

EXTENSION FOND DU LAC COUNTY MARCH 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FOND DU LAC COUNTY

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.*

Introducing Kimberly Clark

Kimberly Clark is the new Human Development and Relationship Educator for Fond du Lac County. In 2019, she received her M.A. in Education from St. Mary's University in Minneapolis. Prior to becoming a Badger, she was a Razorback from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. There she obtained her B.A.S. degree in Family and Consumer Science Education with emphasis in Human Development. Kimberly most recently facilitated educational learning at Fond du Lac High School emphasizing personal skills and financial literacy among other focus areas. Currently residing in Fond du Lac, she and her husband Sean enjoy spending time together by frequently attending live music performances.



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

- Partnered with the Office of Access, Inclusion and Compliance (OAIC) to provide interpretation services to 2nd grade students during nutrition lessons. The goal of these efforts are to help *FoodWise* better serve the Spanish speaking students as the program learns about the increasing need of first generation elementary students that have relocated to the local area.
- Developed and shared county-based poverty and food security fact sheets using recent data from a variety of reputable sources. These fact sheets are intended to be used by local programs, such as food pantries and social service organizations, to raise awareness about the issues.
- Facilitated meeting with Master Gardener volunteers to plan the Junior Master Gardener program (JMG), a summer-long youth gardening and nutrition program. The purpose of the JMG program is to introduce and encourage garden-based activities and using fresh, healthy produce.

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

- A moderate and large farm operators round table discussion group in collaboration with Texas A&M Agricultural and Food Policy Center (AFPC), where participants shared and discussed representative financial and production values for dairy farms operations in the region. This effort is designed to collect data to establish a “Representative Dairy Farm”’s financial and milk and crop production values, which will be used to help develop Congressional agriculture programs through scenarios utilizing “real-word” agriculture costs and expenses.
- A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals, where subscribers learned about non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) use around calving time; passive immunity and colostrum management in newborn calves; assessing alfalfa winter kill and management practices for winter survival; and Extension dairy production and management resources. This effort was designed to provide a timely and reliable source of dairy management news and updates to help them improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.
- A presentation on fit for transport of calves and market cows for dairy farmers and dairy consultants, where participants learned to identify when an animal should and should not be transported. This effort was designed to improve animal health and well-being, positively impacting a farmer’s ability to be economically viable.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



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 quality 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.

Noah Reif, Community Development Educator

- A presentation for a nonprofit (ParkWatch) and interested community members, where they learned about local government structures, funding, oversight, and representation. The goal of this presentation is to increase understanding of how to engage with local government systems to achieve common goals.
- A series of introductory 1:1's with community organizations and nonprofits, where we discussed the support local organizations could use from UW Extension in order to accomplish their stated goals. The goal of this effort is to conduct a broad needs assessment of community organizations and nonprofits for the purpose of providing a high level of support in the future.

Cindy Sarkady
Area Extension Director

Tina Kohlman
Regional Dairy Educator

Tracy Keifenheim
4-H Program Educator

Diana Hammer *Community Development Educator*

Noah Reif *Community Development Educator*

Kimberly Clark
Human and Development Relationships 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