



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

Sarah Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator

- Advised key adult 4-H Volunteers in the development and editing of their policies and bylaws to ensure their organization reflects best youth development practices.
- An overnight program for youth grades 7 and up in the Horse and Pony Project where youth participated in several educational clinics to learn horsemanship skills and gain equine knowledge. The goal was to master new skills and increase their confidence in leadership within the project.
- Collaborated with a partner (Big Brothers Big Sisters) to explore opportunities to reach new audiences and expand our community club program to reach urban youth through positive youth development and mentorship.
- Plans for the Sheboygan County Fair are ramping up. The Sheboygan County Fair, although not the main event of the Sheboygan County 4-H Program, is a premier opportunity for 4-H'ers to showcase what they have learned all year long. Animal and non-animal projects are exhibited and tools for learning responsibility and sportsmanship. In addition, the Sheboygan County Fair allows our program to host its most significant fundraiser by serving affordable, delicious food and shakes to the public. The 4-H Fair Foodstand also teaches valuable work skills to youth who may be entering service fields within a few short years. We are still actively building our Celebrity Server Schedule. To serve call 920-459-5915.



Positive Youth Development

Lisa Sanderson, Positive Youth Development Educator

- Sheboygan United, a community partnership of UW Madison Division of Extension -Sheboygan's Positive Youth Development Educator with Partners for Community Development, Sheboygan County, Safe Harbor, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, and the Department of Health, convened our third resource fair at the Hmong Summer Festival. Most of our participating organizations were able to provide bilingual support for Hmong speakers. Lakeshore Technical College staff stated that they wanted "to be involved in as many of these events as possible". They hoped that making the effort to reach out to the Hmong community would demonstrate that their campus welcomes students from that community. Participating organizations are also learning how to improve their outreach to underrepresented communities. Career Navigator Susan Boettcher, from the State Worker Connection Program (Division of Employment and Training), noted that "To some extent, this event made me more aware of issues that affect the relationship of some Hmong people in Wisconsin with work."



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- Positive Youth Development Educator Lisa Sanderson met with Mead Library staff to explore potential collaboration regarding youth programming in their Teen Center, as well as to discuss the September 17 Sheboygan United resource fair that Mead will host. Lisa introduced the concept of youth-adult partnerships and noted the importance of requesting youth voice at initial programming planning stages. Lisa and staff are exploring a “snacks for suggestions” partnership with Sheboygan Food Bank to encourage youth to participate in leaving written suggestions in youth-oriented library areas. Library staff also encouraged “casting a wider net” in order to reach the greatest number of underrepresented youth through reviving the Youth Area Network, a community partnership of youth-serving organizations that is currently defunct. Lisa will reach out to former partners including Boys & Girls Club, Mental Health America, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and John Michael Kohler Arts Center to gauge support and interest.



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).

Amanda Miller, FoodWise Coordinator

The most recent census data indicates a significant growth in the Hmong/Hmoob population in Sheboygan County. To better understand how to respond to the needs of Hmong/Hmoob community members, FoodWise partnered with UW-Madison Population Health and the Hmong Mutual Assistance Association (HMAA) in Sheboygan. Each focus group was approximately 90 minutes long and led by a trained Hmong facilitator. The conversation focused on hearing from Hmong/Hmoob community members about access to nutritious and culturally appropriate foods, feeding their families, food budgeting and grocery shopping, and physical activity. Each participant received a \$50 gift card as an incentive for sharing their lived experiences. The next step of this project is to interview community agencies that serve Hmong/Hmoob community members, such as the HMAA, the Sheboygan County Food Bank, and Sheboygan County Public Health. Local health coalitions, such as the Anti-Hunger Coalition and the SCAN (Sheboygan County Activity and Nutrition Coalition) will be important contributors, as well. The information learned will not only inform the local FoodWise program but will be taken into consideration when planning the Sheboygan County Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

AUGUST 2022 REPORT

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 & Livestock

Tina Kohlman, Regional Dairy Agent

- A carcass show for livestock and dairy youth, where they learned about meat quality assurance and meat production. This effort is designed to teach youth how their dairy-beef, beef, and/or swine project fits into real world agriculture, improving farm business viability while protecting food safety.
- Planning and development for a series of short-videos for dairy farmers, managers, herdsman, and employees in collaboration with Soaring Eagle Dairy. The goal of this effort is to provide short training video clips to teach individuals research-based industry practices, improve fresh cow wellbeing, and welfare to increase farm business viability while protecting food safety.
- Planning for a bilingual dairy workers newsletter for on-farm dairy employees in collaboration with Language Access and Office of Access, Inclusion, and Compliance. The goal of this effort is provide a dairy resource to an underserved audience in order for them to gain new knowledge and best management practices to incorporate on the farm to help maintain and grow economic viability.

Crops and Soils

Mike Ballweg, Regional Crops and Soils Agent

- A research project to evaluate nitrogen applications to winter cereal forage crops. Results from this study will help farmers and agricultural professionals determine the most economic and environmental N fertilizer rates for optimizing winter cereal crops yields. Winter cereal forage crops (cereal rye, triticale, etc...) have seen a substantial increase in the number of acres farmers are planting and harvesting. Winter cereal forages are becoming a regular part of forage supplementation in the lactating dairy herd ration.
- An Extension Badger Crop Connect Zoom meeting for farmers and agricultural professionals where they learned about the using fungicides on corn and soybeans for protecting yields against Tar Spot and White Mold. Using fungicides within the context of an Integrated Pest Management approach will protect farm profits, reduce fungicide resistance, and protect the environment.
- Developed a regional (Sheboygan, Ozaukee, Washington, and Fond du Lac counties) electronic newsletter (with colleagues), where readers learned about current and relevant UW-Madison Extension research, BMPs and additional Extension resources so that they can better manage their farm businesses.

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.*

Jane Jensen, Human Development & Relationship Educator

The Family Caregivers Coalition in Sheboygan County was co-founded by Jane with the Sheboygan County Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) in 2010. She co-chairs the coalition with the ADRC and works with steering members from the Alzheimer's Association, Dementia Care Network, United Way, Mental Health America, and Hearthstone as well as a family caregiver representative. The mission of the coalition is to identify, recognize, support, and enhance the role of family caregivers through 1) community outreach, 2) education, 3) peer support, and 4) shared resources in order to help family caregivers thrive. Caring for a parent, spouse or friend with a chronic illness such as dementia, cancer, heart disease, and stroke while often balancing caregiving with fulltime employment can be physically, emotionally and financially exhausting.

Recent 2022 data indicated that 261 family caregivers and 82 community organizations are current members. The current and emerging needs of family caregivers are met annually through four educational programs, weekly e-newsletters as well as a monthly family caregiver education/support group that Jane creates new educational content for and co-facilitates. Jane also creates content for and co-facilitates one-two of the educational programs each year. Content focuses on research-based health related, resources, self-care topics, etc. She also facilitates an annual evidence-based six-part evening series that targets employed family caregivers. There are no membership dues and programs are sustained through shared skills and resources of members.

- A monthly program for family caregivers where participants develop sustainable self-care behaviors in order to maintain their personal physical and emotional well-being through practicing self-care techniques and accessing local resources.
- A series of e-mail communications for community partners where they learn about parenting, relationships, family caregiving, finances and well-being so that they can share the latest resources with their clients. The purpose of this effort is to improve parenting skills, support their family caregiving role and improve their financial skills and their personal well-being.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their full 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.

Kevin Struck, Community Development Educator

To obtain input regarding municipal issues, the City of Sheboygan Falls partnered with Kevin to create an online opinion survey that was made available to 4,208 residents, landowners, and business owners. (Paper copies were available for those who preferred that option.) Together, online and paper surveys totaled 403 – a response rate of 10% and a confidence interval of +/- 4.6%.

Questions 1 through 3 were “big picture” questions focusing on quality of life and future City growth. *Small community atmosphere* was by far the top reason cited for why respondents lived in Sheboygan Falls.

Questions 4 and 5 asked about housing. The two most serious issues in Sheboygan Falls according to respondents are shortages of single-family starter homes and affordable middle-income housing. Questions 6 and 7 dealt with transportation. The condition of City streets was the top concern cited by respondents.

Question 8 sought to determine the level of satisfaction with 13 services provided by the City. Street maintenance had the highest “dissatisfied” percentage of any of the services. Otherwise, levels of dissatisfaction were low, with 10 of the 13 services having “Dissatisfied” + “Very Dissatisfied” percentages of less than 10%.

Question 9 touched on recreational facilities/activities. The option of no new recreational facilities/activities was selected by 15%, down from 29% in 2009. Questions 10-14 asked for feedback on the downtown, parking, and ordinance enforcement.

Kevin will present the complete findings in his 57-page report to the City in August.

Sarah Tarjeson
4-H Youth Development Educator

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Regional Crops and Soils Agent

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