

# The Secret History of Home Economics and Family and Consumer Sciences

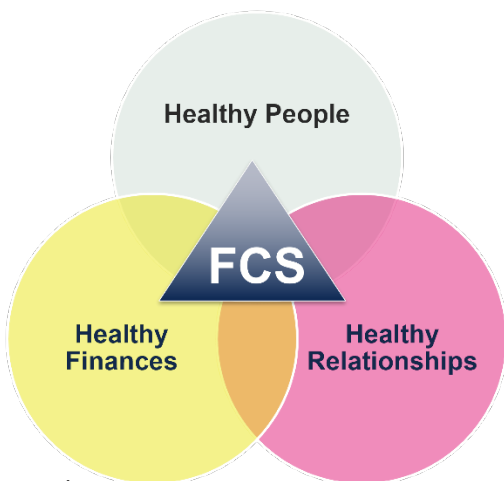
Patrice Powers-Barker, OSU Extension Lucas County [powers-barker.1@osu.edu](mailto:powers-barker.1@osu.edu)

Melissa J. Rupp, OSU Extension Fulton County [rupp.26@osu.edu](mailto:rupp.26@osu.edu)

## TODAY:

- Review career foundation of Family and Consumer Sciences
- See the “threads” that run between your generational history and stories
- Learn past stories of others to encourage and support one another now
- Know your important worth in this profession and keep doing *your* good work!

*The science and art of living and working well in our complex world*



Ohio State University Extension, FCS

FCS strands, Ohio Department of Education	
1	Career Development
2	Family Development
3	Food and Nutrition
4	Personal Finance and Consumerism
5	Health and Wellness
6	Design
7	Living Environment

### *People Centered Science*

Trailblazing People in Your Life	“Be the things you loved most about the people who are gone” (unknown)

“For the many differences among Beecher, Richards and Washington, all three were working women who wanted to empower other women through education. They believed that improving the home could and would improve society”  
~ Danielle Dreilinger (p23)

“These women didn’t know they were making history; they were just living their lives. They were going to work, taking care of their families, going to church on the weekends, they were Girl Scout leaders. They had all of these unique parts of their identities”.  
~ Margot Lee Shetterly, author of ‘Hidden Figures’

“Together, we are stronger and smarter and braver and kinder than any one of us alone. We are what the world needs”.  
~ Monica Clark-Robinson

#### References:

- Family and Consumer Sciences, Career Field Technical Content Standards (2015). Ohio Department of Education.  
<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Career-Tech/Family-and-Consumer-Sciences>
- Clark-Robinson, M. (2021). *Standing on Her Shoulders: a Celebration of Women*. (L. Freeman, Illus.). Orchard Books.
- Donnan, R. (1954). The Beginning of Agricultural Extension Work in Northwestern Ohio. The Historical Society of Northwestern Ohio, Toledo. Northwest Ohio Quarterly, Winter 1954, Volume XXVI – No. 1.
- Dreilinger, D. (2021). *The secret history of home economics: How trailblazing women harnessed the power of home and changed the way we live*. W W Norton & Company.
- McGregor, S. (2020). *Home ecology to home economics and beyond: Ellen Swallow Richards’ disciplinary contributions*. Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences. Vol. 112 No. 2.
- Miami University. Digital Collections. Alice Swisher Memorial: <https://digital.lib.miamioh.edu/digital/collection/facmem/id/209>
- Nickols, S., Ralston, P., Anderson, C., Browne, L., Schroeder, G., Thomas, S., and Wild, P. (2009). *The family and consumer sciences body of knowledge and the cultural kaleidoscope: Research opportunities and challenges*. Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal, vol 37:3: 266-283.
- Rodriguez, H. (2016, Nov 28). Margot Lee Shetterly, author of ‘Hidden Figures,’ Topic of major motion picture, speaking on Friday. TAM <https://today.tamu.edu/2016/11/28/author-of-hidden-figures-topic-of-major-motion-picture-speaking-on-friday/>