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

Food Safety, Food Security & Health

- Among the WIC population, 15% of 2-4 year olds in Wisconsin are considered obese (2014, State of Obesity). Today's youth generation is among the first to develop chronic diseases (diabetes, hypertension) at such a young age, many related to overweight and obesity. Amanda Miller is currently being certified in "[Go NAP SACC](#)," a train the trainer toolkit for early child care sites. The toolkit addresses such things as: food & beverages provided, feeding environment and practices, teacher education, and policy.
- FoodWise built a new relationship with **St. Vincent de Paul's "Getting Ahead" Program**. "Getting Ahead" is a 16-20 week program for families to build self-sufficiency through goal setting, peer support, and education. In the near future, program participants will begin receiving food budgeting information from FoodWise as a part of the series.
- Miller continues to serve as a peer reviewer for the "[Safe and Healthy Food Pantries](#)" toolkit developed by the state FoodWise office. The toolkit provides a variety of strategies for food pantries to make donated foods more safe and healthy for recipients. The toolkit will be widely distributed across the state, to UW-Extension staff and any local agencies and food pantries handling distributed foods.
- Miller has been working with the **Fondy Food Pantry** on implementing strategies from the "Safe and Healthy Food Pantries" toolkit. Pantry recipients shop the food pantry, using MyPlate and the 5 food groups as their guide. Point of decision prompts are placed around the pantry to help encourage selection of healthy foods. There is also education on food labeling, such as expiration, sell by and use by dates.
- The **Growing Together WI grant** has come to a successful end, with the opportunities just beginning. The handicapped accessible, downtown veterans THRIVE garden was built by veterans, Master Gardener volunteers, and community members. Businesses showed support through donations of supplies, time, and delivery, including Thrive Church, United States Marine Corps, Menards, L&H Gyr, Bud's Soil & Grading, SignCrafters, and Kitz and Pfeil. In total, 45 individuals dedicated their time to volunteer at some point during the project to equal a total of 115 volunteers (duplicated).
- The **Fond du Lac Food Providers** is a networking/resource group for area food pantries and hot meal programs. Facilitated by Miller, the group meets quarterly and shares resources via email throughout the year. In October, the group met to tour the new Fondy Food Pantry location.
- Tina Kohlman recently renewed her certification to provide **Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Training** for the area. [Beef Quality Assurance](#) is a national program that raises consumer confidence of the beef produced through offering farmers proper best management and animal handling techniques within every aspect of the beef industry.

Stronger Economies

- Seventeen Forward Services clients have attended the **Success Series** classes taught by Michelle Tidemann. Classes topics are budgeting, communications and stress reduction skill development. Tidemann has been asked to expand the topics offered at Forward Services and a meeting to determine potential topics is set for October.
- Tidemann, working with FoodWise colleagues, offered a joint program for **ADVOCAP Head Start** parents.
- **Money Smart Head Start newsletter** project began with the 2018-2019 Head Start school year. The program has expanded to include 120 families of 3 year olds as well as the 85 4K families from last year who are getting the 2nd edition of the newsletter. There are also 30 families receiving the newsletter in Spanish. Additionally, Tidemann offers **financial coaching** for the Head Start parents; she worked with one individual in October.
- **Money Smart Head Start newsletter** has been used with Dairy/Livestock Educator's Hispanic Dairy Workers training to provide initial financial literacy information for their use with more topics available to 30 participants.
- Tidemann continues to work with the State **Rent Smart** workgroup engaged with the new curriculum. Training has been set for a Fall Rent Smart training in Whitewater. The Rent Smart session that was set for Ripon was not held due to no participation. This will be revisited again. Tidemann is planning for the 2019 Rent Smart programming year with partners.
- [Money Smart Week](#) Committee is planning for the 2019 event. Tidemann serves on the committee. This is 12th year of Money Smart Week in Fond du Lac County. Tidemann is working with the Big Read as well as will teach classes. Mark your calendars: March 30 – April 6, 2019, Money Smart Week.
- Diana Hammer presented ["Northeast Wisconsin and the Collective Impact of Organizations Working Together"](#) about [IGNITE! Business Success](#) at the regional [Kinnektor](#) conference in Appleton with Sarah Spang of Envision Greater Fond du Lac. 20 area consultants and business owners attended and asked for more details on how Fond du Lac County has achieved this high level of coordination to benefit entrepreneurs.
- Hammer participated in a feedback group for Envision Greater Fond du Lac as they finalize their **Talent Led Economic Development Strategy** and linked this effort with past diversity and inclusion efforts in the county.
- Hammer participated in the IGNITE! Steering Team and Coordinating Council meetings, adding racial equity goals and culturally appropriate educational ideas to the WEDC grant application and giving feedback on the client management system that WisNet is developing to track business owners across service providers.
- Hammer authored a grant proposal to the UW-Extension Dean's Office to learn the **goals of African-American entrepreneurs** in Fond du Lac, Winnebago, Outagamie, and Brown counties.
- Kohlman is currently working with a farm family in the development of a **farm business succession plan**, which includes the goals of the parents, and two separate brothers and their families.
- Kohlman co-developed and co-presented **"Mission Possible: Motivational Interviewing for Farm Succession"** at the 2018 Wisconsin Farm Professionals Network Meeting in Appleton. Forty-seven tax accountants/preparers, financial consultants, bankers, and attorneys learned how to use this methodology to have the "tough conversations" and to help the farmer make the decision to change and to implement the change.
- Kohlman presented **"Feeding Safely"** at CP Feeds **Spanish Dairy Feeders Training Meeting** for 26 Hispanic dairy workers. The purpose of the presentation was to share with workers how to be aware

of their surroundings and the large equipment they use on a daily basis as part of the farm's feeding chores. Kohlman also provided additional family and community resources (in Spanish) contributed by Extension educators within the office.

Thriving Youth, Families & Communities

- **Co-Parenting court mandated classes** for 62 Divorcing and Paternity Parents were co-taught by Tidemann in Sept and October. One hundred four children were involved with these 62 parents. Tidemann is working with Family Courts and Maggie Kerr, State Extension Specialist, to review/update the Co-Parenting presentations. Tidemann is also editing the texting pilot statements which are sent to those who sign up for the additional co-parenting support.
- **Just in Time Parenting age paced newsletter** partnership continues. Tidemann continues to serve on the National Just In Time Review Board to assist with the national use of the age paced newsletter. Tidemann and support staff Kelly Lamb have designed a report template for reporting out survey findings and this has been shared with the Kiwanis Clubs that Tidemann has visited in September and October.
- Tidemann continues to serve on the **Waupun Rural Senior Grant** workgroup. This grant was given to three communities in Wisconsin through the UW School of Nursing. Survey data has been collected and the workgroup has been working to narrow down the approach to the needs in the data. Transportation issues are the highest need.
- Tidemann serves on the **CSI Trauma Informed Care** workgroup addressing trauma and adverse childhood experiences in children/families in Fond du Lac County. Tidemann attended the Healing Trauma, Healthy Communities Conference in Milwaukee. Leading researchers in the area of Trauma and ACES were presenting as well as breakout sessions. Tidemann will share the lessons learned with the FDL TIC committee.
- Hammer continued meetings with **City of Fond du Lac** staff as they examine their purchasing processes and look for ways to improve them.
- Hammer met with Ben Giles of the YMCA as he plans a **school board forum** with youth participants in the Youth in Government program. She agreed to teach and facilitate components of this project and conversations with the City of Fond du Lac and area nonprofits as they consider adding youth to governance committees.
- [Daisy Frazier and Antonio Godfrey, Sr. joined Hammer and Bob Hoffmaster on KFIZ](#) (23 minutes) for a conversation about the **Men of Vision mentoring program** they developed through [Ebony Vision](#). They compare the positive role modeling available to white youth on a daily basis to the negativity surrounding Black boys, the systemic reasons that have led to this situation in Black families in particular, and the benefits for African-American boys to see and connect with caring adult men. This program is free to middle-school and high-school age boys.
- 4-H participated at the **Lights on Afterschool** event hosted by the Boys and Girls Club. The 4-H booth offered a craft and 4-H promotion. Over 200 people participated in this event.
- 4-H members had an **opportunity to interview** with two adult leaders. Twenty-seven youth who applied for funding for educational trips were interviewed and provided feedback. Prior to the interviews the youth receive information on timeliness, how to dress and a list of potential questions. The interviews are a means to select youth to receive partial funding for educational trips and also to prepare them for other interview situations.
- A key component of 4-H is **the experiential learning model**: do, reflect, and apply. Youth who applied for partial funding for educational travel experiences and awards completed applications that included

reflection questions. Youth were encouraged to reflect and share the life skills that they are growing in. Youth shared that they have grown in teamwork, self-responsibility, problem solving, and communication, along with other life skills.

- The [annual 4-H Achievement program](#) was held with approximately 200 youth being recognized for outstanding project work, citizenship, leadership and club officer success. Award sponsors for this event include Wings Over WI-Eden Chapter, Kiwanis, National Exchange Bank & Trust, and the Campbellsport News.
- The annual **4-H Cloverbud Pumpkin Contest** was held with 17 children participating. They showed a pumpkin they either grew or painted. This event helps our K5-2nd grade members grow in self-esteem, as they share their pumpkin and answer questions about it. It also provides youth with an opportunity to meet youth from other clubs. This helps youth feel a sense of belonging to the Fond du Lac County 4-H program.
- The **annual meeting** of the Fond du Lac County 4-H Leaders Association was held, with approximately 25 youth and adult leaders attending. The program included learning about financial best practices, ways to have youth more involved and informed in the financial operations of the club, and election of board members.

Resilient & Productive Environment

- Hammer, along with Kelly Lamb, promoted the [Empire water sampling program](#), answered residents' questions, and delivered about 80 water samples from the Town of Empire to the lab at UW-Stevens Point. The informational meeting about the results will occur on Wed., November 14, from 6:30-8 pm at the Town Hall.
- In an effort to engage more families with young children, Hammer & Lamb organized and promoted in Spanish and English a [water sampling program with the Town of Friendship and Friendship Learning Center](#). Samples will be collected on November 15th with an informational session at the Town Hall on November 29.

Office Updates

- **Positive Youth Development Extension Educator** position for Washington/Fond du Lac Counties
We will be restructuring priorities and reposting the position.
- Thank you to **Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing**, Agriculture Educator Fond du Lac/Dodge, for her time working with farmers in the two counties. The position will be refilled on July 1, 2019.



Diana Hammer, Community, Natural Resource & Economic Development Educator
Tina Kohlmann, Dairy & Livestock Agent
Amy Mangan-Fischer, 4-H Program Coordinator
Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator/Family Living Educator
Pamela Nelson, FoodWise Educator
Dr. Loretta Ortiz-Ribbing, Area Crops & Soils Agent
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