

Kentucky Extension Homemakers Report  
NVON-2010-2011

As I reflect on the “successes” of Kentucky Extensions Homemakers, I am reminded of what can be accomplished when our members are called upon to make something happen. The members of KEHA will always be prepared to give more than 100% of what is asked of them.

The past year has again been filled with many projects from the club level to the state level that fulfills the mission of KEHA.

A total of \$16,238.00 was provided by homemakers for 4-H camp scholarships and “Power Up the Day” provided a study of the importance of physical activity and exercise to both homemakers and 4-H youth.

A continuing program for KEHA is the contribution to the Ovarian Cancer research program at the University of Kentucky. Homemakers have now contributed over one million dollars to this research program. Members are also encouraged to take the opportunity to have free ovarian cancer screenings offered for women over the age of 50 as part of this program.

In January a group from the University of Kentucky made the trip to Ghana to Kentucky Academy. Since 2008, Ky. Academy has been the focus of the International Program chairman and she was able to accompany this group to Ghana. KEHA has provided children with a dining room complete with table and chairs. While there the group was able to begin work on a school garden and start a school feeding program. Over \$4900.00 was collected from homemakers for international projects.

Another ongoing program supported by KEHA is the Center for Courageous Children, a camp for seriously ill children and their families. This camp is a medical camping facility that is provided at no cost to the families.

The Management and Safety Chairman will be collaborating with the Food, Health and Nutrition chairman and the Family and Individual Development chairman to offer a Matter of Balance program. This program will be focusing on exercise and physical activity. We also have been encouraging our members for some time to “go green and recycle”. Over 3300 members reported recycling regularly and adopted energy saving practices. Over 2900 used reusable or cloth shopping bags and over 2600 used “green” cleaning products.

Cultural Arts and Heritage skills are an essential part of KEHA. Members are encouraged to participate in their county, area and state level competitions. Quilts made and given as gifts, sold or used at home totaled over 3,000. There were also 356 new barn quilts added this year in the state. Many crafts were made and sold with \$21,722.00 in sales for personal use. Proceeds from some of these sales went toward community projects such as food banks, health fairs, nursing homes, Special Olympics and ovarian cancer.

Our history states that KEHA was created to meet the needs of Kentucky women. Although changes have occurred in family structure and economics, the need to educate and build leadership in Kentucky women is still there thus the need for KEHA is still there. Working together in programs such as have been mentioned above can only serve to strengthen and empower women from Kentucky and other parts of the world.

Alice Brown  
President  
Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association