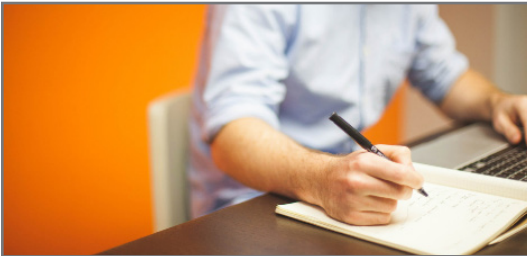




We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities. Serving Washington County since 1918, Extension educators take pride in delivering programs which apply the research, knowledge, and resources of the University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

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

The administrator for the Village of Kewaskum contacted Paul to facilitate a strategic planning process that would engage village board members and staff. Paul presented an overview of a strategic planning process to village board members, which resulted in their decision to seek community input in the planning process through a community visioning workshop.

In response, Paul facilitated a 1.5-hour workshop attended by 42 participants. The workshop started with a brief overview of the changing demographics of the village. Then attendees participated in small group conversations and documented community assets that should be built upon and limitations that need to be addressed. After small group discussions, each group reported out to the larger audience. Attendees then participated in an activity that documented their preferred vision of the village's future. After the workshop, Paul developed a report that will be used as part of the village's strategic planning process.

Evaluation results (N=36) from the workshop indicate 78% increased their understanding of the village's changing demographics. As a result of small group brainstorming, 100% agreed the session identified assets to build upon and 80% agreed the session identified community limitations to address. 74% agreed that the visioning exercise allowed them the opportunity to create their ideal vision for the village. One participant commented on Paul's facilitation by stating "Friendly – great explanation of the process. This was my first time attending something like this and I felt very at ease/welcome." Another commented that they "felt very heard and had great discussions."



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.

Dairy & Livestock

Tina Kohlman, Regional Dairy Agent

- Planning for a bilingual dairy workers newsletter for on-farm dairy employees in collaboration with Language Access and Office of Access, Inclusion, and Compliance. The goal of this effort is provide a dairy resource to an underserved audience in order for them to gain new knowledge and best management practices to incorporate on the farm to help maintain and grow economic viability.
- Planning for bi-annual Midwest Manure Summit for farmers, managers, agronomists, engineers, nutrient management consultants, manure haulers, consultants, and other agri-business professionals. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals the latest, unbiased, university-based research on manure handling technologies, so that they can improve environmental sustainability and increase farm business viability.

Crops and Soils

Mike Ballweg, Regional Crops and Soils Agent

- A Soil Health Field Day where farmers, industry agronomists and agency personnel learned about: planting green into rye, the benefits of low disturbance manure applications, and water mold root disease management of soybean. The goal is to help farmers and the industry agronomists explore and implement cropping strategies that improve soil and crop health.
- One-on-one consultations with farmers from Sheboygan, Fond Du Lac, Washington and Ozaukee Counties where farmers learned about: weed control in soybeans and winter wheat, prairie establishment, organic farming and certification, rye cover crop establishment and termination, land rental prices within the region, seed germination testing and soil carbon crediting. Better understanding of these agronomic topics result in greater farm profits and enhanced environmental stewardship.
- Participated in a soybean phytophthora root rot population survey across the region to help assess for the occurrences of new races of the water mold diseases in soybean. Significant rainfall events in recent years may have resulted in soybean varieties that are no longer resistant to root diseases, and results from this study will help plant breeders develop improved soybean varieties with greater resistance to soybean root disease.

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

- A 7-session course that helps adults of all ages to make end-of-life financial, healthcare, and final wishes decisions in order to reduce the stress experienced by survivors and to ensure that their wishes are honored.

FOOD SECURITY, HEALTHY EATING, AND HEALTHY LIVING



FoodWise 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. FoodWise reaches individuals and families through local community partners by providing nutrition classes in-person and virtually, indirect education (newsletters, etc.), and social media/marketing. FoodWise 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

- An educational event for teens of Big Brothers Big Sisters where they learned about eating a variety of foods from MyPlate, learned knife skills while preparing a simple recipe, differentiated between whole foods and processed foods, and discovered the amounts of sugar in a variety of drinks. The goal of this effort was to encourage healthy eating habits.
- A six-week nutrition education series (FoodSmarts) for adults with developmental disabilities at The Threshold, Inc. where they learn about nutrition, food preparation/cooking, and food safety. The goal of this effort is to empower the participants to adapt healthier lifestyles by teaching them the knowledge and skills needed to prepare nutritious snacks and meals at home.

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 hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

Positive Youth Development

Ron Jakubisin, Positive Youth Development Educator

- 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.
- A series of meetings with Germantown’s Youth Futures Youth Committee where students learn leadership skills in order to design, plan and deliver prevention activities to their middle and high school peers.
- A series of workshops with incarcerated youth of Washington County (12-17 year olds) increasing youth’s knowledge and life-skill strategies concerning topics such as problem-solving skills, goal-setting, positive decision making, alcohol & vaping facts.

Mike Ballweg
Regional Crops and Soils Agent

Tina Kohlman
Regional Dairy Agent

Ron Jakubisin
Positive Youth Development Educator

Paul Roback
Community Development Educator

Carol Bralich
Human Development & Relationships Educator

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