FOND DU LAC COUNTY 2021 MARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Youth Development







4-H

- A virtual facilitated critique session for youth, where participants received feedback on their artwork in the Tri-County Visual Arts Festival. This effort was to provide youth feedback they can apply to future artwork.
- A virtual meeting for 4-H youth members and adult volunteers, where youth and adults began planning and making modifications for annual project day which provides hands on learning opportunities for youth to explore new projects.
- Adult leader board meeting for youth and adult board members, where spring 4-H programming, fundraisers, and 4-H promotion opportunities were all discussed to plan for modified programming needs due to the pandemic.
- Monthly virtual meetings working with youth leaders serving on the Tri-County Visual Arts Festival committee to develop and plan a virtual Tri-County Visual Arts Festival to take place in March of 2021.
- Planning for a summer day camp for camp counselors and counselors in training. The goal of this effort is to provide youth leaders an opportunity to grow leadership skills and plan for summer camp.
- Take-home art, sewing, foods and woodworking project kits that enabled youth to do hands on activities at home. This effort is designed to encourage project discovery and strengthen skills at home during Covid.
- Virtual youth state exchange meeting where youth participants got to know youth from different counties in WI and from youth in Kansas. The goal of this effort was to increase youth's connection to 4-H, strengthen their leadership skills, build new friendships, and gain new knowledge.

Positive Youth Development

- A series of meetings with FDL HS student club members of STAAND (Students Taking Action Against Negative Decisions) where students learn leadership skills and effective AOD strategies in order to deliver 2nd semester prevention activities to their high school peers.
- A series of virtual project-based lessons which aimed at empowering FDL's youth (4-6 grade) to become business-minded. The curriculum focuses on youth becoming entrepreneurs and teaches business planning, budgeting, marketing, donating to community organizations and implementing the business of a Lemonade Stand.
- Monthly community meetings, and sub-committees meeting for the FDL Drug-Free Coalition committee members which coordinates efforts in prevention, intervention, treatment and support in order to reduce underage drinking & substance abuse in FDL County.

Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our researchbased youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and afterschool programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

PYD helping sustain FDL HS Student Prevention Club

"Funding cuts have impacted the trained staff that was working with the students, leaving less trained staff to run the group. Ron has been a huge help in bridging the gap with his knowledge, skills and enthusiasm, moving the group forward from inertia to action." -FDL HS Nurse/ Club Advisor

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Community Development



- A strategic planning process in which Fond du Lac County Land and Water Conservation Department staff are refreshing the mission statement, writing a vision statement, framing the major issues, and creating a plan to respond to them. With this first strategic plan, they are forming a stronger team and making decisions that clarify their role, goals, and vision for short- and longterm environmental impact.
- A teaching event with the Future Business Leaders Association of Laconia High School in which they learned the importance of entrepreneurship, what entrepreneurs need from their networks, and how to intentionally build their own networks.

Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their fullest potential. We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their auality of life and enriches the lives of their residents. We educate in leadership development, organizational development, food systems, community economic development, local government education and much more. In short, the Community Development Institute plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.

Food Security, Healthy Eating, and Healthy Living



- Distribution of e-newsletter for Fond du Lac County residents to learn about food preservation and food safety. The goal is to help home canners use current food safety practices and to decrease the incidence of foodborne illnesses.
- Planning of COVID-19 vaccination education and awareness campaign for Fond du Lac County residents to receive current information on the vaccine. The goal is to increase vaccination rates and help community members make more informed health decision.
- Virtual classes offered for parents to learn about feeding young children. The goal is to help parents encourage healthy eating at a young age, which decreases likelihood of unhealthy eating habits at later ages.

FoodWlse advances healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for families with limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels. FoodWIse reaches individuals and families through local community partners by providing nutrition classes inperson and virtually, indirect education (newsletters, etc.), and social media/ marketing. FoodWIse is an obesity prevention program that addresses policy, system and environmental changes through local and state public health efforts.

FoodWIse is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).



Supporting Agriculture Professionals

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- A bi-weekly radio interview for 12,000 Fond du Lac County farmers, agricultural industry persons, youth livestock, and youth dairy where extension agriculture related resources, information, and timely webinars are shared to help them to be connected and supported, and make better informed decisions regarding their farm business operations or youth large animal project.
- A one-day virtual conference for farmers, managers, agronomists, engineers, government agency personnel, and agribusiness professionals where they learned innovation, research, and solutions for manure handling and storage to optimize manure management, upgrade biogas production, as well as effectively manage manure-derived nutrients and odor and gas emissions.
- A social media campaign for farmers, agribusiness professionals, and others, where we share resources that assist them in decision making processes.
- Development/revisions of the bilingual Dairy Workers Training Skills modules for dairy employees where they will learn principles of and how to do each task on the farm. This effort is designed to support them in doing their daily tasks more confidently and efficiently while maintaining employee safety and animal welfare.
- Planning and development for a dairy hoof health webinar series for dairy farmers, managers, on-farm employees, veterinarians, and others, developed in collaboration with UW-School of Veterinary Medicine and industry partners. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals the prevention and control of infections hoof diseases in mature cows and youngstock, maintenance of a foot bath, and farm safety so they can improve animal wellbeing and productivity through proper hoof care.
- Planning and development for a virtual Youth Tractor & Machinery Safety Training & Certification Course in collaboration with area FFA chapters. The goal of this effort is to teach, train, and certify youth ages 12-15 who will be operating tractors or self-propelled farm machinery on public roads for their own family or employer to learn about workplace safety and other safetyrelated topics.

Agriculture

If it happens on a farm or in a field, the Extension Institute of Agriculture works with you to achieve better results. Our innovative dairy management programs range from genetics to farm and business management. Extension researchers work hand-in-hand with row crop, forage and fresh produce growers to provide best practices for every aspect of the growing phase. We also advise communities on using sustainable practices to create inviting spaces free from invasive species.

FOND DU LAC COUNTY MARCH HIGHLIGHTS



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