



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

Programming Highlights

April-May 2019

*We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin,
and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.*

Food Safety, Security & Health

- FoodWise has a new partnership with **WIC and the Fit Families program**, conducting grocery store tours to the Fit Families participants. Melanie Phillips conducted two grocery store tours at the Fond du Lac Festival Foods, in which 7 participants attended. Phillips took participants around the store and highlighted key shopping tips, such as reading food labels, comparing unit prices, finding whole grains, and different ways to purchase produce to save money. At the end of the tour, participants completed the \$10 challenge, in which they had to find one item from each of the five food groups using the tips they just learned. They purchased their items with a \$10 gift card Festival Foods donated to the program. Evaluations found that 86% of participants felt “very confident” or “completely confident” to make the most of their WIC fruit and vegetable vouchers after taking the tour. 100% of participants felt “very confident” or “completely confident” to identify WIC foods at the grocery store after taking this tour. Overall, 29% indicated “I liked this tour,” and 71% indicated “I REALLY liked this tour.”
- Amanda Miller was asked to join the SSM/Agnesian HealthCare “**Population Health Group**”. The group consists of representatives from healthcare, public health, and education to discuss and address Fond du Lac County health issues as a coordinated effort. In May, Miller will share with the group localized poverty data by census tract for Fond du Lac County, which will help determine agencies to hold focus groups with families in poverty.
- As member of the Fond du Lac Farmers Market Steering Committee, Miller assisted with the “**Farmers Vendor Application Night**”, which is a one-stop hub for farmers that will have a booth at the farmers market. Farmers can complete applications, pay fees, weigh scales, and learn more about EBT, WIC, and other programs at the market.
- For the 3rd year, the Fond du Lac Farmers Market will offer the **FDL Fresh 5 Farmers Market Program**, started by Miller and Bill Zeleske (market vendor). Broken Bread and the Fondy Food Pantry will be recipients of this year’s donations from the Wednesday and Saturday markets.
- The **Thrive Veterans’ Garden** will begin planting the first year of crop at the downtown garden on the corner of 1st St. and Main St. The garden was funded by a grant that Miller received last year (Growing Together WI). It is a partnership between Salute the Troops, FoodWise, and Master Gardeners. Last year, the emphasis was on building the raised garden beds. This year, Master Gardeners and veterans will work together to plant and maintain the garden.
- Miller and Christi Gabriliska (FoodWise Coordinator in Waupaca County) co-taught a **poverty presentation** to 60+ attendees of the Winchester Academy. The presentation offered information on

poverty and hunger in Waupaca County and Wisconsin. The evaluation and verbal feedback was very positive, including “very professional” and “I have learned so much.”

- February-May is **budget planning** for the next FoodWise fiscal year (which will take place October 2019-September 2020.) Miller has been meeting with community partners to determine programs offered, budgets, and staff time. The FoodWise program will bring in nearly \$200,000 into both Fond du Lac and Sheboygan Counties this next fiscal year.

Thriving Youth, Families, Organizations & Communities

- Over 100 beef, sheep, swine and meat goat project members and leaders attended the annual **Fond du Lac County Market Livestock Project Orientation**. Tina Kohlman developed and presented “**The How To on Marketing Animals For the Sale.**”
- Twenty-three youth were trained and certified by Kohlman in the **Youth Tractor & Farm Machinery Safety Training**. This 24 hour program was co-taught with Extension Washington County and Campbellsport FFA.
- At the request of Emergency Management, Diana Hammer planned and facilitated a “**Hot Wash**” or **debrief of the flood response** with organizations most closely involved. The Red Cross, Community Church, Health Department, St. Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army, Department of Social Services, City of Fond du Lac, and the Housing Authority gave feedback to each other on what went well and what they would like to improve for next time. Notes from the session will be the basis of the After Action report.
- Hammer attended an event hosted by Fit Oshkosh and Kids Forward to learn about **racial equity data and reporting** that is being proposed for northeast WI. This effort would be a replication of work done in Dane County to spur action that improves the lives of People of Color in WI who experience worse outcomes in almost all social, economic, and health measures, when compared to white residents.
- **4-H Basketball Tournament** was held Sat, March 30, with approximately 70 youth participating (nine teams).
- In preparation for 4-H Summer Camp in June, Ron Jakubisin assisted with the **teen counselors mandatory training** held Sat, April 13.
- Shelley Tidemann will be assisting **UW Madison 0-5 years of age Commission** to facilitate a regional meeting in Winnebago County.
- Tidemann is working with Forward Services and has rescheduled the Success Series classes for Forward Services clients. Classes will now be held at UW-Fond du Lac until their flood damaged building is ready for rehabilitation.
- **Area 15 All Faculty Training** was provided by Tidemann, Carol Bralich & Paul Roback, Washington County Educators. Cross training was conducted for all in the Area.
- **QPR Training** for agribusiness professionals, as well as Fond du Lac County Extension office staff, has been arranged by Tidemann to aid in assisting individuals experiencing high stress and suicide prevention. Tammi Kohlman, CSI FDL, will be training these two groups.
- The **Co-Parenting class** was co-taught by Tidemann to 18 individuals in April.

Stronger Economies

- Kohlman was an invited speaker for Country Visions Cooperative Beef Meeting where she presented **“Consumer Perception: How Can We As An Industry Show Sustainability & Also Remain Profitable”** to 40 attendees.
- In cooperation with Extension Manitowoc, Calumet, Sheboygan, Ozaukee & Washington Counties, Kohlman developed, organized, and hosted the annual **Heart of the Farm Women’s Conference** for 65 attendees. The purpose of the conference is to bring farm women together who share the same experiences and challenges to learn about financial and production management.
- Kohlman participated in the annual **Envision Greater Fond du Lac’s Agribusiness Council’s Ag Showcase**, where nearly 1500 individuals attended to learn about Fond du Lac County’s diverse agriculture industry and community.
- Fond du Lac County is one of the newest counties to establish a producer-led farmer group to support soil health. Kohlman has been working with this group on their first major event: **Cover Crops, Carbon, and Conservation Soil Health Meeting**. Seventy plus individuals attended this kick-off event, with the group planning additional on-farm meetings this summer.
- Eleven individuals participated in the final **Dairy InSight Meeting Series** with March’s meeting focusing on Genetics. Kohlman developed and presented **Maximize Profit Capture: Focus on Compliance**.
- Kohlman was an invited guest for **Iowa State University’s I-29 Moo University Educational Webinar: Renovating Dairy Barns - Giving Them a Second Career**. Twenty-five individuals participated in the webinar with the webinar being archived for future use. Kohlman developed and presented **Raising Dairy Replacements: Individual versus Automated Feeding Systems & Health Management** for Pre-Weaned Calves.
- At the recent Joint Council of Extension Professionals Conference, Kohlman co-developed and co-presented **Finding the Balance: Calf Health versus Cost of Production** for 18 individuals. The purpose of the presentation was to go into detail on the cost of raising dairy replacements and the best management practices farmers and calf raisers are using to achieve those costs in raising the pre-weaned calf.
- Hammer taught two rounds of **Going Solo Business Simulation** to 66 students at Laconia High School. The game teaches pricing, fixed costs, variable costs, and adds an element of chance to recreate a real-life business environment.
- Hammer and Joseph Malual (Chippewa County Extension) taught **Fit Oshkosh’s research assistant**, Rajon Hall, how to interview business owners, and debriefed with him after three practice interviews in Milwaukee. Rajon & Diana also attended Ebony Vision to invite their members to participate in interviews, with the goal of completing 50 by June.
- Hammer and Ron Jakusibin taught three sessions to nine families participating in [Lemonade Day 2019](#) (Saturday, May 4). The 15 students made flyers to promote their stands, practiced and presented pitches to a “banker” from Envision Greater Fond du Lac in order to receive loans of \$50, and also created job descriptions and menus.
- Hammer met with the director of the **Latino Chamber of Dane County** to explore her interest in offering educational programming to Fond du Lac area Latino business owners.

- In conjunction with Mayra Castaneda of the Health Department, Hammer hosted a third meeting for **entrepreneurs starting food-based businesses** in the summer. Five people (three Latinx, one Hmong, & one African American) attended to learn about business planning, the differences between temporary food stands and mobile units, permitting, and food safety. This event will be repeated on May 14 and June 11.
- **Money Smart Week** reached 1,300+ Fond du Lac County individuals. Tidemann taught three youth sessions (2 at the library-10 attended & 1 at Chegwin Elementary-20 attended); How to Set Up a Budget class with 21 attendees and 4 worksites-Integral Saw-34, Society Insurance-12, Holiday Auto-13 and Lakeland Care-75 individuals.
- **THRIVE Collaboration** in Area 15 – Tidemann is working with Tina Kohlman, Washington County Educators Bralich & Plaster to build education outreach and a resource tool box aimed at assisting agribusiness audiences working with Fond du Lac & Washington County farmers experiencing financial stress.
- **Rent Smart** class was taught by Tidemann for five individuals at the homeless shelter.

Resilient & Productive Environment

- With the state of the ag economy, many agri-business professionals are not comfortable with some of the personal and emotional conversations. Kohlman has co-developed and co-presented **Mission Possible: Motivational Interviewing for Farm Succession** at the recent **Joint Council of Extension Professionals Conference** to help 42 colleagues learn how to identify when someone is ready for change, and then how to help them follow through with a plan for change.

Office Updates

- Kohlman was awarded a \$1,200 Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) Grant which will be used toward offset cost for a National Association of County Agriculture Agents (NACCA) **Ireland Agriculture & Culture Tour** in October.
- Kohlman was awarded a \$1,000 **UW-Madison Center for Agricultural Safety and Health Grant** to support her work in Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times. Partners include Ozaukee/Washington County Agriculture Agent Steph Plaster and Family Living Educators Shelley Tidemann (Fond du Lac County) and Carol Bralich (Washington County). The grant will be used to develop a resource guide for farm families and agri-businesses.
- As part of the **Dairy Workers' Training Module** Series Revamp Project, Kohlman and team members were awarded a \$10,000 UW-Extension Dean's Research and Educational Programming Initiative Grant to support the updating and redesign of the project. Originally developed in 2006, many of the modules series were piloted in Fond du Lac County.
- Hammer attended a meeting of the **Extension Latino Task Force**, this time held at El Centro in Madison. The director of El Centro presented an overview of their programming. Diana will work to connect Latinos Unidos en Fond du Lac with her for ideas and inspiration.
- Staff attended the April 9th **Area Extension meeting** on civil rights reporting and Real Colors training.

- A new **4-H Program Coordinator** has been selected and will begin work in May. Her name will be announced after the signed contract is received.



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Diana Hammer, Communities Educator

Ron Jakubisin, Positive Youth Development Educator (Fond du Lac/Washington Counties)

Tina Kohlman, Dairy & Livestock Agriculture Educator

Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator/Health & Well-Being Educator (Fond du Lac/Sheboygan Counties)

Pamela Nelson, FoodWise Educator

Patty Percy, Community Garden Coordinator

Melanie Phillips, FoodWise Educator

Cindy Sarkady, Area Extension Director

Shelley Tidemann, Human Development & Relationships Educator

Vacant, Crops & Soils Agriculture Educator (Fond du Lac/Dodge Counties)

Vacant, 4-H Program Coordinator