



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
WASHINGTON COUNTY

APRIL 2023 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 hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

Positive Youth Development

Ron Jakubisin, 4-H Program Educator

- Guidance and support for volunteers within the 4-H Horse and Pony Project as they engage in the Charter process to obtain Club status as outlined in the policies and procedures of WI 4-H. Through this work, volunteers become informed of submission process of Charter application as well as review and updating of by-laws, handbook, etc. in order to achieve Club status by meeting the qualification for a quality WI 4-H Club.
- Collaborative summer camp planning and training sessions for adult volunteers and high school camp counselors to engage in team-building activities learned about the essential learning elements, and develop camp activities in order to be prepared to hold our June 2022 4-H Summer Camp successfully.
- Monthly club visits to different 4-H clubs/projects that strengthen the relationship between 4-H Educator and Club/Project volunteers and youth in order to sustain and grow Wash. Co. 4-H clubs/projects within the mission, policies and guidelines of Wisconsin 4-H.
- 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.

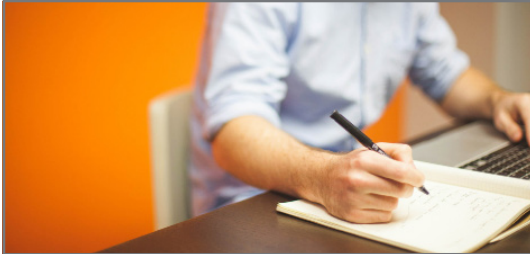


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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



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

A Kewaskum village board member, who also serves on the library board, reached out to Paul to facilitate a process that would engage the library board in developing a vision for the library. Paul had recently facilitated a community visioning session and strategic planning process for the Village Board. As part of those processes, Paul learned that the Village has a joint municipal building that includes the village hall, police department, and library. The building is old, requires numerous repairs, and is too small for the three entities located there. After meeting with the library board's president and the library's executive director, a process was designed that included researching the characteristics of peer libraries and then facilitating a conversation with the library board to identify future needs for a new library space and identify the strengths and limitations of the proposed locations for a future library.

As a result of the meeting Paul facilitated with nine library board members and staff, 100% of participants agreed that discussing comparisons with peer libraries was helpful and brainstorming the needs for a future library was helpful. Additionally, 100% agreed discussing the strengths and limitations of the proposed library locations was helpful. Overall, participants rated Paul's facilitation of the session a 5.0 on a 5-point Likert Scale (1=poor and 5=excellent). One participant commented that "it was nice to have a good honest discussion and get everyone's thoughts out in the open." Another commented "Paul is Fantastic. Helped us get on track and organized."



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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

- A series of e-mail communications for community partners where they learn about parenting, relationships, family caregiving, finances and well-being so that they can share the latest resources with their clients. The purpose of this effort is to improve parenting skills, support their family caregiving role and improve their financial skills and their personal well-being.
- An online self-study program, where participants learned about spending plans, credit, and paying bills on time. This effort is designed to improve the success of participants in maintaining timely payments so they have transportation to access employment and improve their credit score.



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

Tina Kohlman, Regional Dairy Agent

- A Fond du Lac regional Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Update Meeting, in collaboration with WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR), for WPDES (WI Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permitted farms, farmers owner/operators, crop and dairy managers, agriculture engineers, crop consultants, agronomists, professional and on-farm nutrient applicators, government agency personnel, and other interested individuals. This effort is designed to discuss and teach individuals the latest research and regulatory update to improve environmental sustainability and farm business viability by protecting ground and surface water through dairy management and feeding efficiency; manure storing and handling; and nutrient management.
- A webinar for dairy owners/managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals where they learned about providing an enriching environment for all management groups within the dairy herd to improve animal welfare and business viability.
- A presentation for dairy owners/managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals where they learned the impact of transport and best management practices to reduce stress from animal transport (hauling) which can improve animal care and welfare and business viability.
- A conference for dairy owners/managers, engineers, agribusiness professionals where they learned about innovative manure handling processes to recycle nutrients, produce biomass (renewable) energy, and to reduce manure gas greenhouse emissions to improve business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal husbandry and welfare.

Tina Kohlman
Regional Dairy Agent

Ron Jakubisin
4-H Program Educator

Carol Bralich
Human Development & Relationships Educator

Paul Roback
Community Development Educator

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