

KENTUCKY

FALL 2026

FCS



President's Message

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

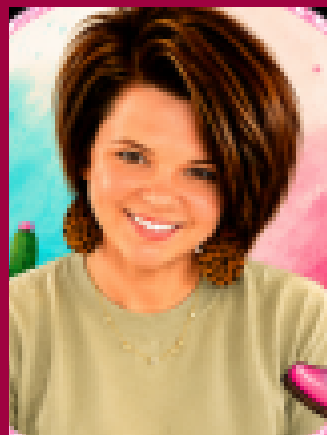
Dear KAFCS Members,
Welcome back, and welcome to a brand-new year with the Kentucky Affiliation of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences! As the school bells ring and extension calendars fill up across the Commonwealth, I'm honored to step into the role of President and to kick off this year's newsletter with you.

Family and Consumer Sciences touches nearly every corner of Kentucky life, from the classrooms where our educators shape the next generation, to the extension offices where our agents strengthen families and communities, to the many other settings where FCS professionals put our shared mission into practice. Whatever your role, and whether you're active in the field or enjoying a well-earned retirement, you are part of what makes this organization strong. This year, I'm excited to introduce our theme: **MISSION: Forward.** It centers on three goals that will guide our work together:

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ALI MICHELE MOORE
KAFCS PRESIDENT

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1) Advancing the profession and education — strengthening the pathways and standards that support FCS as a field.

2) Equipping individuals with essential life skills — carrying out the everyday, practical work that makes FCS so valuable to Kentucky families.

3) Elevating professionals as key advocates and experts — making sure our voices are heard and our expertise is recognized.

I'll be sharing more throughout the year on how we're bringing MISSION: Forward to life, and I hope you'll find ways to connect it to your own work.

Mark your calendars, as our Fall Workshop is coming up! More details on the date, location, and excursions will be shared soon, so keep an eye on future newsletters.

Thank you for the work you do every day for Kentucky's families, students, and communities. It's a privilege to serve alongside you this year.

Warmly,

Ali Michele Moore



Leader Award

Laura Spiegelhaulter

New Achiever Award

Dr. Angela Dial

Teacher of the Year Award

Traci Blandford

Outstanding Student

Mary Kerr

Outstanding Professional in FCS
Award

Melissa Martin

Friend of KAFCS Award

Sally Mineer

Student Scholarship Recipient

Anastacia Alvarez

Executive Secretary Note:

A big thank you to everyone who has supported my role in the last 14 years as the Executive Secretary for KAFCS. The honor and privilege of working with so many wonderful professionals have been impressive. Thank you for allowing me to guide and mentor and continue our strong leadership in Kentucky.

I truly have enjoyed this leadership position and will continue to support in any way that I can. Last, thank you for the beautiful Mackenzie-Childs cake stand and Mickey Mouse. Two of my favorite things that I will treasure and appreciate.

Good luck to Sharon Collins as she assumes this role and I know everyone will support her.

Best Wishes,

Sally Mineer

Thank you from Immediate Past President

Dear KAFCS Members,

It has truly been an honor to serve as your president of the Kentucky Association of Family & Consumer Sciences. This opportunity has allowed me to represent not only our Kentucky members, but also our profession on a national level—especially during the very special year when Kentucky welcomed the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences to our state. I believe deeply in this organization and in the importance of Family & Consumer Sciences. One of the things I value most about FCS is that it reaches across so many areas of our profession. It is not limited to one career path or one specialty. Throughout my own career, I have been personally blessed to see how the many areas of FCS can make a difference in the future of families, individuals and communities.

Serving in this role has also introduced me to fellow “FCS peeps” whom I may never have had the opportunity to know or work with otherwise. Those relationships have been one of the greatest gifts of this experience. I am grateful for the friendships, the collaboration, the laughter, and the shared passion for a profession that continues to make a difference.

On completion of my term, I hope that I will always be a positive example of what Family & Consumer Sciences represents. I am thankful to KAFCS for giving me another avenue to share all that our profession has to offer and to remind others of the incredible difference we can make when we work together.

Thank you for allowing me to serve, to learn, to grow, and to represent a profession that I am so proud to call my own. I may be stepping away from the president’s chair, but I will never step away from my love for FCS or my belief in its future.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

— Helen Keller

With gratitude and continued FCS pride,

Kay Denniston

KAY
DENNISTON

KAFCS PAST
PRESIDENT



Congratulations!

Kay Denniston
AAFCS National

LEADER AWARD
WINNER



Find the Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/kyafcs>

Hello KAFCS Members!

My name is Mary Kerr, and I am honored to serve as your KAFCS Vice President of Membership. I am incredibly excited to step into this role and look forward to connecting with each of you throughout the coming year. Whether you're a longtime member or joining us for the first time, thank you for being a part of the KAFCS community. I can't wait to see many of you at our workshops, conferences, and events as we continue celebrating and strengthening Family and Consumer Sciences across Kentucky. One of my favorite parts of serving as Vice President of Membership is recognizing the incredible educators, students, and professionals who make Family and Consumer Sciences stronger every day. KAFCS offers awards recognizing outstanding leadership, teaching, professional achievement, volunteer service, students, and advocates who support our profession. Several of these awards also advance recipients for consideration at the national AAFCS level.

I encourage you to nominate a deserving colleague, or even yourself! Self-nominations are welcomed, and many of our most deserving members would never nominate themselves.

Award nominations are due February 15. Simply email me the name of your nominee along with a brief explanation of why they deserve to be recognized. Additional information and nomination resources will be shared throughout the year.

Help shape the future of KAFCS. This year, we are forming two important committees: Bylaws Committee – to review and recommend updates to our governing documents. Awards Review Committee – to evaluate our awards program and ensure our recognition process continues to reflect the outstanding work happening throughout Kentucky.

If you are interested in serving on either committee, I would love to hear from you. Serving on a committee is a wonderful way to become more involved in KAFCS and help shape the future of our association.

Here's my challenge to each of you this year:

Invite one Family and Consumer Sciences colleague to attend a KAFCS workshop or event with you.

Whether they're already a member or simply interested in learning more about KAFCS, bringing someone along is one of the best ways to grow our professional community. You never know whose life or career could be impacted by making that invitation. Congratulations to our members who were recognized during the 2026 KAFCS Annual Conference! Your commitment to Family and Consumer Sciences continues to inspire us all.

I look forward to an exciting year of celebrating our members, welcoming new faces, and continuing to grow KAFCS together. Thank you for your dedication to Family and Consumer Sciences. I hope to see you at a KAFCS event soon!



HONORED TO SERVE AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF KAFCS

I am deeply honored and grateful to the Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (KAFCS) for selecting me to serve as the Executive Secretary. I know I have big shoes to fill. The Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences has been an important part of my professional journey, and I am excited to give back to an organization that has contributed so much to my growth and development. My involvement with the Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences began during my college years at Georgetown College when I served as a student officer. Those early leadership experiences introduced me to a network of dedicated professionals who inspired my commitment to education, leadership, and service. Throughout my career, KAFCS has provided valuable opportunities for professional learning, collaboration, and advocacy, helping to shape the educator and leader I am today.

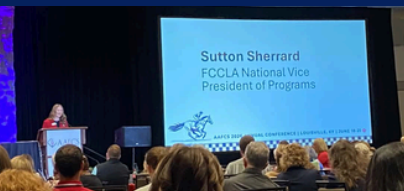
As I begin this new role, I look forward to working with our members and leadership team to strengthen the association's impact. A key focus of my efforts will be developing a strategic plan that positions KAFCS for future success while supporting the needs of current and new professionals. Additionally, I am committed to growing our membership by engaging students, educators, and industry professionals who share our passion for improving the lives of individuals, families, and communities. Thank you to the members of KAFCS for your confidence and support. I am excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to helping advance the mission and vision of Family and Consumer Sciences in Kentucky.

Sharon Collins

Sharon Collins Executive Secretary, Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (KAFCS)

2026 AAFCS Annual Conference in Louisville, KY

Thank you to everyone for all of your hard work!



Congratulations!

To our Award Winners and
Thank you to everyone who planned the Annual meeting!



Thank you! Sally Mineer



KAFCS Officers 2026 - 2027

President: Ali Moore

President Elect: Ashleigh VanHoose

Treasurer: Sharon Collins

Secretary: Ashley Phipps

**VP-Professional Development: Brooklyn
Pierce**

VP-Membership: Mary Kerr

Past President: Kay Denniston

Executive Secretary: Sharon Collins



SAVE ^{THE} DATE



KAFCS NEWSLETTER is published as a service to members.

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