The Joint Council of Extension Professionals is a partnership of Extension professional associations, doing together what each cannot do alone. NAE4-HA is the largest component of JCEP, the other participating associations are ESP, ANREP, NACAA, NACDEP, and NEAFCS. Last week, Shawn and I attended the annual JCEP in San Antonio. One main emphasis was NIFA with presentations from both the Director and Associate Director of NIFA. It was clear to me that NIFA grants are the responsibility of the researchers at the Universities, but they are going to need the partnerships with Extension professionals at all levels to complete their research proposals.

This is not the Extension Lincoln knew when he signed the Morrill Act establishing Land Grant Universities. Changes are happening and we are reinventing Extension. We, as an entire system, are changing structurally and financially but with a positive outlook, the long term outcome will be better for everyone. As an association, we can support each other in times of change by encouraging members to get involved: apply for awards, present workshops or posters at conferences, take advantage of professional development opportunities, and take on leadership roles. They say many hands make light work, but in Extension we have learned that many hands make a sturdy foundation!

There will be another paper clover campaign sponsored by Tractor Supply April 15-25th.

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The other take home message centered on the theme, “Extension—Moving Forward: New Structure, New Opportunities.” This message was evident from the speakers to dinner conversations with colleagues from across the country. It was said that we are all doing important work, we are more focused, efficient and effective, and we need to do less but do it better.

~Jennifer~

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The partnership between JCEP and the Afterschool program will be continuing—information will be coming soon. At 4-H.org you can now contribute to an individual county, not just a state.

NAE4-HA is looking for a Membership and Recognition Chair at the National level.

At 4-H.org you can now contribute to an individual county, not just a state.

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Have you seen the website? Visit: http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx