

# NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP for

## Recruiting, Preparing, and Supporting FCS Educators

### National Partners Receive Grant to Recruit, Prepare, and Support Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) Educators

**Washington, D.C. – June, 2018** The [State University of New York \(SUNY\) at Oneonta](#), [Family, Career and Community Leaders of America \(FCCLA\)](#), and the [American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences \(AAFCS\)](#) received a three-year grant from the United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA) to establish “The National Partnership to Recruit, Prepare, and Support Family Consumer Sciences Educators.” The \$747,525 award and matching funds from the three partner institutions provides a total of \$936,572 to address the documented shortage of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) educators on a nation-wide basis.

The goal of the national partnership project is to create and use national leadership academies and self-sustaining models to increase the number of qualified Family and Consumer Sciences educators in secondary, post-secondary, and Extension programs. The project is designed to

1. produce and/or distribute resources and information related to educator preparation and certification, professional development, and curriculum and instruction;
2. promote FCS workforce opportunities to wide audiences to recruit diverse candidates;
3. share faculty, courses, and students on a national level to provide online FCS content-related and pedagogy courses needed for educator licensure; and
4. provide targeted support in regions with limited FCS educator programs.

This national partnership facilitates collaborative interaction with education institutions, state departments of education, Extension, K-12 educators and students, professional associations, student organizations, and industry partners. In fact, fourteen organizations and industry partners have agreed to participate in the project:

- Alliance for Family and Consumer Sciences
- Association for Career and Technical Education, Family and Consumer Sciences Division
- Board on Human Sciences (BOHS) - Association of Public and Land Grant Universities
- Council of Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (CAFCS)
- Goodheart-Wilcox Publisher
- Nasco Family and Consumer Sciences
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education Association (FCSEA)
- National Association of State Administrators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NASAFACS)
- National Association of Teacher Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences (NATEFACS)
- National Coalition for Black Development in Family and Consumer Sciences (NCBDFCS)
- National Coalition for Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)
- The State University of New York – Oneonta
- United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture

“We appreciate receiving the USDA/NIFA funding! Their support will make a significant impact in increasing awareness of career opportunities and access to career preparation resources,” said Dr. Jan Bowers, Dean of the School of Education and Human Ecology at SUNY Oneonta and Project Director. “The synergy created from fourteen national partners working together will facilitate a cost effective, collaborative, and holistic approach for providing high quality educators for meeting state and national workforce needs.”

### **About the Field of Family & Consumer Sciences**

Family and consumer sciences (FCS) draws from broad and diverse disciplines to develop and provide content and programs that help individuals become more effective critical thinkers and problem solvers. Through discovery and delivery of research-based knowledge, FCS professionals help individuals and families develop essential skills to successfully live and work in a complex world. Professionals in the field are uniquely qualified to speak on many critical issues affecting individuals and families, such as maintaining a healthy lifestyle, wisely managing personal and family finances, and creating supportive relationships with family members, friends, and co-workers. They are located nationwide in a variety of practice settings, including secondary schools, universities, government agencies, and businesses.

For more information, please contact:

Jan Bowers, PhD, CFCS

Project Director

P 607-436-2541

[Jan.Bowers@Oneonta.edu](mailto:Jan.Bowers@Oneonta.edu)