Lauer | Missouri
Jaiden Ertzner | Nebraska
Ashton Osbahr | Nevada
Myrka Rojas Baten | North Carolina
Maddie Mueller | Oklahoma
Matilynn Jaquet | South Dakota
Avea Seneca | Utah
Dominic Jacobson | Wisconsin



NATIONAL ADVISER OF THE YEAR

MOLLY GORDON | SOUTH CAROLINA

More than 7,500 FCCLA Chapter Advisers guide members across the country, connecting classroom instruction with leadership, service, competition, and career preparation. From that national community of educators, **Molly Gordon of South Carolina was selected as the 2026 FCCLA National Adviser of the Year**, the highest individual honor presented to an FCCLA Chapter Adviser.

With support from the U.S. Army, the award recognizes an educator whose leadership has strengthened students, chapters, Family and Consumer Sciences education, and FCCLA. Nominees are evaluated on the depth of their impact, their ability to integrate FCCLA into instruction, the opportunities they create for student leadership, and the lasting strength of the programs they help build.

PREPARING STUDENTS TO LEAD BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

FCCLA Adviser Molly Gordon has built an environment where students are expected to do more than observe. They are trusted to take responsibility.

At Wando High School, that philosophy can be seen in Warriors United, an on-campus food pantry established through FCCLA in partnership with the Lowcountry Food Bank. Students have helped distribute more than 1,500 pounds of food while learning to manage the planning, coordination, communication, and service required to support families in their community.

That same approach shapes the classroom. Competitive Events, National Programs, industry experiences, and leadership opportunities are incorporated into instruction so students can apply what they are learning in settings where the outcome matters. For two consecutive years, 100% of Family and Consumer Sciences students in Molly's program joined the school's FCCLA Chapter. Among the students she coached for competition, 95% earned Gold at the state level.

Her influence has also extended far beyond a single chapter. Molly has advised South Carolina FCCLA State Executive Councils, mentored five state officer teams, helped strengthen Culinary Arts competition, supported the introduction of Skill Demonstration Events in South Carolina, served on FCCLA's Competitive Events Advisory Team, and contributed nationally as FCCLA's Culinary Arts Lead Consultant.

The numbers demonstrate remarkable success. The greater story is what those experiences have required of students.

They have been asked to lead meetings, serve families, prepare for competition, represent their chapter, work alongside professionals, and meet expectations that ask them to take ownership of their work. In doing so, they have gained experiences that will follow them long after they leave the classroom.

That is where an adviser's influence becomes difficult to measure. The work appears in the confidence of a student who speaks up for the first time, the officer who learns how to guide a team, the competitor who discovers the discipline required to improve, and the graduate who enters a workplace already understanding responsibility and follow-through.

From more than 7,500 FCCLA Chapter Advisers nationwide, Molly Gordon was selected as the 2026 FCCLA National Adviser of the Year in recognition of an educator whose impact can be seen not only in what she has built, but in the students prepared to carry that work forward.

THE REACH OF AN ADVISER

The U.S. Army joined FCCLA in recognizing educators whose work reflects responsibility, service, integrity, and a commitment to developing others.

For FCCLA Advisers, those qualities are demonstrated in thousands of moments that may never appear on an award application: the extra conversation after class, the encouragement before a competition, the opportunity entrusted to a new officer, or the expectation that asks a student to rise to a higher standard. An award may recognize an educator for a moment, but the influence of an exceptional adviser lives on in every student who leaves more confident, more capable, and better prepared because that educator was part of their story.



NATIONAL FINALISTS

Jennifer Wray | Arkansas
Christina Sargent | Nevada
Dova Zak | Ohio
Molly Gordon | South Carolina
Sarah James | Wisconsin

NATIONAL SEMIFINALISTS

Christina Loyd | Arkansas
Mollie Rowe | Arkansas
Sahvanna Mease | Colorado
Brooke Lewis-Slamkova | Georgia
DJ Youngblood | Georgia
Janet Mann | Iowa
Jennifer Frye | Mississippi
Catie Felz | Montana
Dr. Jennifer Poulos | South Dakota
Tricia Littlefield | Washington



SPOTLIGHT STORIES

Across FCCLA, leadership is often revealed in the moments when someone decides to step forward, keep going, build something new, or make an opportunity possible for someone else. During the 2025-2026 year, members, chapters, and state associations turned ideas into action in communities across the country. Some stories began with a personal challenge. Others grew from a need that students believed they could help meet. Together, these stories offer a glimpse of what becomes possible when young people are given meaningful responsibility, encouraged to believe in their abilities, and empowered to make their experiences matter.

1



JULIO ARENAS | FLORIDA FINDING HIS VOICE

When Julio Arenas arrived in the United States four years ago, he did not know English and was afraid to speak in front of others. FCCLA became a place where he could challenge those fears through Competitive Events, leadership experiences, and connections with other members. With each new opportunity, Julio strengthened his English, developed confidence, and discovered that speaking up could become one of his strengths rather than something he avoided. Three years after joining FCCLA, he now serves as a District President in Florida and uses his experiences to encourage other members to believe in what they can become. His story is a reminder that leadership does not always begin with confidence; sometimes, confidence is built because someone chooses to lead anyway.

2



WAPSIE VALLEY FCCLA | IOWA STUDENT LEADERSHIP THAT SAVES LIVES

Wapsie Valley FCCLA turned a community service project into an ongoing partnership with the American Red Cross, giving students responsibility for work with a direct impact on others. Members coordinated three blood drives during the school year and expanded the program with a summer drive during a season when donations often decline. Students recruit donors, schedule appointments, promote the drives, and help manage each event, contributing to the collection of more than 100 pints of blood. Their efforts also resulted in 15 students earning Red Cord recognition and created a scholarship opportunity worth more than \$1,000 for one FCCLA Member. What began as a service initiative has become a lasting example of young people recognizing a need, accepting responsibility for meeting it, and discovering that their leadership can help save lives.

3



SALINE HIGH SCHOOL FCCLA | MICHIGAN REBUILDING A CHAPTER

When Saline FCCLA entered the 2023-2024 school year with only nine members, its future looked very different from the nationally recognized chapter it had once been. Rather than allowing that history to become something that existed only in the past, students began building again through competition, service, leadership, and new opportunities for involvement. Three years later, the chapter has grown to more than 40 active members, with students earning 22 Gold medals at the Michigan State Leadership Conference and 18 qualifying for the National Leadership Conference. Participation has also expanded into Knowledge Bowl, Challenge Tests, National Programs, and career exploration experiences, creating more ways for students to find where they belong. Saline FCCLA's resurgence demonstrates that rebuilding does not happen in a single moment; it happens each time another student chooses to participate, take responsibility, and believe that something worth preserving can become strong again.

4



GEORGIA FCCLA BRINGING LITERACY TO LIFE

Georgia FCCLA challenged chapters across the state to turn literacy into action through Living Literacy, a yearlong service initiative focused on encouraging reading and supporting young learners. Throughout the year, FCCLA Members participated in monthly challenges that brought literacy into their communities in creative ways, from building and stocking Little Free Libraries to reading to shelter animals through Tales for Tails. The initiative culminated at the Georgia FCCLA State Leadership Conference, where Chapters contributed more than 2,500 books in the largest book drive in Georgia FCCLA history and raised additional funds to support early childhood education programs. What began as a statewide challenge became thousands of individual opportunities for a child to discover a new story. By giving Chapters a common purpose and encouraging them to make it their own, Georgia FCCLA demonstrated how leadership can multiply when young people across a state choose to act together.

5



THREE FORKS FCCLA | MONTANA

BAKING SKILLS INTO COMMUNITY IMPACT

Three Forks FCCLA began with sourdough and turned it into an experience connecting classroom learning, career exploration, service, and creativity. Members studied fermentation and food safety while also learning about recipe development, food photography, marketing, technical writing, and publishing from professionals whose careers introduced students to opportunities not readily visible in their rural community. As their skills grew, students baked fresh sourdough bread for senior center lunches, using what they were learning to serve others and build relationships across generations. The project eventually expanded into the *Kids Can Cook Cookbook*, a collection of student-tested recipes that gave members experience developing and publishing a product of their own. By taking something as familiar as baking and asking how far it could go, these students discovered that the skills learned in a Family and Consumer Sciences classroom can become tools for creativity, service, and future careers.

6

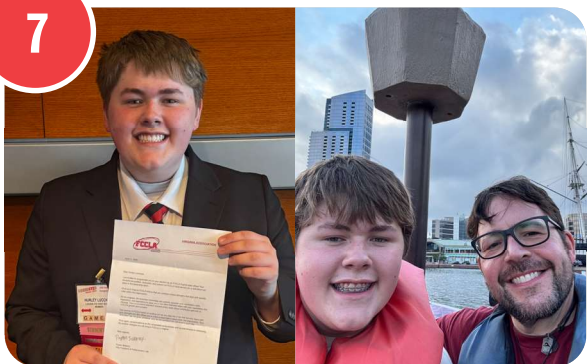


LINTON FCCLA | NORTH DAKOTA

RESTORING A TRADITION OF SERVICE

When two Linton FCCLA Members discovered that their school had not held a Veterans Day program in more than 30 years, they decided to bring the tradition back. What began with research and an idea grew into a schoolwide service project that invited the community to recognize local veterans, resulting in more than 80 submissions for a Wall of Honor and the first Veterans Day program at the school in decades. Members then worked to create two Quilts of Valor for local veterans, presenting the quilts to one recipient who was preparing to leave for a three-year deployment and another who had recently returned from a six-month deployment. The project inspired additional recognition of military members within the community and created a tradition the chapter has been encouraged to continue. By noticing what was missing and taking responsibility for bringing it back, these members showed how young people can preserve stories of service while creating something meaningful for the generations around them.

7



HURLEY LUCCKESE | VIRGINIA

CARRYING FORWARD HIS ENCOURAGEMENT

Hurley Lucckese began preparing to pursue a Virginia FCCLA state officer position with the encouragement of his father, who had always challenged him to do his best. When his father suffered a traumatic brain injury and later passed away in December, Hurley stepped away from school activities to be with his family during an extraordinarily difficult time. In the weeks that followed, he made the deeply personal decision to continue pursuing the goal his father had supported and remained in the state officer selection process. At Virginia FCCLA's State Leadership Conference, Hurley was elected First Vice President. His achievement does not diminish the grief behind his story; instead, it honors the encouragement he continues to carry with him and the strength it took to keep pursuing something that had mattered to them both.

8



WAUSAU WEST FCCLA | WISCONSIN

SHARING CULTURE THROUGH LEADERSHIP

Students at Wausau West FCCLA recognized an opportunity to help more people understand the history and traditions of the Hmong community, beginning with a classroom experience that combined Hmong history with the preparation of traditional egg rolls. What started in the classroom soon expanded into community events in Tomahawk and Wausau, bringing together FCCLA Members, the Hmong American Student Association, the Wisconsin Educational Opportunities Program, school leaders, community members, and local media. Students took responsibility for sharing knowledge, creating conversation, and welcoming others into an experience centered on culture, food, and community. The response encouraged them to continue the program and explore opportunities to bring it to additional communities. By sharing a meaningful part of their community with others, these students demonstrated how leadership can help people learn from one another and create connections that extend far beyond the classroom.

LOOKING AHEAD

Every new year begins with possibility. A student walks into an FCCLA meeting for the first time. A member decides to compete, serve, speak up, or pursue an office they once thought was beyond their reach. An adviser recognizes potential before a student can see it for themselves. A chapter creates an experience that changes what someone believes they are capable of doing.

Those moments are where leadership begins.

The 2026-2027 FCCLA annual theme, **Where Leaders Are Made**, celebrates the experiences that shape young people into confident, capable leaders. Leadership is not something a person simply has. It develops through responsibility, challenge, reflection, service, and the courage to keep growing. Through Family and Consumer Sciences education and FCCLA, students are given opportunities to discover their strengths, develop their voices, prepare for future careers, and learn what it means to make a meaningful contribution.



The theme logo brings that idea to life through the image of a pencil. A future written in pencil is still being shaped. It can be revised as new interests emerge, changed when experience provides a different direction, and strengthened with every new lesson. The hand-colored word LEADERS reflects that same process. Leadership is personal, imperfect, and developed one experience at a time.

FCCLA provides the experiences. Students decide what they will create from them.

This is Where Leaders Are Made.

THE YEAR AHEAD

The 2026-2027 year will bring FCCLA Members and Advisers together across the country for experiences designed to strengthen leadership, connect learning with future careers, and create memories that extend far beyond a single conference.



NATIONAL BE A TEACHER DAY
OCTOBER 8, 2026

FCCLA will once again celebrate the educators who shape the future while helping students explore careers in education. National Be A Teacher Day gives FCCLA Members an opportunity to experience teaching, recognize the influence of educators, and consider how they could make a difference in the lives of future generations.



FALL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
ORLANDO, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 17-20, 2026

FCCLA returns to Orlando in partnership with Disney Imagination Campus for an immersive leadership experience that brings members and advisers together for learning, connection, and hands-on experiences designed to strengthen the skills students can carry back to their chapters, classrooms, and communities.



FALL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
NOVEMBER 12-15, 2026

FCCLA will extend the experience to the West Coast in partnership with Disney Imagination Campus, giving members a second opportunity to strengthen their leadership, connect with peers from across the country, learn from Disney Cast Members, and turn new ideas into action.



CHAPTER ADVISER SUMMIT
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
JANUARY 13-17, 2027

FCCLA Advisers will gather in San Antonio for professional learning, collaboration, and practical ideas designed to strengthen classroom instruction and chapter experiences. The Summit celebrates the educators whose encouragement and leadership make so many FCCLA opportunities possible.



NATIONAL FCCLA WEEK
FEBRUARY 8-12, 2027

Across the country, members and chapters will celebrate the people, experiences, and opportunities that make FCCLA meaningful. National FCCLA Week provides a national moment to share FCCLA's impact, recognize Family and Consumer Sciences education, serve communities, and invite others to discover where FCCLA could take them.



NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
JUNE 22-26, 2027

The year will culminate in San Antonio as FCCLA Members and Advisers come together for the 2027 National Leadership Conference. The conference will feature Competitive Events, leadership experiences, recognition, career exploration, and connections with peers from across the country, celebrating everything members have accomplished while challenging them to consider what comes next.

LEADERSHIP FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

FCCLA enters 2026-2027 with leaders at every level prepared to guide the organization forward. The National Board of Directors brings together educators, professionals, partners, alumni, and student representatives who provide governance and strategic leadership for FCCLA. Alongside them, the National Executive Council represents FCCLA Members nationwide, bringing the student voice to the decisions, programs, and experiences that will shape the year ahead.

2026-2027 FCCLA NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The FCCLA Board of Directors will spend the next year guiding the organization through the second year of the 2025–2028 Strategic Plan, providing governance, stewardship, and strategic direction as FCCLA continues to strengthen experiences and opportunities for members across the nation. Their leadership will help turn the plan's vision into continued progress, ensuring that the decisions made today strengthen FCCLA for the students and educators who will shape its future.



Susan Turgeson, Ed.D., CFCS
Board Chair



Katy Blatnick-Gagné, Ed.D.
Past Board Chair



Sherry Vogel
Vice Chair



Tannen Turman
Treasurer



Pamela Lee
Secretary

Rhonda Ashburn
Karin Athanas
Karin Davis
Madison Goodwin

Angela Gott
Amy Harkey
Joni Lam

Jane Lucas
Trent Misak
Graham Mull

Eva Orr
Ashland Roethlisberger
Sandy Spavone

2026-2027 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The 2026-2027 National Executive Council will spend the year representing FCCLA Members nationwide, serving as the student voice of the organization and supporting programs, initiatives, conferences, and national outreach.

Their leadership will help shape the FCCLA experience throughout the year while connecting members and advisers, advancing the organization's mission, and representing the perspectives of students across the nation.



Graham Mull
Georgia
National President



Natalie Fannon
Virginia
National First Vice President



Brock Romero
Montana
National Vice President of Community Service



Adelyn Scull
Texas
National Vice President of Competitive Events



Kooper Walker
Oklahoma
National Vice President of Development



Ashland Roethlisberger
North Dakota
National Vice President of Finance



Rajganesh Srinivasan
New Jersey
National Vice President of Membership



Irene Gutierrez
California
National Vice President of Parliamentary Law



Tessa Kenyon
Wyoming
National Vice President of Programs



Kylee Bangarter
Utah
National Vice President of Public Relations

THE NEXT CHAPTER BEGINS HERE

The pages of this Annual Report capture a year already lived: accomplishments reached, challenges met, communities served, and lives changed through FCCLA. The pages ahead are still open, waiting for the people who will write what comes next. As the new year begins, a student will raise their hand for the first time, find the confidence to speak before a room, discover a career they had never considered, turn an idea into action, or realize that someone else is depending on their leadership. A new chapter will begin. A tradition will be created. A goal that once felt distant will become real.

Those moments are already beginning to shape the story of the year ahead. Every decision to step forward, every challenge accepted, and every moment of growth will add another line. By the time the pages are filled, they will reveal the confidence discovered, the lives touched, the possibilities realized, and the leaders who emerged along the way.

*Because
FCCLA is
where Leaders
Are Made.*



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