

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

Thriving Youth, Families, Organizations & Communities

- As part of the **required continuing education for 4-H club and group leaders**, Denise Retzleff hosted an October e-forum on “Cultivating an Environment for Growing True Leaders” attended by 8 volunteers, and another in December “Helping 4-Hers Grow in Life and Work” attended by 11 volunteers. Through these trainings, 4-H club leaders gain skills and ideas to strengthen their leadership and the educational impact of club activities.
- Shelley Tidemann was asked by Rock River Elementary School in Waupun to provide a **family focused session featuring communication**. Twenty-six families attended the session where parents were given information and activities to increase their talking “with” their children rather than “at” their children.
- Tidemann was contacted by Baker Cheese HR office to provide a **financial session** at Baker Cheese for employees on how to set up a spending plan.
- Tidemann continues teaching at Forward Services the **Success Series classes**. Stress management was featured for two different weeks in December as well as how to manage change in one’s life. There are 7 – 11 individuals sent to the sessions by Forward Services staff.
- Tidemann provided **budgeting class** for four students in the Fresh Start ADVOCAP program.
- The North Fond du Lac Elementary School Friendship Learning Center hosted a **Multicultural Holiday Celebration** for Latino families. Araceli Oswald (4-H Youth Development Assistant) coordinated this event for the fourth year. The goal of this event was to bring the Latino community together to interact and to celebrate diversity, their culture and traditions. The group Latinos Unidos en Fond du Lac led activities at this event.
- The **Latino Youth Dance** group performed for the first time at a community event; 22 youth danced at the NFDL School Holiday Celebration.
- Araceli Oswald is a member of the **Statewide 4-H Expanding Access team**. They are currently working on a strategic plan to address some Civil Rights issues. The first step: recommendations are expected to be done by February.

Food Safety, Food Security & Health

- A **new partnership has formed between FoodWise and WINGS** at Riverside School. Classes will be an hour long and held six times a year. In December Pamela Nelson taught 10 students about MyPlate and making healthy food choices. Students helped put food models into the correct food group. Students were engaged and the teachers were very happy with the class and what the students learned.
- **HealthYouth**, a nutrition and healthy living program offered in partnership by FoodWise and Agnesian HealthCare, will be offered to all 4th grade students at Chegwin Elementary School starting the end of January. This is a 5 part series.

Stronger Economies

- Diana and Araceli partnered with **Latinos Unidos en Fond du Lac** and the **Latino Entrepreneurial Network** in Milwaukee to host two seminars in Spanish for area residents to learn about personal taxes (7 people attended) and business taxes (9 people attended), including potential changes in 2018 based on the recent changes passed in Congress.
- Diana attended the **Regional People of Color Business Association** meeting in Oshkosh to offer the support of IGNITE! Business Success and learn from 15 minority entrepreneurs from Fond du Lac, the Fox Valley, and Green Bay areas.
- The **IGNITE! Business Success Steering Committee** awarded the final two grants to local start-ups, fulfilling the requirements of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation grant received in 2017. The application for a 2018 WEDC grant was denied.
- Tina Kohlman was an invited speaker at the annual **John Deere Days hosted by Ballweg Implement, Waupun**. Tina spoke on the “Cost of Dairy Replacements: Traditional versus Automated Feeders” based on data collected for a research project she and her colleagues conducted this past summer.
- Tina Kohlman presented at the annual **Fond du Lac County Forage Council “Dairy-Forage Day”** meeting to 33 individuals. Topics developed and presented included: “Cost of Dairy Replacements: Traditional versus Automated Feeders” and “Cultivating Your Farm Business’s Future: A Look at Farm Succession.”
- Tina Kohlman co-developed and hosted with UW-Extension Oconto County Agriculture Agent Sarah Mills-Lloyd the annual UW-Extension Dairy Team regional dairy replacement meeting. The meeting **“Better Heifers...Better Cows”** focused on management practices on all aspects of dairy replacements. Tina Kohlman co-presented: “Cost of Dairy Replacements: Traditional versus Automated Feeders” based on data collected for a research project she and her colleagues conducted this past summer.

Office Updates

- Tina Kohlman continues to serve on the **Farm Technology Days (FTD) 2.2 workgroup** with the task to develop recommendations and position descriptions for the county agent/educator role in FTD. Work with this task force should be completed by end of January.
- The position has been posted widely for the **60% Fond du Lac/Sheboygan County Nutrition Educator**. The deadline for application is January 15.
- FoodWise staff is currently participating in a 3 part series called **“Expanding Access”**. This series will provide localized data on race and ethnicity by geographic area for Fond du Lac County residents. This will help inform program planning and other important programming decisions.
- Amanda Miller is currently meeting one-on-one for 3 times with an individual in need of **food budgeting and healthy eating** information. This individual was referred by a community agency.