

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.

Alicia Utke-Becher, Human Development & Relationship Educator

- A collaboration meeting with Sheboygan County Head Start and parent board where they received Extension's family engagement and relationships resources and upcoming educational events.
 The goal was to collaboratively plan opportunities for families and address gaps in service for underserved populations.
- A one-hour session for the Sheboygan County Cloverbud parents and guardians, where participants learned about emotion coaching and how to label, empathize and problem solve when children are expressing big feelings. The goal of this program was to increase positive interactions between the child and parent/caregiver.
- A one-hour session for the Sheboygan County Home and Community Education group where older participants learned strategies to make budgeting adjustments when income and expenses change. The goal of this program is to increase knowledge about budgeting and living on a fixed income.
- An interview with WHBL radio in Sheboygan where the focus was promoting Money Smart Wisconsin Week (MSWW). Sheboygan County MSWW is an in-person event where participants learn about financial wellness topics. The interview goal was for listeners to learn what programming will be available and how to access the MSWW information.
- A Money Smart Wisconsin meeting for financial institutions and community agencies convened to plan financial activities and events for the 2024 financial awareness campaign. The goal is to improve the financial capability of community members.
- A meeting with a connection's coordinator and executive director of Sheboygan County Family Connections where Family Connections and UW Extension Sheboygan County identified community needs and alignment in programming. The goal was to identify future programs for collaboration that will serve Sheboygan County families and childcare professionals.



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

- Provided technical assistance to the Sheboygan County Public Health Department for organizing a community call-to-action event and monthly priority-setting meetings, contributing to the development of the current community health improvement plan.
- Participated in the Sheboygan Collective Outreach event at Sheridan Elementary School. The goal of these events is to bring together multiple community organizations and resources to increase access for Spanish-speaking and LatinX community members.
- Partnering with the Sheboygan Area School District to teach a series of 5 lessons on Discover MyPlate in all kindergarten classrooms at 7 different elementary schools. The goal is to introduce the 5 food groups and to encourage healthy eating at a young age.
- Partnering with Sheboygan County Head Start/Early Head Start to teach a series of 4 lessons on Color Me Healthy in all classrooms at their 5 sites. The goal of the classes is to introduce healthy foods at a young age.
- Facilitating a conversation with 4-5 community agencies to discuss the senior farmers market voucher program in Sheboygan County. The purpose of this meeting is to explore ways to expand the reach and impact of the state food benefits program.



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 handson experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.

4-HSarah Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator

Youth Need Experience!

The 4-H Youth Development Program has declares that every year can be the "Year of the 4-H Project." A 4-H project is an area that youth want to learn more about during the year. There are projects on just about any topic that one would like to study and explore, from art to woodworking, from computers to rabbits, from clothing to small engines.

In 4-H, supportive adults help youth discover what they are learning as part of their experiences and dig out deeper learnings to help them in other life situations. 4

On February 17, 2024 the Sheboygan County 4-H Program offered 4-H Project Day, an incredible experience for youth to explore new 4-H Projects and create potential exhibits of their learning. 82 youth participated in hands-on learning with the support of older youth and adult leaders in 10 project areas. 100% of participants indicated they learned something new, and rated the day Good to Excellent.







Projects are just one tool that the 4-H Youth Development Program uses to teach communities of youth across America citizenship, leadership and life skills! Call Sarah at 920-459-5903 to learn more about 4-H Projects!



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

Kevin handled a variety of requests this past month, including:

- Providing guidance to a town plan commissioner regarding the proposed commercial development
 of a property that is currently within Farmland Preservation and is shown on the town's Future
 Land Use Map as potential residential rather than commercial
- Explaining Wisconsin's public access requirement for subdivisions bordering waterways to a town zoning administrator and plan commission chairman who wanted more information about such an access that was recently created in the town
- Meeting with the Sheboygan County Conservation Specialist to 1) document and explain the process for conducting well water testing programs, and 2) answer questions related to Farmland Preservation in area towns
- Providing guidance to a town chairman regarding a landowner's request to build an accessory dwelling unit, which is not currently allowed in the zoning ordinance
- Answering questions from three different landowners who had specific well water quality concerns (arsenic, sodium, scaling)
- Guiding a town zoning administrator on how to handle a proposed land division and rezone that would create nonconforming lot-line setbacks
- Assisting the Town of Greenbush with its WiDATCP application for a renewal of the Town's Farmland Preservation Zoning certification
- Updating town zoning maps with 2023 rezones for Mosel, Plymouth, Lyndon, Sheboygan Falls Sherman, and Greenbush
- Reviewing draft ordinance language to assist a town zoning administrator in developing zoning standards for outside storage of large vehicles or equipment in residential areas.



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.

Crops

Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator

- A regional agriculture newsletter for Fond du Lac, Sheboygan, Washington and Ozaukee county agriculture producers, industry representatives and agency staff that provides timely crop production updates, dairy and farm management resources and upcoming agriculture events. The goal is to create awareness of Extension programming and research in the region and maintain a connection between UW and the ag community.
- A dairy production newsletter for farmers, managers, employees and agribusiness professionals
 that provides the reader an introduction to upcoming UW Madison Division of Extension
 Programming, including the Manure Handling training opportunities, Badger Dairy Insight and
 Focus on Forage webinar series, along with information about evaluating alfalfa stands. This
 newsletter provides timely updates on Extension recommendations, events and industry news.
- 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.

Sarah Tarjeson

4-H Youth Development Educator

Kevin Struck

Community Development Educator

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