



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

- Pamela Nelson and Melanie Phillips just finished teaching eight monthly lessons to all the 2nd graders at Riverside, Chegwin and Parkside Schools. Topics covered the 5 food groups, trying new foods, and washing your hands correctly. Some of the student end of the year evaluations about what they learned included: “I need to wash germs off my hands with water and soap”, “I need to eat veggies to be healthy”, “I learned that the vegetable group has five colors”, “Eating fruit is good for you”, and “Try new foods”.
- The **FoodWise program** recently began a new partnership with **Bright Futures of Wisconsin**, an agency that provides job readiness and life skills to individuals with varying abilities. Bright Futures of Wisconsin is a new agency to Fond du Lac County.
- The **Junior Master Gardener program**, which began in 2002, has been a beneficial program for youth every summer. The program is a partnership between FoodWise and the Master Gardener program. The program begins in late March until mid-August, with bi-weekly (during the school year) and weekly sessions (summer.) Youth plant in the greenhouse, plant in the outdoor garden, and prepare healthy foods in the kitchen.
- Patty Percy and Miller received several more grants this month for the Junior Master Gardener program. These funds will help pay for the kitchen, garden and bus trip expenses.
- Miller has been providing assistance to new staff at **Downtown Fond du Lac Partnership** to prepare them for the start of the farmers market, specifically regarding EBT (electronic benefits transfer) for FoodShare participants, \$10 EBT Match Days, and the fruit and vegetable Rx program.
- The Downtown Fond du Lac Partnership will continue with the FDL Fresh 5 Farmers Market Donation Program. Started by Miller and Bill Zeleske (farmer/vendor), the program allows for donation of produce at the end of the farmers market to local food pantries.
- Early planting took place at the **Thrive Veterans Garden** on 1st and Marr St.. The veterans garden was built last summer through a grant received by Miller and supported by Percy and Master Gardener Volunteers.
- FoodWise recently taught nutrition to the children of the mentees at the **Women’s Empowerment**, which is a mentor/mentee program for women in Fond du Lac County.
- Miller recently finalized the **FY20 FoodWise budget** (October 2019 - September 2020), which resulted in nearly \$200,000 in nutrition education staff and programming for the Fond du Lac/Sheboygan County unit.

Thriving Youth, Families, Organizations & Communities

- Ron Jakubisin & Diana Hammer coached parents and kids in the implementation of running their stands for **Lemonade Day**. May consisted of a final planning meeting of the May 4th FDL-wide event, and an evaluation meeting in which the kids shared what they learned from their lessons that Jakubisin recorded and produced into videos. Two videos about our Lemonade teams can be found on Facebook Fond du Lac 4-H page (<https://www.facebook.com/Fond-du-Lac-County-4-H-326210830871953/>). Jakubisin attended a meeting with Envision's Bernadette Seefeld as a debrief of the 2019 Lemonade Day project.
- Hammer was invited to be one of three founding members to speak at the Inauguration of the statewide **Extension Latino Task Force**. She showed photos of the leaders in Latinos Unidos and the students from Lemonade Day who need the support of bilingual/bicultural educators and culturally-informed research as they grow their skills in our communities.
- Hammer facilitated four meetings of **Latinos Unidos**: two in which the full group made decisions about community events and two in which a sub-committee worked on bylaws for their nonprofit.
- Hammer participated in two radio segments about race since the last report.
 - In April, [Rev. Mary Council Austin and Judy Goldsmith joined Daisy Frazier and Diana](#) to reflect on their long transracial partnership for change and how much left there is to do. (24 min.)
 - In May, [Fond du Lac School District Equity Coach Shavana Talbert introduced us to Fond du Lac High School senior Andrea Mayweather](#) who led an effort to measure students' experiences of racialized events and shared results in four school-wide assemblies. Mayweather has also created an affinity space for African American girls, as a place for them to gain a sense of their own limitless potential (26 min).
- Jakubisin conducted a **Risk Management training** with FDL 4-H Camp volunteer coordinators and teen camp counselors. He also met with the camp planning committee in the interim of new 4-H Coordinator, Tracy Keifenheim.
- Jakubisin attended the **Waupun Area School ELL Family Night** with Hammer and a leader from Latinos Unidos, promoting 4-H and Extension services to about 30 families.
- Jakubisin attended planning meetings with Hammer and City Councilman Ben Giles to bring **Youth in Governance** model to FDL city government.
- Jakubisin attended the first ever **4-H/PYD Urban Colleagues Meeting** discussing expanding access of Extension, engaging audiences reflective of the diversity of state and counties we serve.
- Jakubisin has completed **UW mandated trainings and professional development**: Module III of Civil Rights training (mandate), UW Data Security & Privacy training (mandate), Youth Mental Health First Aid (certified to 5/2022), and QRP Training (suicide prevention training).
- Keifenheim has been working with the 4-H camp directors in regards to camp details for 2020, as 2019 camp was cancelled due to low enrollment and not enough volunteer staff to accommodate the youth/counselor ratios. Keifenheim is working on a survey to send out to past participants to get more feedback. Campers have the option to open enroll at Upham Woods Camp or to enroll with the Sheboygan County Camp for the 2019 camp season.

- Keifenheim has been busy meeting members and leaders involved in 4-H. These groups include: Camp Volunteers and Staff, New Horizons, Teen Leaders Association, and the Executive Adult Leaders board.
- Keifenheim has completed **UW mandated trainings and professional development:** Mandated Child Abuse and Neglect training, Civil Rights training (all 3 modules), and QRP Training (suicide prevention training).
- Over 85 livestock project members were **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)** trained and certified by Tina Kohlman. YQCA is a national program adopted by the Fond du Lac County Fair and Market Livestock Committee to teach youth components of food safety, animal well-being, and life skills and how they relate to their fair market animal project.
- Shelley Tidemann along with Family Courts, taught 41 **Co-Parenting** and 18 **Paternity Co-Parenting** participants at the April and May sessions. A total of 80 children were involved with these participants.
- Tidemann developed with Washington Co. Human Development & Relationship Educator, **“Option B- Addressing Change”** presentation, which was taught in both counties (Tidemann taught 10 in Fond du Lac Co.) as support for Agribusiness agencies/businesses working in the challenging agriculture environment. This program is a tool, within the **THRIVE Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times** resources, Area 15 is developing. Tidemann received **QPR (Question, Persuade, Response)** training addressing preventing suicide from Destination Zero Suicide CSI Tammy Kohlman.
- Tidemann and Karen Dickrell, Extension Educator from Outagamie County facilitated a **UW Madison** regional meeting focusing on addressing the needs of the **0-5 years** age span in the State of Wisconsin. Thirteen agency professionals from Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Washington and Winnebago Counties attended.
- Empowering Women project asked Tidemann to present **Taking Care of You (TCU)** program to 28 mentors/mentees involved with the Empowering Women project. Tidemann has been asked for **TCU** program to support the FDL Library Staff monthly staff development needs in the fall of 2019.

Stronger Economies

- Hammer is supervising Fit Oshkosh’s research assistant, Rajon Hall, as he interviews **African American Business Owners in Northeast WI**. To date, 26 people have participated out of the goal of 30-50. They’ve shared that financing their startups has been a major challenge and that a desire to pass wealth on to their kids has been a primary motivation. One participant told Diana later that the interview experience for him was, “Great. It was so nice to be heard.”
- Hammer has convened several meetings of 10 Extension colleagues interested in forming a **People of Color Business Support Team**. The Community Development Institute Director announced that the team will receive state funding in future months.
- The **Regional People of Color Business Association** hosted a second networking event at Rodney’s Café in Oshkosh, drawing about 30 people to meet and learn from each other. Feedback from participants indicated that the motivational guest speaker, Arletta Allen of Authentically Arletta, was very popular and the structured networking game helped break the ice into good conversations.

- Hammer began creating three posts to answer Frequently Asked Questions she is receiving from people wanting to start **food-based businesses and nonprofits**. These will be expanded in coming weeks.
 - Starting Your Nonprofit: <https://fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/starting-your-nonprofit/>
 - Starting Your Food Business Checklist: <https://fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/starting-your-food-business-checklist/>
 - Permits Needed for Your Food Business: <https://fonddulac.extension.wisc.edu/permit-your-food-business/>
- **The Fond du Lac County Fair and the Downtown Fond du Lac Farmers Market** shared requirements for vending at their events with five entrepreneurs (1 Asian, 4 Latinx) at the Starting Your Food Stand meeting she is hosting monthly. One more of these will occur on June 11.
- Hammer had one-on-one meetings with four business owners (3 African American and 1 Asian) to build relationships and continue learning how she can best create learning and business growth for them and their peers.
- Tidemann had two employee educational efforts where **basic spending plan development** was taught. One hundred seventeen (117) employees serving Lakeland Care were taught in person and via digital classroom, and thirty (30) individuals received the same educational topic at Integrity Saw.
- **Rent Smart** was held in April and May with 18 individuals receiving their Rent Smart certificates. Tidemann provided orientation for RentSmart for the Winnebago Co. Extension Financial Educator new hire. Tidemann continues to wait for State Team notification of funding support for needed Rent Smart curriculum advancements.
- Tidemann's teaching basic spending plan sessions throughout **Money Smart Week for Fond du Lac County** March 30 - April 6 contributed to the attendance of 1,948 individuals in 2019! This is a record attendance for the Money Smart Week Committee Tidemann serves on.
- **Money Smart Head Start newsletter project** ended in May. Two hundred five families were offered a survey to comment on their use of the financial information within their lives, seventy seven responded through the use of English and Spanish surveys.. Forty nine families noted reading the newsletters help them to make a spending plan and helped to know where they spend their money day to day. This project will start again with the 2019 - 2020 HeadStart school year.
- Tidemann presented on the **Dollars During Development (3-D) Financial Literacy program** for families at the Wisconsin Association of Public Librarians state conference in Rothschild. Tidemann will be teaching Dollars During Development classes as a part of the Boys and Girls Club 2019 Summer School Curriculum at two sites. Tidemann will teach using one of the 3-D books with the children of the mentees attending the Women's Empowerment project in May.

Resilient & Productive Environment

- Tina Kohlman presented at the **Four-State Dairy Nutrition and Management Extension Specialist Planning Meeting** “Find the Balance: Management of Calf Health versus Cost of Production” to 12 extension specialists. The purpose of the presentation was to correlate the cost of raising dairy calves with the production and management practices associated on 12 dairy operations.
- In cooperation with the Fond du Lac County Forage Council, Kohlman is collecting alfalfa samples as part of the county’s **Alfalfa Quality Watch Project**. Samples from five farms and seven fields twice weekly, are collected and submitted to the laboratory for analysis. Laboratory results, as well as field height and quality estimates, are used by the farmers to determine when is the optimal time to harvest first crop haylage.
- In collaboration with UW-Extension Washington County and Fond du Lac County Human Development & Relationship Educator Michelle Tidemann, Kohlman developed “**THRIVE: Supporting Farmers During Challenging Times**” to help area agribusiness professionals feel more comfortable in connecting and communicating with an emotionally vulnerable farm community. Over 20 individuals were in attendance for the two hosted meetings. Kohlman co-developed and presented “**Making The Connection: Communicating With Distressed Farmers**”.
- Kohlman was an invited speaker for Diamond V’s Veterinarian Innovation Summit where she co-developed and co-presented “**The Stronghold of ??? in the Calf Operation**” for 16 area veterinarians. The presentation focused on how to mitigate the negative impacts of calf disease and health.
- Areas that were dry enough at the Community Gardens have been tilled and marked off for plots. There are a lot of areas that are extremely wet, so it may be a very late planting season for a few of the gardeners.

Office Updates

- Tracy Keifenheim started on May 10th as the new **4-H Program Coordinator**.
- Tidemann was notified that she has been selected to receive the **National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences Continued Excellence award** representing Wisconsin. Tidemann receives the award in October in Hershey PA.
- Tidemann selected to serve on the Program Manager for Financial Security in the HDR Institute Search and Screen Committee.
- Tidemann selected to co-facilitate at the State HDR Institute June Inservice the Financial Security section.
- Tidemann, Sarkady and Kaiser are serving on Support Staff interview team working to refill open support staff positions within the FDL Co. office.
- Miller serves as Secretary on the **Committee for Academic Staff Issues (CASI)**. CASI is elected members that serve as an advisory group to the Dean on issues related to Academic Staff, which most recently included updates related to the transition to UW-Madison.

- Miller and Sarkady attended a two-day training in February on the new **performance management process**. Both recently completed staff performance reviews using the new tools and processes learned at the training.
- Miller serves on the **Stephenson Scholarship Committee**, which just finished reviewing applications for the 2019-2020 school year. The committee meets this week to choose the most qualified candidates to receive \$14,500 in scholarship funds.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

Diana Hammer, Communities Educator

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

Tracy Keifenheim, 4-H Program Coordinator

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)