



**Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

# Programming Highlights

January-February 2019

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

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## Stronger Economies

- **Money Smart Head Start newsletter** project continues. The program has expanded to include 120 families of 3 years olds as well as the 85 4K families from last year who are getting the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the newsletter. There are also 30 families receiving the newsletter in Spanish.
- **Rent Smart** was held in January with 17 individuals receiving their Rent Smart certificate. Lakeland Care has inquired about Rent Smart education and will be sending clients to attend classes in 2019.
- Shelley Tidemann continues to work with the **Money Smart Week Committee**, preparing for the Kids Read event and other youth programming the week of March 30 – April 6, 2019. Tidemann working with the FDL Library for a Kids Day as well as Chegwinn School for a parent/child event, plus a FDL K-4 Parent/Child event.
- Tidemann and the Waushara County Family Living Educator presented a Poster Session at the UWEX All Staff State meeting in December. The Poster presentation is on the **Dollars During Development program** progress with the CFPB in Washington DC, National Money Smart Week, as well as use throughout the state of Wisconsin.
- Tidemann has been providing **financial coaching**. Additional work has been done with McNellius Steel employees and Mahala's Hope clients.
- Tidemann is preparing for the **Credit Report Campaign** for 2019. February 2<sup>nd</sup> is coming up! Have you checked your Credit Report? If not, check your recent e-mail that was sent to FDL County employees!
- Diana Hammer taught 16 students of the Envision Greater Fond du Lac **Youth Leadership class** the *Going Solo* business simulation game. Students practiced pitching their ideas to the group, pricing, and breakeven point calculations.
- Hammer arranged interpretation in Hmong & Spanish, individually invited participants, and then hosted **"Empezar Su Puesto de Comida/Starting Your Food Stand"** with the Fond du Lac County Health Department and ADVOCAP. Eight entrepreneurs learned about food safety, equipment, and set up rules that govern food trucks and food stands at temporary events in the summer. These working sessions will occur monthly through June: <https://www.facebook.com/events/309715989884992/>.
- Hammer is chairing the Steering Team for **IGNITE! Business Success**. This month she guided the group as they discussed changing the level of commitment to entrepreneurship programming needed to be a partner, something recommended in the Collective Impact best practice literature. They are also exploring additional grants, as a proposal to WEDC was not funded.

## Thriving Youth, Families, Organizations & Communities

- **Just in Time Parenting age paced newsletter** partnership continues. Tidemann has met with the DSS Foster Care social worker and supervisor to discuss needs of Foster Care parents. A meeting with the SSM new contact will happen in February.
- Tidemann continues to serve on the **Waupun Rural Senior Grant workgroup**.
- Tidemann will be assisting with programming for the next **Empowering Women** class of participants.
- Tidemann with Family Courts taught **15 Paternity and 27 Co-Parenting participants** attending January's sessions. A total of 59 children were involved with these participants. The session content has been updated plus Foster Care has asked for co-parent sessions to support the Foster Parent and Biological Parent co-parenting relationship. Tidemann is investigating this request.
- Tidemann and Tammi Kohlmann of [CSI](#) Project Zero Suicide worked together and presented at "**Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times**" which had 100+ Agribusiness community participants present. Evaluations noted our presentation provided insight as well as materials they would be using personally and professionally. Local media/press further carried the presentation's message throughout the Fox Valley. Additional work to get QPR training for this community is being investigated. A five county agriculture resource directory of mental health/suicide resources was designed and is found on the Extension and CSI websites.
- Tina Kohlman co-developed, -organized, and -hosted the "**Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times**" meeting for the agri-business community. One hundred twenty (120) financial consultants, bankers, loan officers, agronomists, nutritionists, and milk field plant representatives attended the meeting to learn how to support farmers during financially stressful times through nutrition, finances, and mental health.
- Kohlman taught **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)** to 116 Jr Holstein members at the **Annual Jr Holstein Convention** in Sheboygan. The purpose of YQCA is to teach youth how their large animal project fits into real world agriculture through three focus areas: food safety, animal husbandry, and life skills.
- On Saturday, January 26th, Fond du Lac County 4-H hosted the annual **Creative Arts Festival**. This event is an opportunity for youth to practice and share their singing, drama, instrumental, speaking, photography, writing and art skills. 33 youth participated. This included community youth, Fond du Lac County 4-H members, and 4-H members from other counties. Judges evaluated the performances/entries and provided the youth with valuable feedback on how they can improve. 12 adult and youth volunteers helped on the day of the event.
- The youth and adults planning this year's **4-H New Horizons experience** have decided that they will be traveling to Colorado this year. Fourteen youth and four adults will be working together to plan their trip. The youth and adults will work together to determine the details for travel and lodging. The group will also work together to arrange their service projects and educational sightseeing.
- Hammer and Mangan-Fischer began planning a **Lemonade Day** series of workshops for youth and their adults. Fond du Lac County 4-H will be partnering with Envision Greater Fond du Lac this year. Youth not involved with Lemonade Day through their school or other youth group will be invited to participate in Extension's program. Interested youth will be required to attend at least six of eight one hour long sessions. The series will begin with an informational meeting on February 12. Each session will focus on a different aspect of starting a business. Topics will include budgeting, securing a location, budgeting, creating a quality product, advertising and more. Lemonade Day is Saturday, May 4, 2019.

- Hammer met three times with representatives of the Solution Center, St. Vincent De Paul, and Salvation Army as they sort through how to better address **emergency housing and prevention**. She asked clarifying questions, organized notes, and witnessed impressive teamwork as three independent organizations voluntarily negotiate how to best pool their resources for the benefit of area residents.
- Hammer and Mangan-Fischer learned of a grant program through the Archdiocese of Milwaukee that would fit **Latinos Unidos en Fond du Lac** perfectly. They attended a meeting to share the opportunity with the group, and Hammer consulted with leaders as they write a proposal for \$15,000 to support the start of their nonprofit.
- Tracey Robertson joined Bob Hoffmaster and Hammer in an **interview about race on KFIZ**. Tracey is the co-founder of Fit Oshkosh and the Regional People of Color Business Association. Fit Oshkosh advances people's racial literacy so individuals have more skills to negotiate in a complex world. The RPOCBA provides networking and support to entrepreneurs of color, something she did not have as she was starting her organization.

## Resilient & Productive Environment

- 42 attended the annual **Agronomy Update Meeting** hosted by Kohlman. Participants learned about latest research and 2018 university field findings related to corn, soybeans, small grains, and forage production.
- Twelve (12) individuals attended the first in a series of three **Dairy InSight Meetings**, which focused on Marketing InSight. Kohlman co-developed, -organized, and -hosted this 2 hour, focused meetings to help producers learn in depth various topics. As part of the meeting, Kohlman co-developed and presented "**From Cull Cow to Market Cow**", focusing on looking at the cull cow as a market cow for additional on-farm income.
- Kohlman presented a **UW-Extension Update Report** at the **Fond du Lac County Holstein Breeders' Association Annual Meeting**. Nearly 50 individuals were in attendance.
- Kohlman continues to work with the Fond du Lac County Land & Water Conservation Department and the newly formed **Fond du Lac County Farmers Healthy Soils Producer-Led group**. The group is currently planning on a large group meeting in early March for producers, as well as several informal on-farm discussions this summer.
- Unfortunately due to inclement weather, the **Building Your Dairy Future: Robotic Milking Systems Performance & Efficiency meeting** was cancelled. At the time, 74 individuals were registered for this meeting.
- Hammer presented to the UW-EAR committee about **well water safety and testing**, and organized efforts the county has taken to respond to contamination susceptibility over the 11 years of her time with UW-Extension. The presentation is available here. Before you look, how many county residents drink well water? (*Hint: How many people live here?*)

## Food Safety, Food Security & Health

- Pamela Nelson, FoodWise educator, held a class at Friendship Corner about **saving money on food away from home**. The class discussed managing food resources by budgeting for eating away from home and by making more affordable food choices away from home. Eight people attended the class. Homemade hummus was the food sample that was tasted. 86% said they will budget how much they spend on food away from home and 71% will choose a less expensive option when eating away from home.

- Amanda Miller planned to co-present at the annual Wisconsin Head Start Association conference. The presentation is titled **“Connecting with FoodWise: Community-based nutrition education and healthy living resources for children and families”**, which will highlight the many ways that local Head Start agencies can partner with FoodWise.
- The FoodWise staff have revised the nutrition education classes offered at Forward Services. The new programming, a 4 lesson series titled **“Food Cents”**, will focus on saving money on food for FSET (FoodShare Employment and Training) and W2 recipients.
- Miller is participating in a 6 module series, **“PSE Training: Making the Healthy Choice the Easy Choice”**, offered by Cornell University. The online course is focused on assessment, partner engagement, action planning, evaluation, and sustainability related to PSE (policy, system, and environmental) work to make change in healthy eating and physical activity in the local community.
- FoodWise, in partnership with WIC Fit Families, will host a **grocery store tour** at Festival Foods. Up to 6 families will participate in a tour of the grocery store, which will include information on how to better save money on healthy foods. Participants will receive free child care and a \$10 Festival Foods gift card.
- Miller and Patty Percy met with the Community Gardens Coordinator in Brown County to discuss **best practices when working with community gardens, veteran’s gardens, and youth gardens**. There was additional discussion on the partnership opportunities between FoodWise (nutrition education) and garden programs in the local community.
- Miller serves on the **Downtown Fond du Lac Partnership Farmers Market Steering Committee**, with the specific role of providing guidance on access to healthy foods, EBT (electronic benefits transfer), food preservation/canning, and food safety.
- Miller and Tidemann are co-presented a **poverty presentation** at the HolyLand Food Pantry’s annual meeting, on February 8.

#### Office Updates:

- We are happy to introduce the **new Positive Youth Development Extension Educator, Ron Jakubisin**. Ron brings an extensive background in prevention education, youth leadership and coalition building in youth development. He will focus on community youth development in both Washington and Fond du Lac Counties. The Positive Youth Development Extension Educator designs, delivers, and evaluates research-based educational programming and services that focus on increasing community outreach of youth development programming; Expand and develop programs focused on increasing community engaged leadership opportunities for youth; Develop broader youth development initiatives with other program-related coalitions and collaborations.
- Tidemann is on the planning team for the **Area 15 Professional Development training** in February. Tidemann will be co-leading Colors Training with Washington County colleagues as well as assisting with Civil Rights Review office preparations discussions.
- Tidemann posted 2018 results in the Planning and Reporting System, 2019 Plan of Work has been constructed, and UW Madison Faculty Focus has been identified as **Credit Health-Building Credit worthiness /wellbeing financial behaviors**.

- Kohlman attended the **Lakeshore Technical College Dairy Business Management Program Advisory Committee** as a member representing UW-Madison Extension and **UW-Extension Department of Agriculture & Life Sciences Professor's Committee** as a member reviewing documents for promotion from associate professor to full professor for two individuals.



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Diana Hammer, Community, Natural Resource & Economic Development Educator  
Ron Jakubisin, Positive Youth Development Educator  
Tina Kohlman, Dairy & Livestock Agent  
Amy Mangan-Fischer, 4-H Program Coordinator  
Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator/Family Living Educator  
Pamela Nelson, FoodWise Educator  
Patty Percy, Community Garden Coordinator  
Melanie Phillips, FoodWise Educator  
Cindy Sarkady, Area Extension Director  
Shelley Tidemann, Family Living Educator  
Vacant, Area Crops & Soils Agent