

# EXTENSION FOND DU LAC COUNTY JULY 2023 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*

- A day camp (“Cloverbud Day Camp”) for younger 4-H members where they learn about careers in the community through hands-on activities and guest speakers. The purpose of this program is to discover new skills, explore future careers, and experience hands-on learning.
- A radio interview for Fond du Lac County listeners, where they learned about upcoming 4-H events/activities. This effort is designed to educate the listeners as well as expand access.

### Community Youth Development

*Kelly Dione, Community Youth Development Educator*

- Coordination and planning with schools and youth-serving agencies for the Fond du Lac County-wide 2024 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, which increases the capacity of local organizations by working with young people as future entrepreneurs and philanthropists. Youth will implement their business plan by opening their Lemonade Stand in May of 2024.

## 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*

- Facilitated a meeting convened by The Salvation Army of Fond du Lac and United Way for key stakeholders where they learned about the Salvation Army’s plans to shift away from providing immediate support to people experiencing homelessness in winter months. The goal of the meeting is to inform key stakeholders and seek a community-created solution to the absence of a warming shelter in the winter months.

## 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 Educator

- Developing and planning a four-part Spanish dairy webinar series for Spanish-speaking dairy managers, herd managers, herds persons, and employees. The goal of this effort is to teach unbiased, university-based research in the areas of reproduction, nutrition, dairy management, and milk quality so they can improve farm viability and food safety, while maintaining animal wellbeing and welfare.
- A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals where they learned about recording drought conditions, taking and managing forage inventory, understanding impact of fatty acids on milk production, and utilizing fecal starch as a tool to determine starch digestability. The goal is to improve farm business vitality, environmental sustainability, and food safety.
- Planning and development of a carbon conference for dairy owners and managers, consultants, engineers, and agribusiness professionals in collaboration with Iowa State University Extension, University of Minnesota Extension, and University of Illinois Extension. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals best management practices to reduce or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and how to enter, navigate, and discuss carbon markets to address dairy production management, thus improving farm business management viability and environmental sustainability.

### Crops

Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator

- An interview with WBAY TV in Green Bay where the focus was the effect of drought/dry conditions and how it impacts the crop growth and effect on feed inventories for area crop and livestock producers. The goal is to provide viewers insight into the effects of dry weather on the local farm economy.
- A series of in person and virtual meetings with UW Madison - Extension colleagues, producer led conservation groups, USDA and Farm Service Agency partners, agriculture industry contacts and crop producers where we discussed opportunities for partnerships, ag community needs and programming gaps. The goal of this activity is to generate an informal needs assessment of the regional ag community in order to plan programming that will provide support to the community.



## 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*

- Developed a new partnership with Fond du Lac County SPROUT to offer nutrition education at Parent Cafe events. The purpose of the Parent Cafe events is to provide peer to peer learning, resources and support on the 6 protective factors (nurturing/attachment, knowledge of child development, parental resilience, social connections, support for parents, and social/emotional competence of children) for parents of young children aged 0-6.
- Hosted the annual field trip for Junior Master Gardener families in which they visited a local hydroponics farm and learned from guest speakers at a nature park. The JMG program is an interactive, summer-long youth gardening and nutrition program for youth, aged 8-12 years old.
- Providing technical assistance for the state FoodWise office to develop a plan and apply for a federal nutrition incentive program. The goal is to offer nutrition incentive programs at farmers markets across Wisconsin and to support local farmers markets, which helps bring fresh fruits and vegetables to families in need.

## 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.

*Kimberly Clark, Human Development and 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.
- Planning and developing an in-person financial course for young people ages 15-26 who are currently living or have lived under the foster care system, with essential financial knowledge and skill building opportunities. The goal is for participants to learn how to gain control of their financial future, assess assets and build economic security long term.

Cindy Sarkady  
*Area Extension Director*

Tina Kohlman  
*Regional Dairy Educator*

Liz Gartman  
*Regional Crops Educator*

Kimberly Clark  
*Human and Development Relationships Educator*

Tracy Keifenheim  
*4-H Program Educator*

Kelly Dione  
*Community Youth Development Educator*

Diana Hammer  
*Community Development Educator*

Noah Reif  
*Community Development 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*