

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Paul Roback | 262-335-4480

The Executive Director of **Citizen Advocates** contacted Paul to facilitate a strategic planning process for the organization. The mission of Citizen Advocates is it “to promote the value of life-enriching relationships that defend and support people living with disabilities.” After a pre-planning meeting with the Executive Director and Board President, Paul designed and facilitated two strategic thinking sessions that engaged 10 board members and staff.

As a result of Paul’s facilitation, 100% agreed that updating their mission statement helped clarify their role as an organization, creating a vision statement assisted them in understanding the general direction for their organization, prioritizing goals increased their ability to set priorities, and discussing action plans increased their ability to identify next steps for future implementation. Overall, participants rated Paul’s facilitation as excellent (4.9 on a 5-point Likert Scale) and one participant commented that Paul “definitely helped to give us much needed focus to stabilize and reach our goals.” After the session, Paul developed a draft planning report for the board to approve at their next meeting.

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Ron Jakubisin | 262-335-4481

Ron has continued to get oriented to Washington Co. He attended Germantown Youth Future’s Board with Carol Bralich. This lead to Ron meeting with Elevate’s Prevention Coordinator Mikeala Becker to learn about the Germantown area and youth development. Ron has also met with other administrators and staff of youth serving agencies including: Boys and Girls Club of West Bend, Wisconsin Safe and Healthy Schools, Youth for Christ (serving Washington and FDL).

Ron is contributing to UW Extension’s *THRIVE Today for Tomorrow™* toolkit coordinated by Steph Plaster. He is putting together resource sheets about parents communicating with youth, youth dealing with family stressors along with state and national links/resources.

Ron has been preparing to assist with camp youth/staff trainings that will take place on several Saturdays in April. Ron will also represent Washington Co. Extension at the Wisconsin statewide 4-H and Youth Conference coming up in June by presenting two workshops to youth participants.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
WASHINGTON COUNTY

Program Highlights April 2019



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UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL	
Thu., Apr., 4th	Heart of the Farm , Farm WI Discovery Center Manitowoc, 10:00 am
Thu., Apr., 11th	Raising Resilient Children , Washington Co. Family Center, 2376 W. Washington St. West Bend, 6:00pm
Mon., Apr., 15th	Volunteer In Preparation Training , Public Agency Center, 6:30-8:30pm
MAY	
Fri., May 3rd	Farm Management Update for Agriculture Professionals , Liberty Hall, Kimberly, 10:00 am
Mon., May 13th	Building Financial Capability Training , Early Head Start Excellence Center, 2295 Continental Dr., West Bend, 9:00am-12 noon
Mon., May 27th	Extension Office Closed for Memorial Day

LAND USE & PLANNING COMMITTEE

(Extension Oversight Committee)

Jeffrey Schleif-Chair

Brian Gallitz

Joe Gonnering

Roger Kist

Keith Stephan

**Area Extension Director
Cindy Sarkady**

*“Extending the knowledge and
resources of the University of
Wisconsin to people where
they live and work.”*

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION

Steph Plaster | 262-335-4477

Thirty-six participants were in attendance at the annual **Cattle Feeders Clinic** workshop. Based on a 5-point Likert scale, participants rated their knowledge before and after each session. Participants (n=30) indicated a 1.2 point increase in knowledge after the “Corn Starch Properties, Processing and Feedlot Cattle Performance” session, a 1.1 point increase in knowledge after the “UW Beef Decision Making Tools” session, a 1.6 point increase in knowledge after the “Transportation Quality Assurance Opportunities” session, and a 1.0 point increase in knowledge after the “Market Outlook” session.

The **Midwest Manure Summit** brings the best resources from around the country to fuel new conversations and innovations on manure technology. One hundred and thirty-two participants were asked to rate their knowledge before and after each session on a 5 point Likert scale. All of the sessions averaged a 1.2 point increase in knowledge (n= 52). Participants commented “great speaker, this will change agriculture”, “technology selection is key! Great summit!”, and “excellent seminar with cutting edge topics”.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Amy Mangan-Fischer | 262-335-4478

Setting Goals: This year’s focus in Wisconsin 4-H is “**All Together, Not the Same.**” With this theme in mind, the Washington County 4-H Leaders Association Board of Directors set a goal to make specific efforts to learn about other cultures. At each of the monthly meetings, one of the youth members leads an activity that opens the door to discussions on diversity, inclusion and building strong relationships across difference. By the end of the year, each youth will have had an opportunity to lead an activity and all of the board members will have participated in 12 different activities.

Our 19 clubs and two chartered project groups also set goals this year to learn about and reach out to people in our community. The St. Lawrence Eager Beavers has set a goal to learn about and potentially partner with the Head Start program in Hartford. Another club, the Richfield Rebels, is learning more about disabilities and ways that their club can be even more accommodating to people with disabilities. The Good Luck Club plans to begin partnerships with the Boys and Girls Club and Casa Guadalupe. We can do great things when we all work together!

FAMILY LIVING EDUCATION

Carol Bralich | 262-335-4479

Early Childhood Professional Development: The purpose of the Child Care and Education Network of Washington County (CCEN) is to have a collaborative community network that ensures a safe, high quality child care and education system. Carol, as chairperson, coordinated a 4 hour Registry approved Spring Child Care Conference for early childhood educators and child care professionals on March 9 at the Family Center. Over 60 participants designed their own schedule by choosing three break out sessions that met their classroom or child care needs. Session topics included promoting positive relationships with parents, teaching problem solving with preschoolers, making transitions more meaningful and peer coaching strategies. Agency resources were also shared.

On the post evaluation, the session results showed that 89% of the participants rated the sessions they attended with a high or very high level of overall satisfaction.

Participant shared their specific future actions: I will “try to build more trust with parents and help children problem solve by using more questions.” and “implement more calming strategies.”

NUTRITION EDUCATION (FoodWise/SNAP-Ed)

Renee Vertin | 262-335-4841

Direct education was provided by Renee to 113 preschoolers at nine **Head Start** classrooms. The lesson focused on eating fruit every day for good health, and youth participated in exploring activities, using their five senses to learn about the “mystery fruits.” After the first lesson of a short series, a Head Start Teacher commented: “The kids loved it, and at conferences tonight some parents told me their child was talking about the food. Awesome!! Thanks for the great lesson and see you in April.”

At a meeting of the Eat and Move Well Action Team (**Well Washington County/INVEST Coalition**), Food Service Directors of area School Districts discussed the 2017-18 piloting of a Google Docs sheet. Renee & Program Asst. Karen had redesigned the former tool of the Harvest of the Month Initiative; managed it; and collected data about the promotional efforts, food-related actions, & educational impact made by the School Districts. Such data shows the effectiveness of HOTM. This FoodWise role will be assumed by another Community Partner, & Directors’ feedback will be integrated to enhance collected data for the Initiative.