

EXTENSION FOND DU LAC COUNTY OCTOBER 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.*

Kimberly Clark, Human Development and Relationships Educator

- A tabling event at Fond du Lac Public Library's Fall Festival at Lakeside Park for Fond du Lac community members where they received UW-Extension (Fond du Lac County) resources and information about financial capability programming. The goal of the tabling was to share information and resources about UW-Extension's Human Development and Relationships programs happening in Fond du Lac and statewide with the objective of increasing interest in and attendance at those programs.
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- An in person 2-session course for renters at a local homeless shelter where homeless 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, homeless populations and those who have negative rental records are able to increase their ability to find and keep safe affordable housing, thereby increasing their stability and decreasing their reliance on public supports.
 - Credit Basics - 4 participants registered for 1 60 minute class at the Fond du Lac library. The library asked for financial programming to be offered to the public during October which is financial planning month. Through this participants strengthened knowledge about and confidence in understanding credit, how to obtain and read credit reports, and how to obtain or improve one's credit score.
 - Money Management Basics - 5 participants registered for 1 60 minute class at the Fond du Lac library. The library asked for financial programming to be offered to the public during October which is financial planning month. Through this participants strengthened their knowledge and confidence in handling their finances and creating a spending plan.
 - 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.

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 celebration event for 4-H members, club officers, and adult volunteers where youth and adults learned about others' accomplishments and were recognized for their own achievements. The celebration is designed for youth and adults to reflect on all of their life skills and achievements from the 4-H year.
- An annual Fall Kick-Off event, where youth and club leaders learned about how to build a welcoming club. This effort was designed to educate clubs on how to support new families.
- 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.
- A meeting for youth where they learned about LEGO building skills and participated in a LEGO Build Challenge. This effort is designed to encourage engineering, use of technology, and increase knowledge of LEGO building skills.

Community Youth Development

Kelly Dione, Community Youth Development Educator

- A series of interviews using a community needs assessment tool where a collection of data from one-on-one meetings with local youth serving organizations and youth focus groups will be conducted, data organized, and analyzed.
- 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 on May 4, 2023.

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

- A farm consultation for two dairy farm operators where families discussed options regarding farm transition. This effort is designed to explore options that meet personal and business goals for one family to retire and the second family to continue farming thus improving farm business viability, environmental sustainability, food safety.
- A digital/print media interview conducted by national agriculture magazine for dairy farmers, herdspersons, calf managers and employees, and other agribusiness professionals, where they learned nutritional and environmental management practices to mitigate cold stress in pre-weaned calves to improve farm business viability and food safety while maintaining animal welfare and wellbeing.
- A county agriculture business assessment for county government officials, where they learned about the county's current agricultural supply chain patterns. This effort is designed to assist staff in identifying gaps and disconnects within the supply chain to retain and develop county agriculture and horticulture businesses, thus improving business viability and food safety.

Crops

Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator

- Planning for a Regional Ag Day program for farmers, agronomists, nutritionists and other agriculture professionals in collaboration with the Cedar Creek Farmers in Washington county. The goal is to provide timely livestock, dairy and crop production and marketing updates to producers so they can make informed animal and crop management decisions in 2024.
- A radio segment for crops and livestock producers that outlined the Waterhemp Herbicide Resistance screening project where producers learned about the opportunity to have waterhemp weed seeds tested for resistance to multiple herbicide modes of action. The goal is to identify areas where waterhemp is developing resistance and provide growers management tools to deal with this problem.

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

- Partnership with the Fond du Lac School District WINGS program to provide monthly nutrition education classes. The goal of the series is to introduce healthy living skills to young adults with disabilities that will be (or are currently) living independently.
- Planning district-wide Harvest of the Month efforts with Chartwells (food service organization) and with physical education teachers in the Fond du Lac School District. Harvest of the Month encourages farm to school efforts and healthy eating among students.
- New partnership with Sabish Middle School to provide nutrition education classes during health class. The goal of the classes is to introduce healthy foods and to build cooking and food preparation skills in young adults.
- Promoted the Great Lakes Apple Crunch in the local Extension office by hosting an event and sharing information on social media. The purpose of this annual day is to increase awareness of local food in schools and promotes healthy eating.

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

- Developing curriculum for an upcoming statewide course for nonprofit leaders. The goal of the curriculum is to provide Wisconsin Nonprofits with the skills and tools needed to foster belonging in their organizations for the purpose of increasing their capacity to create positive change in their communities.

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