

# CHI EPSILON SIGMA

Newsletter

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to 2026!

Perhaps you have started the year with some typical resolutions – exercise more, spend time with important people, or start a savings account. Most of these resolutions pertain to “doing” (or “not doing) something specific. But here’s a twist: how many of us make resolutions about our “being”?

One of my favorite authors is social/emotional researcher Brene Brown. I came across a quote of hers recently in which she stated, “What we know matters, but who we are matters more.”

Do me a favor: repeat that quote but make it personal – “What I know matters, but who I am matters more.”



**Life**  
**Loyalty**  
**Learning**

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Consider our Extension Keys that were rolled out a year or two ago: Trust, Inclusion, Care, Adaptability and Efficiency. Now, if I am honest, I sometimes don't buy in to corporate mantras or new “who we are” kind of campaigns.

But I like this one. I think the reason why is because it was something that we, as a whole, voted on. We had an opportunity to choose what these keys would be - what it is that we value. And as I look at these, at least three of the five of trust, inclusion and care refer to who we are as people. They don't refer to a specific job or task we can perform. Perhaps Brené Brown is right. Sure, what we know matters, and it is important to always grow and learn and do our jobs well and efficiently.

But who we are matters more.

Perhaps I am a little biased, but I think we as support staff are a fantastic group of individuals! We are foundational – we anchor our offices. But there's always room for improvement! I'm hoping 2026 is a year of growth for you, not just professionally, but personally. What we know matters, but who we are matters more. What if our little subset of support staff became a part of this organization that was known not just for trust, inclusion, and care, but what if we were known for compassion or simple kindness? What if we took care of one another both professionally and personally? How might that change our workplace? How might it change our lives?

With that said, I want to encourage you all to have a great start to 2026. Let us know how Chi Epsilon Sigma can better assist you in becoming the BEST YOU POSSIBLE! I'm hoping that we can all do great things together this year – I am excited for the journey!

Julie Evans, evans.1243

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# Meeting Dates

2026  
**CHI EPSILON SIGMA**  
MEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

- January 15th (TEAMS)
- March 26th (TEAMS)
- May 20th (in-person)
- August 19th (TEAMS)
- November 19 (tentative)
- December Annual Conf.

TEAMS MEETING TIME: 2:00 PM  
MEETING ATTENDEES: ALL CES MEMBERS  
MEETING INFORMATION AND AGENDA WILL BE SENT PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED DATE AND TIME



The purpose of this Fraternity shall be to maintain the standards and ideals, uphold the morale, prestige and respect of Ohio State University Extension Support Staff, to develop an effective working relationship and a spirit of fraternal fellowship among the present and emeriti employees of Ohio State University Extension and to encourage professionalism within Extension.

## Constitution and bylaws

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# Get Involved!

Put your talents and skills toward serving on a CES committee all while getting to know other colleagues across Ohio.

- **Annual Meeting Committee**
- **Nominating Committee**
- **Membership and Annual Meeting Sponsorship Committee**
- **Budget and Finance Committee**
- **Awards Committee**
- **Outreach Committee**
- **Recognition Committee**
- **Fundraiser Committee**
- **Professional Improvement and Activities Committee CES Constitution and Bylaws Committee**

To sign up, visit  
[go.osu.edu/committees26](http://go.osu.edu/committees26)

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# Annual Meeting

The 39<sup>th</sup> CES Annual Meeting was held December 8, 2025 at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center.

President, Paige Matney, welcomed those in attendance and offered a moment of silence in remembrance of CES members who have passed.

Then, honorary members Pat Bebo and Sarah Carpenter were inducted. Following induction of honorary members, the business meeting began. The business meeting included attendance, approval of the 2024 annual meeting minutes, approval of the 2026 proposed budget, years of service awards, secret friend reveal, new member recognition, distinguished service awards, professional development update, board member recognition, and ended with the installation of the 2026 officers.



# Annual Meeting



Welcome new members!



10 Years of Service



40 Years of Service

# Annual Meeting

## Congratulations Award Winners!

### **Extension Support Staff Excellence Award**

Carol Wagner, office administrative associate,  
Extension Operations



### **Dorothy Rex Inspirational Award**

Angie Keshock, office coordinator,  
Columbiana County



# Annual Meeting

## Congratulations Award Winners!



Distinguished Service Award  
**Early Career**

Rhonda Mahaney  
Ottawa County



Distinguished Service Award  
**Mid-Career**

Erin Mancuso  
Seneca County



Distinguished Service Award  
**Advanced Career**

Marianne Guthrie  
OSU Extension Operations

# TERSSA Update



## Ohio Shines at TERSSA Conference

Ohio Extension professionals played a leading role in planning the first stand-alone TERSSA Conference, thanks to Erin Mancuso, Paige Matney, Carol Wagner, Rhonda Mahaney, and Chris Comden.

**Session Leaders:** Julie Evans, Carol Wagner, and Erin Mancuso.

### Award Recipients:

- Angie Keshock – Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award (Office Coordinator, Columbiana County)
- Rhonda Mahaney – Award of Excellence (Office Associate, Ottawa County)
- Julie Evans – Executive Board Award (Office Associate, Pike County)

### Looking Ahead to 2026:

Ohio will have four new TERSSA board members:

- Carol Wagner – President
- Rhonda Mahaney – Webmaster
- Paige Matney – Secretary
- Marianne Guthrie – Membership Secretary

Plus, Erin Mancuso will serve as Chair for the 2026 Annual Conference.

## Ohio Shines at TERSSA Conference

**Angie  
Keshock**

**Above and  
Beyond the  
Call of Duty  
Award**

Office coordinator  
Columbiana  
County

**Rhonda  
Mahaney**

**Award of  
Excellence**

Office  
Associate,  
Ottawa  
County

**Julie  
Evans**

**Executive  
Board  
Award**

Office  
associate,  
Pike County

# Professional Development

Ohio State faculty, staff and students have free access to **LinkedIn Learning**, provided by the Office of Human Resources, the Ohio State Wexner Medical Center and the University Staff Advisory Committee. You get 24/7 unlimited access to learn at your own pace in courses that are relevant to your current role or also many other passions. There are 30-70 new courses added weekly, which gives you the ability to grow and develop in the areas you care about both at and outside of work.

[usac.osu.edu/resources/learning](https://usac.osu.edu/resources/learning)

**Save the date!**

**CES**

**Professional  
Development  
Day**

**Wednesday,  
May 20, 2026**

## **CES Bite-Size Learning**

**January 21 @ 11 a.m.**

Sarah Carpenter: 4-H Online Tips/Updates

**February 18 @ 11 a.m.**

Angie Keshock: From Numbers to Knowledge Fiscal Reports  
Made Easy

**March 18 @ 11 a.m.**

All CES + TERSSA members joint session  
Part one of ongoing mental health series

# Contact Us

President - Julie Evans, evans.1243

Vice President - Meghan Burdsall, burdsall.9

Treasurer - Rhonda Mahaney, mahaney.23

Secretary - Moriah Behymer, behymer.9

Historian - Christine Bensman, bensmen.88

Membership Secretary - Angie Keshock, keshock.3

Annalist - Ashley Gerber, gerber.248

Support Staff Liaison - Erin Mancuso, mancuso.48

Staff Advisory Council Liaison - Teresa Funk, funk.67

Past President - Paige Matney, matney.30



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new CES  
Facebook page!  
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om/  
ces.alphaohio!](https://www.facebook.com/ces.alphaohio/)