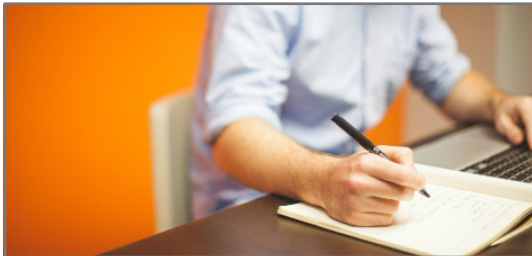




We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities. Serving Washington County since 1918, Extension educators take pride in delivering programs which apply the research, knowledge, and resources of the University 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 West Bend Community Memorial Library's Outreach Librarian contacted Paul to facilitate a process that would engage staff in determining a future direction and focus for outreach programming. As part of this process, staff wanted to gain an understanding of demographic trends that could provide insights into future programming. Paul had previously facilitated the library's strategic planning process in 2022 and this request aligns with the implementation of the plan.

In response, Paul researched and presented demographic data on Washington County and the City of West Bend. Then he facilitated a process that allowed staff to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges of current outreach programming. Paul will facilitate a future meeting to review, discuss, and prioritize future programming with consideration of current and future resources.

As a result of Paul's facilitation, 100% of participants (N=5) strongly agreed that the census presentation increased their understanding of West Bend's demographics. Additionally, 100% agreed that the session assisted in the identification of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges of their outreach programming. Overall, participants evaluated Paul's facilitation 5.0 on a 5-point Likert Scale (1=poor and 5=excellent). One participant commented that the meeting was a "Great start to a complex matter." Another commented that Paul has a "Great ability to grasp individual meaning and rephrase to make it work for this process."



## 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*

- Weekly Club Leader Update email blast. Features 3 (new) priorities, announcements, and/or resources for 4H volunteers serving as Club and Project Leaders. Distributed via email addresses and posted to webpage for all to access. This weekly email provides opportunities for volunteers to expand knowledge and skills as volunteer with in increase connectedness to countywide 4-H programs and 4H office.
- Monthly Cloverline Newsletter to all 4-H families, volunteers and leaders which includes Upcoming Events & Opportunities; Updates and Reminders; Project News; Attn: Club & Project Leader info; and Submitted News (all clubs/projects invited to submit). Distributed via 4HOnline database and posted on webpage for all to access. Newsletter keeps 4-H members informed of opportunities to learn, grow and engage as a county program.
- 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.

### **Community Youth Development**

*Kelly Dione, Community Youth Development Educator*

- Germantown Youth Futures: A monthly board meeting for Germantown key stakeholders where year-round planning of positive youth activities occurs that promote positive peer norms, AOD prevention messaging, and adult/youth connections.
- A Kindness Day Retreat for 4th-grade students in collaboration with Washington County Elementary School Counselors. The effort will engage youth in Social Emotional Learning strategies that they will use throughout the year with 'kindness' being a central theme at schools.
- A series of interviews using a community needs assessment tool where a collection of data from one-on-one meetings with local youth serving organizations and youth focus groups will be conducted, data organized, and analyzed.



## 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*

Money Matters is an online self-study Extension financial program that is available to anyone in the community statewide and can be designed as a built in component with an existing or new agency program. The program coordinator at Forward Careers at Workforce Development Center contacted Carol searching for a financial education program that would fulfill the educational requirement for the Work 'N Wheels vehicle loan program implemented in fall 2020 for Washington, Ozaukee, and Waukesha residents. Since the pandemic, an online program continues to best meet the needs of the applicants.

Carol developed a specific program description, participant directions and organization procedures for Work 'N Wheels participants. Participants complete the required module quizzes: Your Financial Strengths, Making a Spending Plan, Credit Scores and Credit Reports and When You Can't Pay Your Bills. In addition, a financial coaching session provides an opportunity for the participant to plan financial goals and action steps, ask questions from the online modules and learn more about local resources. Participants receive a certificate of completion.

During the third year of the program in 2023, there have been 23 individuals who have completed the Money Matters Program as the financial educational component of the Work N Wheels vehicle loan program. In addition, West Bend is in the top ten of Wisconsin cities with the most engaged Money Matters website total visits as of May 2023. Statewide post program evaluation shows that 97% of Money Matters participants state they are either very confident or somewhat confident in their ability to reach a financial goal they set for themselves.



## 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 Educator*

- A Dairy-Forage Day Meeting for dairy farmers, herd managers, crop managers, agronomists, nutritionists, and other agriculture service providers, where participants learned about dairy markets and policy; optimizing cover crops strategies to optimize forage, soil, and water quality goals; forage quality from field to the feed bunk; and impact of copper sulfate footbath use on WI soil, manure, and forage copper concentrations to improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and animal welfare.
- A presentation for dairy farmers, herd managers, crop managers, agronomists, nutritionists, and other allied ag professionals, where they learned the impact of copper sulfate footbaths on WI manure, soil, and forage copper concentrations to improve business viability, economic sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.
- A webinar for dairy owner/operators, herds managers and employees, and agribusiness professionals where they learned how to rethink employee training and onboarding and interactively train employees to move cattle to improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety while maintaining animal welfare and wellbeing.

### **Crops**

*Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator*

- A program for land owners and agriculture producers where attendees learned about the agronomic lessons from the dry summer of 2023 and what soil management practices may help improve crop resiliency in extreme weather year. The goal of this activity is to improve awareness of the benefits of soil health practices and methods for implementing them.
- A dairy production newsletter for farmers, managers, employees and agribusiness professionals that provides the reader an introduction to upcoming UW Madison Division of Extension Programming including the Regional Ag Day and Dairy Heifer Grazing listening sessions. This newsletter provides timely updates on Extension recommendations, events and industry news.
- Planning for a Regional Ag Day program for farmers, agronomists, nutritionists and other agriculture professionals in collaboration with the Cedar Creek Farmers in Washington county. The goal is to provide timely livestock, dairy and crop production and marketing updates to producers so they can make informed animal and crop management decisions in 2024.



## ADDED VALUE

### Extension is Partnering with Ag Organizations in Washington County

*Liz Gartman, Crops Educator*

Crops educator initiated a partnership with the Cedar Creek Farmers and the Washington Co. Land Resources division to plan a Regional Ag update meeting that includes participation of Washington county farmers, UW Madison Division of Extension specialists and local agribusinesses to provide timely updates and meet the needs of the local ag community.

### Providing Resources Beyond "Google"

*Liz Gartman, Crops Educator*

Crops educator responded to several phone calls and e-mails from clients in Washington county looking for resources, information and guidance on topics including soil sampling methods, land rental considerations, weed identification, horse pasture management, etc. The educator was able to provide UW fact sheets and videos along with recommendations to help the client manage their challenges.

Tina Kohlman  
*Regional Dairy Educator*

Liz Gartman  
*Regional Crops Educator*

Ron Jakubisin  
*4-H Program Educator*

Kelly Dione  
*Community Youth Development Educator*

Paul Roback  
*Community Development Educator*

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