As the population continues to grow and diversify, our quality of life increasingly depends on family well-being and community vitality as a shared priority for all Americans. Through research, education, and extension, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture’s (NIFA) Family & Consumer Sciences programs focus on promoting community vitality and strengthening family well-being in partnership with the Land-Grant University and Cooperative Extension System.
NIFA’s Division of Family & Consumer Sciences programs strengthen families, farms, communities, and the economy by focusing on the human and community dimensions of food and agriculture and addressing priority issues through scientific research and its application; strategic partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies; extension education; and preparing the next generation of Family & Consumer Sciences professionals. National program leaders in Family & Consumer Sciences focus on two broad thematic areas:

**FAMILY WELL-BEING** focuses on traditional Family & Consumer Sciences programs in research, education, and extension including:
- CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
- FINANCIAL CAPABILITY
- HEALTH AND WELLNESS
- HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

**COMMUNITY VITALITY** focuses on the socio-economic potential of rural/urban interdependence and addressing the critical needs of people and places through:
- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- RURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
- URBAN EXTENSION

The Division of Family & Consumer Sciences advances NIFA’s mission: *Invest in and advance agricultural research, education, and extension to solve societal challenges.*