

JUNE 2022 REPORT

We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities. Serving Washington County since 1918, Extension educators take pride in delivering programs which apply the research, knowledge, and resources of the University of Wisconsin to meet the issues and needs of Washington County.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and after-school programs give young people the handson experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

Positive Youth Development

Ron Jakubisin, Positive Youth Development Educator

- Collaboration with the Washington County Juvenile Detention Supervisor in planning a series of workshops (targeting Aug. start date) with incarcerated youth addressing life-skill issues such as problem-solving skills, goals-setting, positive decision making and alcohol, vaping facts. workshops would be delivered (separately) to the populations divided at the detention center as 'male' and 'female'.
- A monthly board meeting ("Germantown Youth Futures") for Germantown key stakeholders where
 we collaboratively plan year-round positive youth activities that promote positive peer norms,
 AOD prevention messaging, and adult/youth connections.

4-H

Elliott Lawrence, 4-H Youth Development Educator

- A series of 4-H Club and 4-H Project Meetings to conduct club assessments. Using the 6 tenets of the Wisconsin 4-H Movement Model the clubs were evaluated in an effort to guide future 4-H club training and county programs.
- A training for youth and adult staff members for the 2022 4-H Summer Camp where they learned about ways to lead the youth campers and helped plan the programs that will happen at camp. This training created a more prepared camp staff to lead a fun and educational summer camp.
- A training for youth members and adult leaders where they learned how to successfully complete
 project judging. They learned about the requirements to compete in various project competitions
 and the logistics of entering their projects into the fair.





AGRICULTURE



If it happens on a farm or in a field, the Extension Institute of Agriculture works with you to achieve better results. Our innovative dairy management programs range from genetics to farm and business management. Extension researchers work hand-in-hand with row crop, forage and fresh produce growers to provide best practices for every aspect of the growing phase. We also advise communities on using sustainable practices to create inviting spaces free from invasive species.

Crops and Soils

Mike Ballweg, Regional Crops and Soils Agent

- One-on-one consultations with farmers from Sheboygan, Fond Du Lac, Washington and Ozaukee
 Counites where farmers learned about: crimping winter rye and no-till planting soybeans,
 understanding alfalfa quality reports to better time harvest for high quality dairy forage, weed
 control on small scale organic vegetable farms, and lastly helping buyers and sellers to determine a
 fair market prices of standing alfalfa off the field. Better understanding of these agronomic topics
 result in greaterfarm profits.
- An on-farm demonstration project in Ozaukee County where farmers learned about planting unit closing wheels made by different manufactures that will improve no-till planting, seed placement and better germination.
- As a member of the Ozaukee County USDA Demo Farm Management Team, assisted in developing educational programs and outreach for Ozaukee County. Farmers, industry agronomists and agency personal with learn about soil health and cover crop practices that improve water quality, by improving soil infiltration rates and enhanced nutrient utilization.

Dairy & Livestock

Tina Kohlman, Regional Dairy & Livestock Agent

- A consultation with county conservationist, where he learned about community-shared manure
 processing research and technologies to include in the county's Request for Proposal seeking
 proposals from qualified environmental consulting firms to conduct a feasibility study for an animal
 waste treatment system for the county and its farming community that can be used by multiple
 farms.
- A popular press article written for Wisconsin Agriculturist readers, where they learned about dairy calf quality assurance. This effort is designed to show industry and university research-based best management practices to maintain and/or improve the growth, wellbeing, and welfare of a newborn calf.
- Planning and development for bi-annual forage twilight meeting for farmers, nutritionists, agronomists, and other service providers in collaboration with Fond du Lac County Forage Council. The goal of this effort is to share with individuals how to manage and retain employees, so that they can create a positive work environment and culture on the farm.





FOOD SECURITY, HEALTHY EATING, AND HEALTHY LIVING



FoodWlse advances healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for families with limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels. FoodWlse reaches individuals and families through local community partners by providing nutrition classes in-person and virtually, indirect education (newsletters, etc.), and social media/marketing. FoodWlse is an obesity prevention program that addresses policy, system and environmental changes through local and state public health efforts.

FoodWIse is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

Pamela Bartoli, FoodWIse Nutrition Coordinator

- Participate in a health-focused coalition in Washington County where individuals and agencies come together to empower people through education and resources. The goal of this effort is to support partner connections and share resources.
- Reestablishing partnerships and developing relationships with new partners in Washington County to explore programming opportunities in FoodWIse. The goal of this effort is to improve the implementation of nutrition programming countywide.
- Education and outreach for visitors of the Community Connections Market drive-though, providing tips for helping children eat healthy. The goal of this event was to meet and foster trust with families in our communities and bridge the gap in accessing resources.



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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their full potential. We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their quality of life and enriches the lives of their residents. In short, the Community Development Institute plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.

Paul Roback, Community Development Educator

SPOTLIGHT

The Executive Director of FRIENDS, a local nonprofit, contacted Paul Roback to provide board development training to the organization's board of directors. The mission of FRIENDS is "to empower those affected by domestic violence and sexual assault by offering safety, support, and community awareness." Because of this contact, Paul taught a 1.5-hour workshop to eleven board and staff members. Content included an overview of the non-profit sector in Wisconsin, board member roles and responsibilities, and tools for high functioning boards. Additionally, Paul facilitated a process that allowed participants to reflect on what they learned and identify next steps of implementing strategies to strengthen board operations.

Through evaluation, 89% of participants agreed they gained knowledge on the nonprofit sector, 100% agreed that they gained knowledge on board roles and responsibilities, 100% gained knowledge on tools to use for high functioning boards, and 89% agreed that the group reflection activity increased their ability to identify next steps for future implementation. Participants evaluated Paul's facilitation as a 4.9 on a 5-point Likert Scale (1=poor and 5=excellent). One participant commented, "Easy to follow; logical sequence of info presented" and another commented "always a good presentation. This is my second time and I always pick up something new." Because of identifying strategies to strengthen board operations, Paul has agreed to facilitate a process with the organization's leadership that would update the organization's 2019 strategic plan.



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HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS



The Extension Institute of **Human Development & Relationships** provides the tools Wisconsinites need to thrive as well-rounded, capable individuals and families. We support families in caring for each other in ways that promote growth and understanding. Our programs promote aging-friendly communities, coach effective parents and help families put technology, mindfulness and financial awareness to use.

Carol Bralich, Human Development & Relationship Educator

SPOTLIGHT

Extension Human Development & Relationships and FoodWise educators were invited to participate in the second annual Community Connections Resource Market for WIC participants in Washington County. The first stop at the outdoor drive through event for participants was to receive Farmer's Market vouchers, through the health department, to encourage healthy eating of locally grown produce. Extension provided financial, parenting and healthy eating educational resources, future Extension program information and free piggy banks for the children to encourage saving early.

One hundred and twenty one families attended the event, impacting a total of 340 children ranging in age from 0 - 18 years old. Seventy three families signed up to also receive a follow up email with links to Extension resources and programs. The purpose of the event is to foster trust with families in the county communities and bridge the gap in accessing resources.

Mike Ballweg

Regional Crops and Soils Agent

Tina Kohlman

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Elliott Lawrence

4-H Youth Development Educator

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