

# EXTENSION FOND DU LAC COUNTY DECEMBER 2022 HIGHLIGHTS



**Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



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

### 4-H

*Tracy Keifenheim, 4-H Program Educator*

- Planning for an annual project discovery day for youth and adults, where they learn and practice new skills by attending hands-on learning workshops. The goal of this effort is to provide hands-on learning opportunities to youth in different project areas.
- Planning the 2023 Tri-County Visual Arts Festival where youth explore and learn more about art and their choice of medium for self-expression. The goal of this effort is to provide youth with the opportunity to explore art and receive feedback.

### **Positive Youth Development**

*Ron Jakubisin, Positive Youth Development Educator*

- A series of presentations to incarcerated youth at the Fond du Lac County Detention Center, in which teens will learn about problem-solving strategies, focusing on problem solving, consensus building, and developing resources to achieve positive goals upon release from detention. The purpose of this effort is improve social-emotional learning, goal setting and seeing positive adults as resource to assist in their future success.
- Monthly workshops to Youth Leadership Fond du Lac in support of the main sponsor Sophia Transformative Leadership Partnership, a non-profit in Fond du Lac. Workshops provided by PYD to youth in this school-year long program focus on team-development, S.M.A.R.T. Goal development (for community project development) and project management.
- Youth In Governance program for the City of Fond du Lac and high school-aged students that live and attend school in Fond du Lac, where youth are paired with adult liaisons of city government and attend monthly boards and commissions. The goal of this effort is to educate youth about local government and develop youth leadership by providing an opportunity for them to have their voice heard in the board/commission agendas.
- Coordination and planning with schools and youth-serving agencies for the Fond du Lac County-wide 2023 Lemonade Day program that aims at empowering FDL's youth (4-6 grade) to become business-minded. The program/ curriculum focuses on youth becoming entrepreneurs and teaches business planning, budgeting, marketing, donating to county organizations and then youth implementing their business plan by opening their Lemonade Stand on May 6, 2023.

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS



*The Extension Institute of **Human Development & Relationships** provides the tools Wisconsinites need to thrive as well-rounded, capable individuals and families. We support families in caring for each other in ways that promote growth and understanding. Our programs promote aging-friendly communities, coach effective parents and help families put technology, mindfulness and financial awareness to use.*

*Amy Mangan-Fischer, Human Development & Relationships Educator*

- A monthly e-newsletter (Just in Time Parenting) for parents/caregivers of 0-5 year olds provided age-paced developmental and parenting information. Our goal was to improve parents' knowledge, increase positive parent-child interaction, and support children's well-being.
- An online financial self-study program, for participants who would like to increase their financial capability through a virtual setting, where participants learned about their financial strengths, spending plans, credit, and paying bills on time. This effort is designed to improve participants' financial capability and confidence.
- Planning for Family Learning Day, an event for Fond du Lac County children in collaboration with Fond du Lac County Positive Youth Development. The goal of this effort is to teach children positive personal financial habits including thinking about needs versus wants and the strategy of spending, saving, and sharing money.
- An in-person training for never married parents, where participants learned children's needs at different developmental stages, the importance of selfcare, and communication strategies that reduce conflict. The goal of this session is to teach co-parents strategies that will help both parents have a positive relationship with their child.
- An in-person 6-hour course, for incarcerated men at the Fond du Lac County Jail, where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, the men will be able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing in the future, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.
- An in-person 6-hour course, for women with addiction who are currently living in transitional housing, where participants learn how to find and apply for rental housing, understand their responsibilities as a renter, how to communicate effectively with their landlords, and manage housing expenses. Through this, the women will be able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing in the future, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.

## 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.*

### Dairy

*Tina Kohlman, Regional Dairy Agent*

- Planning and development for a dairy production management and financial consensus-building roundtable in collaboration with Texas A&M University Agricultural and Food Policy Center. The goal of this effort is to gather unbiased and accurate cost of production analysis from dairy farmers so the data can be used to develop a “representative dairy farm” to assist in Congressional farm program and policy development.
- Planning for bi-annual Midwest Manure Summit for farmers, managers, agronomists, engineers, nutrient management consultants, manure haulers, consultants, and other agri-business professionals. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals the latest, unbiased, university-based research on manure handling technologies, so that they can improve environmental sustainability and increase farm business viability.
- A bi-weekly radio interview for farmers, agricultural industry persons, youth livestock, and youth dairy where they learned about extension agriculture related resources, information, and timely webinars to help them to be connected and supported, and make better informed decisions regarding their farm business operations or youth large animal project.

### Crops and Soils

*Mike Ballweg, Regional Crops and Soils Agent*

Private Pesticide Applicator Training/Testing is an Extension educational program required by DATCP for farmers who wish to use a unique category of pesticides in their cropping systems called: Restricted Use Pesticides. Farmers learn about reading and understanding a pesticide label, handling pesticides and personal safety, minimizing the risk to the environment and keeping pesticides on target.

While training is now administered from the State Pesticide Applicator Training office, pesticide applicator testing is administered at the local level within each region. I’ve worked across county boundaries within the area to coordinate “testing only” opportunities for farmers in each of the four counties, Sheboygan, Ozaukee, Washington and Fond du Lac for farmers who have completed their on-line or self-study training. I’ve also helped to coordinate an outreach marketing program to inform farmers wishing to participate in one of the regional in-person training and testing dates. Those in-person training and testing sessions will be held in Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, and Dodge counties. Extension support staff in each of the four counties will be handling testing registrations and serving as test site proctors.

## FOOD SECURITY, HEALTHY EATING, AND HEALTHY LIVING



*FoodWise* 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 in-person 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).

*Health & Well-Being* works to catalyze positive change in Wisconsin families through evidence-based programs focused on nutrition, food security and safety, chronic disease prevention, mental health promotion, prevention of substance abuse and health insurance literacy. Local health coalitions efforts are supported by coalition capacity building tools and health equity frameworks. Rooted in both urban and rural communities, we're working together to help solve the state's most pressing well-being needs and to ensure that all Wisconsinites live stronger, healthier lives.

*Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator, Health & Well-Being Educator*

- Planning parent-child cooking classes for ADVOCAP Head Start families. Hands-on cooking classes teaches children age-appropriate skills, encourages healthy eating at a young age, and teaches parents the skills to feel confident in the kitchen with children.
- Began a new partnership between *FoodWise* and Pier Elementary to provide nutrition education classes to 2nd grade students each month throughout the school year. The goal is to teach about the 5 food groups and to encourage healthy eating at a young age.
- Partnered with United HealthCare and Living Well FDL (chronic disease coalition) to distribute \$2000 in funds in Fond du Lac County, in which there was a 55% voucher redemption rate this year. The funds are intended to address health inequities that exist in our local community.

Cindy Sarkady  
*Area Extension Director*

Diana Hammer  
*Community Development Educator*

Tina Kohlman  
*Area Dairy Agent*

Amy Mangan-Fischer  
*Human Development and Relationships Educator*

Ron Jakubisin  
*Positive Youth Development Educator*

Tracy Keifenheim  
*4-H Program Educator*

Amanda Miller  
*FoodWise Coordinator  
Health & Well-Being Educator*

Melanie Phillips  
*FoodWise Educator*

Grace Gallagher  
*FoodWise Educator*

Patty Percy  
*Community Garden Coordinator*

Tina Engelhardt  
Sherry Auchue  
*Support Staff*

Cassi Worster  
*Marketing Specialist*