

FOND DU LAC COUNTY EXTENSION

APRIL 2021 HIGHLIGHTS



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



***Community Development** provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their fullest potential. We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their quality of life and enriches the lives of their residents. We educate in leadership development, organizational development, food systems, community economic development, local government education and much more. In short, the Community Development Institute plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.*

- A two-part educational workshop for business development professionals, where we taught self-awareness skills, data, and best practices content to increase the success of entrepreneurs of color in their community.

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).

***Health & Well-Being** works to catalyze positive change in Wisconsin families through evidence-based programs focused on nutrition, food security and safety, chronic disease prevention, mental health promotion, prevention of substance abuse and health insurance literacy. Local health coalitions efforts are supported by coalition capacity building tools and health equity frameworks. Rooted in both urban and rural communities, we're working together to help solve the state's most pressing well-being needs and to ensure that all Wisconsinites live stronger, healthier lives.*

- Development of a social media site for FoodWise audiences to learn more about health and nutrition.
- Development of recorded video lessons for Head Start children to learn about healthy eating
- Planning meetings with senior center and food pantry leadership to implement the StockBox Program in Fond du Lac County. This effort will address barriers to accessing supplemental emergency foods for senior populations.
- Planning of COVID-19 vaccination education and awareness campaign for Fond du Lac County residents to receive current information on the vaccine. The goal is to increase vaccination rates and help community members make more informed health decision.
- Shared COVID-related resources to local public health and hospitals. This effort was intended to help share current information on the COVID vaccination.
- Supported local public health departments in their Community Health Assessment process. This effort was designed to help bring a health equity lens to the process.

SUPPORTING AGRICULTURE PROFESSIONALS



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.

- A bi-weekly radio interview for 12,000 Fond du Lac County farmers, agricultural industry persons, youth livestock, and youth dairy where extension agriculture related resources, information, and timely webinars are shared to help them to be connected and supported, and make better informed decisions regarding their farm business operations or youth large animal project.
- A national presentation for women in agriculture where they learned strategies to increase their confidence and listening and communication skills during difficult conversations to strengthen family, farmer, and consultant relationship.
- A presentation for farm owner/operators, calf managers, calf feeders, employees, and agri-business professionals where they learned the importance of rumen development and strategies to develop a calf's non-functioning rumen into a functioning rumen to allow the calf to properly digest forages and be able to wean from costly liquid feed in a timely manner.
- A social media campaign for farmers, agribusiness professionals, and others, where we share resources that assist them in decision making processes.
- A webinar for farm owners/operators, herd managers and persons, calf managers and feeders, employees, and agri-business professionals where they learned the latest research in calf and heifer growth development to increase their awareness of the importance of pre-weaned calf rumen development and heifer maturity post-weaning and the impact it has on overall heifer health and productivity.
- Development/revisions of the bilingual Dairy Workers Training Skills modules for dairy employees where they will learn principles of and how to do each task on the farm. This effort is designed to support them in doing their daily tasks more confidently and efficiently while maintaining employee safety and animal welfare.
- Planning and development for a dairy hoof health webinar series for dairy farmers, managers, on-farm employees, veterinarians, and others, developed in collaboration with UW-School of Veterinary Medicine and industry partners. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals the prevention and control of infections hoof diseases in mature cows and youngstock, maintenance of a foot bath, and farm safety so they can improve animal well-being and productivity through proper hoof care.

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.

4-H

- Planning for a summer day camp for camp counselors and counselors in training. The goal of this effort is to provide youth leaders an opportunity to grow leadership skills and plan for summer camp.
- Virtual youth state exchange meeting where youth participants got to know youth from different counties in WI and from youth in Kansas. The goal of this effort was to increase youth's connection to 4-H, strengthen their leadership skills, build new friendships, and gain new knowledge.

Positive Youth Development

- A series of meetings with FDL HS student club members of STAAND (Students Taking Action Against Negative Decisions) where students learn leadership skills and effective AOD strategies in order to deliver 2nd semester prevention activities to their high school peers.
- A series of virtual project-based lessons which aimed at empowering FDL's youth (4-6 grade) to become business-minded. The curriculum focuses on youth becoming entrepreneurs and teaches business planning, budgeting, marketing, donating to community organizations and implementing the business of a Lemonade Stand.
- Planning meeting(s) with the FDL County Planner developing a 'youth voice' component focusing on Parks Development utilizing Extension's 'Youth Advocates for Community Health' guidebook. This will give youth an active voice in parks development and they will learn how county government and departments function.

Cindy Sarkady
Area Extension Director

Diana Hammer *Community Development Educator*

Ron Jakubisin
Positive Youth Development Educator

Patty Percy
Community Garden Coordinator

Tracy Keifenheim
4-H Program Educator

Tina Kohlman
Dairy & Livestock Agent

Amanda Miller
*FoodWise Coordinator
Health & Well-Being Educator*

Pamela Nelson
FoodWise Educator

Melanie Phillips
FoodWise Educator

Pam Bartoli
Tina Engelhardt
Katie Gindt
Cassi Worster
Support Staff