

# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## State Theme Goals:

Spin the Wheel of Success

Decide the path for your future

Move across the board towards real-world skills

## 2020–2021 State Theme:

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Hello everyone and welcome to the Winter issue of The Horizon. In this edition, you will take a look at upcoming and past events. These will range from the Virtual National Leadership Conference to what Minnesota Chapters have been doing around their community. Your 2020–2021 State Officer team is excited to collaborate with you this school year through upcoming events! We wish you a sensational year with FCCLA. Through FCCLA you have the ability to expand your horizon and develop yourself in the Game of Leadership!

- Katie Harfmann

# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## National President: Supriya Patel

There is no greater responsibility for a member of FCCLA than the national president. It is a job that can only be performed by the most hardworking and determined of individuals. This year, we are fortunate enough to have a president from our very own state: Supriya Patel. She joined FCCLA in her freshman year and quickly discovered her passion for it. Supriya has always been an ambitious person, but FCCLA gave her a direct opportunity to pursue her goals for her future. She did Star Events in her freshman, sophomore, and junior years, and she advanced to nationals with all of them. Last year, she also served as Minnesota's Vice President of Public Relations. She has always been deeply



involved in FCCLA, with experiences ranging from

shadowing a public official at the state capitol to creating workshops for state and national conferences. All of these experiences have helped her grow as both a person and a leader. Her confidence, management, and leadership skills have all been improved by her time in FCCLA, and it has been amazing to watch her blossom into the amazing young woman she is today. And now,

as national president, she not only leads our organization,

but serves as an inspiration to all other future leaders.

-Cassidy Auld

# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Building a Strong Leadership Team

During these times, creating a strong leadership team can be difficult.

There are constantly obstacles being thrown our way such as having only virtual events, not being able to bond with your team in-person, and many other unpredictable scenarios. This is

why it is important for leaders to step up now more than ever. As leaders, we must set an example for other members and for your team. Taking the initiative to brainstorm new ideas, create bonding experiences for your team, or even just showing up for zoom meetings can make all the difference. In order to build a strong team, it is essential to remain in contact with each other. Things are constantly changing, and it is difficult to predict what will even happen a month or even a week from now. This is why communication is so important. Updating one another on the current situation and getting input from your entire team can help to prevent frustration and confusion. And the most important aspect of building a strong team, is that each officer remembers to enjoy being a leader. Have fun while you perform your duties and interact with other members and officers. These will be memories that last forever. Remember that you are making an impact on others lives and there are individuals that look up to you. Although these are unprecedented times, I know that every member of FCCLA will overcome all of the challenges that are thrown their way and officers will be able to create a strong and effective leadership team this year.

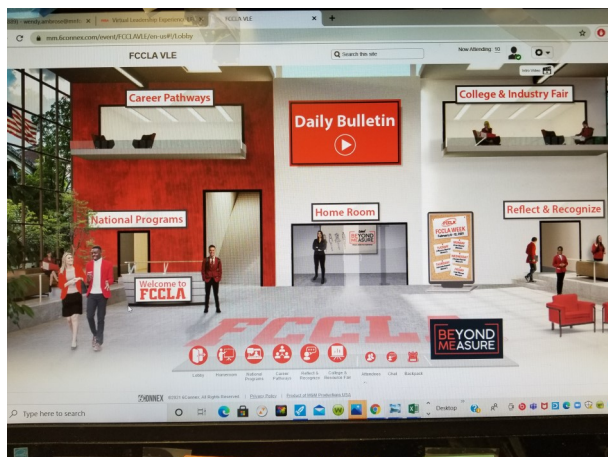
The 2020-2021 Minnesota State Officer team has been working to create a memorable year for all members. It has been a challenge for us to create a strong leadership team due to the situation, but we have been able to get to know one another by participating in many zoom meetings and getting to know one another. We were able to identify each officer's leadership style and learn how to work with one another to create the best outcomes. Due to this, our team has created new and safe ways for members to grow as leaders. Our team has put on different virtual events such as networking sessions and FCCLA lives. All ten state officers also submitted workshops that were used in the National Virtual Leadership Experience. Our team will continue to work towards creating new opportunities that will help members expand their leadership potential.

-Amber Findlay



# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Virtual Leadership Experience



This winter, National FCCLA hosted it's first ever Virtual Leadership Experience (VLE). Hosted on a platform similar to the Virtual National Leadership Conference, VLE had content similar to that of a National Fall Conference, as well as many resources for FCS teachers. It also encompassed Skill Event Competitions that took place in November 2020 and six Minnesota FCCLA members placed in the

top 7 in the nation in their events! In the homeroom section of VLE, participants could watch the opening session, as well as hear from motivational speaker E.J. Carrion. There was also the opportunity to explore the partnerships and programs of FCCLA as well as meet the National Executive Council. The Career Pathways and National Programs portions of VLE were home to many workshops for FCS classrooms and FCCLA members. These workshops were presented by FCCLA partners, alumni, advisers & members and 5 of these workshops were presented by Minnesota FCCLA State Officers! The College and Career Fair hosted many booths where attendees could connect with representatives from colleges and organizations from around the country as well as shop the FCCLA store. In the Reflect and Recognize area, attendees could watch motivational moments from the NEC as well as watch the closing ceremony. Participants in Skill Demonstration Events were also recognized and a promotional video for the 2021 NLC was released! If you are still interested in VLE, the platform is open until February 12, 2021 and can be accessed by registering through the FCCLA portal.

-Abigail Bettendorf



# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Promoting Positivity over Break

During Christmas break, our New Ulm chapter kicked off our community service project.

It promotes FCCLA and positivity because it connects with people in our community who have been in solitary confinement in their assisted living facility for 10 months. The staff is very excited that FCCLA members are reaching out to the residents who are extremely lonely due to lockdowns. Our members will be writing letters to the residents, the staff will match common interests so that students and assisted living residents can be pen pals. Eventually our plan is to expand this communication to FaceTime. Once lockdowns are lifted, the activities staff will schedule game nights where the students and their pen pals can play games face to face. The staff has indicated that the residents loneliness has led to depression and sadness. They cannot wait to match up our chapter members with residents. It will brighten their day and give them a positive connection to the outside world.



This is a great way to promote FCCLA because we will be publicizing it through the assisted living newsletter as well as our local media.

-Nathaniel Janssen



## STAR Event Updates



There is a lot of value in participating in STAR Events. You develop skills that will help you throughout your entire life, and are often able to do something positive for your community.

For example, I have learned how to be more organized, how to plan events, and how to present to all kinds of different people- whether that be elementary students, peers, or school board members. Knowledge I learned from doing STAR Events, includes how to earn, spend, save, and protect money wisely; use data to make graphs and correlations; and how to develop, plan, carry out, and evaluate advocacy activities to improve my community.

-Hailey VonEnde

# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America



## Shadow Day

Minnesota FCCLA's annual legislative shadow day typically takes place in February. Members learn about how our state government works, and the everyday life of a legislator. Normally in Years Past, the day starts with training held by State Executive Council and State Executive director, Wendy Ambrose. At this training members learned about the agenda for the day, and how to represent MN FCCLA by being polite and respectful young leaders, and good questions and topics to ask their legislator about. After the training members arrived at the capitol building. Members were paired up with a legislator after the arrival. Members then shadowed their legislators for the day. After shadowing the legislator the members wrote thank you notes to their legislators to thank them for their time and experience. VP of Partnerships Hailey VonEnde stated that last year her legislator truly went above and beyond to make the day a great experience for her.

## Importance of FCS Classes

FCS or Family Consumer Sciences classes are very important as they teach you skills and help you make good decisions in life. Many schools have different classes that they offer, but a few examples that teach FCS are foods classes, personal finance, child development, or independent living classes. They teach the importance of budgeting, nutrition, food preparation, sewing, parenting skills, decision making, and how to do things on your own. FCS classes are always changing and developing as new issues arise and we find better ways to do things. In addition to being informative, these classes can also be enjoyable. I have always enjoyed trying new foods, learning new ways to do everyday tasks, and coming up with ideas for living on my own. These classes are vital in teaching young adults and teenagers how to navigate life as an adult and help them support themselves, problem solve, communicate well, and be successful community and family members.

-Rylee Anderson



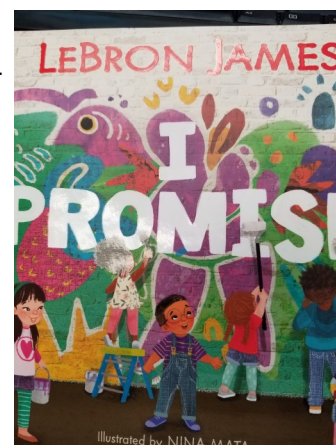
# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Lead State Agency Report

Despite being socially distanced this year, we have still been dedicated to community service. Our first statewide act of community service was in honor of September 11th. Our organization collaborated with Operation Gratitude, a charity dedicated to helping our troops. We all wrote letters, which Operation Gratitude then delivered to active duty soldiers. These letters from citizens help these soldiers feel appreciated, as well as reminding them what they're fighting to protect. While our country was reeling from the shock of the 9/11 attacks, our troops continued to serve bravely in order to protect our freedom and our safety. Our goal as an organization was to show these soldiers that their efforts are never forgotten, and that we are grateful everyday for their service. Our second statewide community service project was in honor of one of the most influential Americans of the 20th century: Martin Luther King Jr.

He gave a voice to the black people that were fighting for equality in a time of segregation. He vocalized their struggles, their desire to be seen as equal. To honor his legacy, we decided to do a project regarding diversity. We purchased some of the children's books written by LeBron James titled "I Promise." These books encourage young children to work hard, never give up, and respect one another. The illustrations show children of various races treating each other with kindness and respect, which was Martin Luther King Jr.'s primary goal. He said in one of his most famous speeches, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." James's book shows Dr. King's dream as a reality; kids of all races not only receiving equal opportunities, but seeing each other as truly equal. Our FCCLA chapters had the choice to donate this book to either a public library or a local elementary school. Some even recorded videos of the members reading the book, which could then be played for a class of elementary schoolers. One of FCCLA's core principles is diversity, so we see it as a necessity that children learn to treat each other with respect at a young age. Prejudice is not something that people are born with; it's something they are taught. If we can teach the newest generation kindness at an early age, they will grow up to be the most accepting group of leaders yet. Our next statewide community service project will be for Global Youth Service Day in April. Keep an eye out for upcoming information regarding opportunities for your chapter.

-Cassidy Auld



# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## National Virtual Skill Events Results

At the National Virtual Leadership experience members had the opportunity to compete in a virtual skill event. Six of our Minnesota FCCLA members placed in the top seven in the nation in their event! We also had two members place in the top 20! These events ranged from Fashion Sketch to an FCCLA Knowledge Challenge. MN FCCLA is so proud of everyone that participated in the Virtual Skill Events and we can't wait to see where your leadership journey takes you next. These are the results from the events.

1st Place Consumer Math Challenge Level 2– Kasson-Mantorville FCCLA- Katie Harfmann

2nd Place FCCLA Knowledge Challenge Level 3– Cambridge-Isanti FCCLA- Abigail Bettendorf

3rd Place Culinary Math Challenge Level 2– Spring Lake Park FCCLA- Evan Jefferson

5th Place Fashion Sketch Level 2- Spring Lake Park FCCLA– Miranda Wojciak

5th Place Consumer Math Challenge Level 2– Luverne FCCLA– Ella Lanoue

7th Place Consumer Math Challenge Level 3– Spring Lake Park FCCLA– Cassidy Auld

13th Place Nutrition Challenge Level 3– Spring Lake Park FCCLA– Lillian Sjerven



17th Place Consumer Math Challenge Level 3– Luverne FCCLA– Rylee Anderson

-Katie Harfmann

**COMPETITIVE  
EVENTS**

## National Contest– Safe Rides Save Lives

This years National FCCLA PSA contest is Safe Rides - Save Lives. The contest is sponsored by The National Road Safety Foundation and is a opportunity for FCCLA members to show their leadership and advocate for driving safety. The topic this year is seatbelt safety and 25 second video submissions are due March 1, 2021. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three submissions. For more information go to the National FCCLA website.

-Katie Harfmann





# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Chapter Involvement

Throughout these difficult times Minnesota FCCLA Chapters have not allowed their leadership to fade. When we asked for stories and pictures of what your chapters have been up to we were flooded with responses and great examples of members leadership in their schools and communities. We have included some of the stories and images in the nest few pages. Thank you to all of the chapters that sent in articles and images and for all chapters leadership this year!

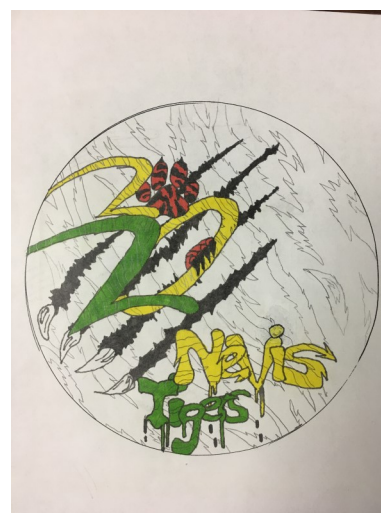
-Katie Harfmann

## Nevis FCCLA

Nevis FCCLA members cleaning their FCCLA adopted highway this fall.



The Homecoming button Nevis FCCLA designs and sells as a fundraiser.

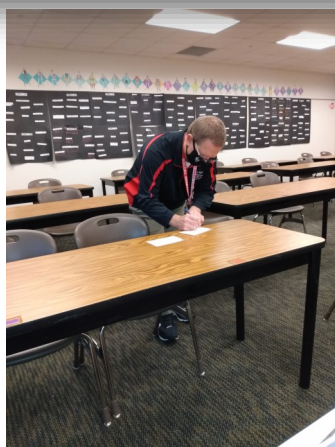


# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Chapter Involvement

### Rocori Middle FCCLA

Rocori Middle FCCLA  
tied 19 quilts to donate  
to Pathways for Youth



Rocori Middle FCCLA wrote thank you  
cards to Veterans for their 9-11 Service  
Program.

# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Chapter Involvement

### Wadena-Deer Creek FCCLA

Angela LeComte, Wadena-Deer Creek Family, Career, and Community chapter president has had the opportunity to participate in the Days for Girls international organization. She has met with Carol Osborn, team leader from the Verndale Days for Girls team and has learned about the mission and history of the organization. Days for Girls celebrates the dignity of young girls and women throughout the world by providing a solution that keeps them from missing up to three months of school a year. This can keep the girls from dropping out of school altogether due to prolonged absences. Angela is assisting with creating washable reusable feminine hygiene products for young women in third world countries. Angela is using this as part of the new FCCLA National Program, Stand Up. Stand Up encourages FCCLA members to assess a problem, educate themselves and others, and then to advocate for the cause. Angela will be sharing the information she has learned with several groups in the upcoming weeks and months.





# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Chapter Involvement

### Badger FCCLA

Badger FCCLA may have slowed a few of their activities due to COVID-19, however, we are still active for our students. Junior member Brooke VonEnde takes time every month to recognize students in grade 7- 12 for their birthdays or ½ birthdays, (if they have a summer birthday) with a locker note and treat.

Members also planned a Spirit week in December to help spread some cheer. Prizes were awarded for the 2 best dressed in grade categories for the following themes:

MONDAY-FESTIVE HAT DAY

TUESDAY-CANDY CANE DAY-dress in red and white

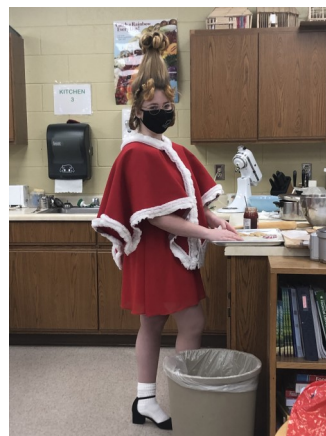
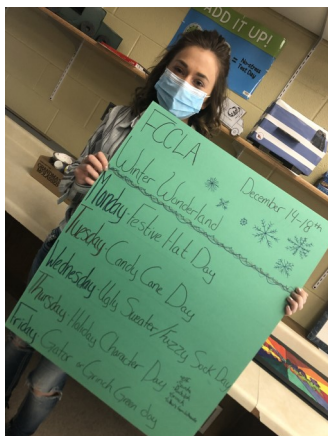
WEDNESDAY-UGLY SWEATER OR FUZZY SOCK DAY

THURSDAY-FAVORITE HOLIDAY CHARACTER DAY

FRIDAY-GATOR OR GRINCH GREEN DAY

Winners were announced in the cafeteria on Friday and given prizes of hot chocolate, kit kat bars, and candy canes.

Earlier in the year, members remembered 9-11 with a postcard campaign for Operation Gratitude. Postcards are written to military, firefighters, police, and first responder personnel letting them know how much we appreciate their efforts. Badger students submitted 188 postcards for distribution. We look forward to STAR events in January, hosting FCCLA week in February, and hopefully State Conference in March, either virtual or in person.



# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Chapter Involvement

### Kasson–Mantorville FCCLA

The Kasson-Mantorville school district has an annual district wide food drive. For the past few years we have continued to raise more and more food to support our community. The food drive makes such a positive impact on people who both bring in the food and use it. This year we were not sure if a food drive was even possible because of all the circumstances. We knew our community needed a food drive though, as many people struggled due to losing jobs or money during the pandemic. As an FCCLA chapter, we decided we were going to put on a food drive this year and we would find ways to make it work. We broke into groups and each group helped organize the food drive for each school in our district. We also had members brainstorm ways that we could host a kick off event like we have in the past. Many chapter members had a huge role in planning and making our food drive successful. Our plan came down to make everything virtual. We made videos and slideshows to help kick off our food drive, which worked out super well. We were also very lucky that our school stayed in the hybrid learning model because students were at the school already, which encouraged them to bring in more food items than if we would have just been fully distant. We planned fun activities throughout the week of our food drive, such as bingo, where if you brought in a specific food item you could check off a bingo box. This activity encouraged many students and staff to bring in items because the first class to get a blackout bingo would get a prize! When the food drive week came to an end, we went around to each school and collected and counted the food items. We collected around 7,000 items of food, which we were super happy about considering all the circumstances. We then donated the items to the local food shelf, to Food for Friends, and to our school district. After we had finished with all of the food drive, we were super happy with everything we were able to accomplish. Our chapter worked super hard to make this work and our community worked super hard to bring in items and help others. This food drive was super important to our community and I am glad we made it work!

-Taylor Ludvigsen





# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Chapter Involvement

### Kasson–Mantorville FCCLA

There are around 300 million people around the world that cannot afford shoes. Some just go barefoot, while others utilize whatever they can find for footwear: bottles, cans, bags, and even boxes. These people frequently get foot-related injuries, but aren't able to afford getting it fixed. If they just had shoes, they wouldn't have such issues. As a community, we take shoes for granted. We are able to get proper footwear whenever, and usually throw the old shoes away since we no longer have a use for them. We waste valuable resources by throwing away shoes when there are people out there that would do anything for them. "You learn a lot when you're barefoot. The first thing is every step you take is different" (Michael Franti). That's why Soles4Souls was created: to mitigate the effects of not having shoes, and indirectly changing the overall effect on poverty on the person's life. Soles4Souls is a nonprofit organization that looks to collect shoes and bring them to people in need. This year, our FCCLA club teamed up with the local Kasson-Mantorville Lions Club to bring a shoe drive to the area. With all of your help, our school was able to raise a total of 550 pairs of shoes. That's 550 people's lives changed for the better. I wanted to personally thank each and every person who helped package shoes or donated to the cause. We couldn't have done it without you. So, the next time you grow out of a pair of shoes, remember that there is always a home for them.

-Ethan Petersilie



# Minnesota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America

## Chapter Involvement

### Zumbrota-Mazeppa FCCLA-LEO Club

The FCCLA-Leo Club officers decided to make thank you bags for the high school teachers, paras, lunch ladies, and the office staff. We decided to make the thank you bags to thank them for all that they have done for us students during these hard times and to brighten their day as they are sitting in the classrooms with no students. The bags included fuzzy socks, chips, a gift card, and a saying.

Article by: Madison Kohn, class of 2021



**GET SET FOR THE FIRST EVER STATE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE!**

**March 25-27 are the start of FCCLA's Virtual sessions.**

