

## 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 Feider, 4-H Program Educator*

Winter Leadership Camp was held for youth in 7th grade and up, at Spencer Lake Camp to participate in a weekend full of leadership development and fun. Youth from 8 different counties (Calumet, Fond du lac, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto, Portage, Sheboygan, and Waupaca) came together to work on improving their leadership skills through hands-on, interactive leadership sessions. (Carlea Liermann)

40 youth from 8 counties (Calumet, Fond du lac, Manitowoc, Marinette, Oconto, Portage, Sheboygan and Waupaca) participated in the 2025 Winter Leadership Camp located at Spencer Lake in Waupaca County. Throughout the weekend, youth in grades 7 and up engaged in hands-on, interactive leadership sessions to help them gain a better understanding of what it means to be a leader. Along with leadership learning, youth had the opportunity to participate in a variety of recreational activities that included Spark stations, gym & game time, outdoor activities, and a chance to engage with others from the other counties. According to the evaluation, most participants would come again, would recommend to a friend, and had ideas to bring back to their own counties.



## 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*

Planning for a four session Focus on Forage webinar series for forage growers and agriculture consultants in collaboration with the Natural Resource Conservation Service and the US Dairy Forage Research Center. The goal is to provide research based forage management solutions to improve forage quality and meet producer goals.

Forage growers and dairy producers require high quality forages to meet the needs of their operations. Changing growing conditions and increased planting and harvest challenges create barriers to achieving these forage production goals.

In response to this situation, forage working group team members outlined the key topics they felt would meet the needs of these stakeholders. Webinar sessions were scheduled using the Zoom platform, and team members identified and scheduled subject matter experts to address each of the topics identified for a four part webinar series.

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### **Dairy**

*Manuel Peña, Regional Dairy Educator*

(Liz Gartman/Manuel Pena)

A newsletter for farmers, managers, employees and agribusiness professionals in collaboration with the Eastern Wisconsin Dairy Herd Improvement Cooperative that informs the reader of upcoming UW Madison Division of Extension programs, provides key crop and dairy management updates and includes timely production articles.

A partnership between the Eastern Wisconsin Dairy Herd Improvement Cooperative and Extension results in a newsletter mailed to 300 current dairy producers in Eastern Wisconsin.

The newsletter shares results from the cooperative's milk testing and allows local Extension educators to share key activities, events and articles that focus on improving management related to crops and dairy cattle.

The newsletter is direct mailed to approximately 300 dairy producers every two months, and the targeted information drives dairy producers to engage with Extension programs and educators.

## 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*

Planning quarterly nutrition classes at a Hmong community meal site by using an interest survey for participants to provide their feedback. The purpose of these classes is to encourage healthier eating habits.

Meeting with a new partner, Lakeshore CAP (Community Action Program). The purpose of this meeting is to develop a new partnership and offer nutrition education for their clients, which will provide information and resources to have an overall healthier lifestyle.

Planning a series of nutrition and physical activity classes at a low-income housing unit by using an interest survey for residents to provide their feedback. The purpose of these classes is to encourage healthier eating habits and being physically active.

Supporting the Sheboygan County Anti-Hunger Coalition, in partnership with the Sheboygan County Food Bank. The purpose of these meetings is to bring community partners together to share updates, resources, and information on local poverty, food insecurity, and hunger issues.

Providing support for Head Start/Early Head Start as a member of the Health Advisory Committee. The purpose of this committee is to provide oversight and guidance on Head Start's health and nutrition policies.





## 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.*

*Barbara Alvarez, Community Development Educator*

- A survey for members of a Business Improvement District in which members provided feedback about their membership, needs, and organizational opportunities. Through this activity, the organization can refine their goals and build a stronger business network downtown.

I was approached by a team member of the local business district to discuss how to develop and distribute a survey to their members. I provided education to the team member about how to develop a quality survey and discussed different survey options and questions. With their feedback, I developed the survey in Qualtrics and shared the link with them to distribute to their members.

- An activity for a recovery support network where employees and members participate in a listening session so that they can work together and create a more supportive recovery community.

I was approached by a manager of a local recovery center and asked to help facilitate a listening session with other groups in the community where they could share ideas about collaboration. The goal is to destigmatize addiction and combine resources and opportunities. I met with the manager to discuss the format of the listening session, outreach, proposed questions, and structure of the meeting.

- Planning for a survey for 85+ volunteers of a local non-profit in collaboration with their non-profit leadership. The goal is to better understand succession planning and volunteer opportunities in order to develop a strategic plan to present to the board so that the organization can be sustainable long into the future.

I was approached by the leadership of a non-profit about assistance with their strategic plan process. They want to create a plan for succession planning for volunteers. I helped them create a survey and develop a timeline of gathering information so that they can present to their board in mid-August. I will help them with listening sessions, analyzing survey data, and developing an action plan.



**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.*

*Truong Tran, Human Development & Relationship Educator*

Met with Rogers Behavioral Health, Uptown Social, Generations, and Love Inc. to build relationships, identify community needs, and identify alignment with Extension’s Life Span Efforts.

As a result of these environmental scans, Sheboygan Extension has gained a deeper understanding of the unique needs and challenges within the community. This insight is guiding efforts to expand support for family caregivers, particularly refugee families and non-English speaking caregivers, while also laying the groundwork for innovative intergenerational programs in the greater Sheboygan area. By aligning services with local organizations, we are fostering partnerships to address these priorities effectively

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