



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
CLARK COUNTY



*ANNUAL
REPORT
2023*



Table of Contents

<i>Extension</i>	3-4
<i>Human Development & Relations</i>	5-6
<i>Agriculture</i>	7-9
<i>Community Development & Natural Resources</i>	10-11
<i>FoodWise</i>	12-13
<i>Wisconsin 4-H</i>	14-16
<i>Support Staff</i>	17



University of Wisconsin–Madison Extension Clark County

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Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

UW-Madison Extension's outreach creates key connection points for families, farms, communities, businesses, nonprofit organizations, government, and more. We support local volunteers and leaders to take action and serve as role models in their communities, and we make sure Wisconsinites have the latest research, best practices, and educational opportunities.



Learn more at
extension.wisc.edu



UW-MADISON EXTENSION

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES *with* THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Agriculture & Horticulture »

Our network of researchers, outreach specialists, and local educators are on the leading edge of creating practical solutions for livestock and crop production in addition to farm and labor management. We provide customized guidance, business planning assistance, and industry knowledge for what today's agricultural operators are facing.

Community & Economic Development »

Businesses, governments, and organizations succeed through development from Extension educators and specialists. We provide education for elected officials to understand their roles and responsibilities in helping communities thrive. We offer businesses the direct technical assistance and connection to support structures they need to help them succeed. Our rural entrepreneurship program identifies ways for businesses to overcome challenges and take advantage of unique opportunities.

Health & Well-Being »

We're supporting positive change for families through physical and mental health programs in addition to structural improvements needed to make the healthy choice the easy choice. Our physical fitness classes and mental health training equips people with the tools they need to lead healthy, active lives. We provide public health resources and tools for community action. We provide guidance on systems changes for food security and food access.

Families & Finances »

Reinforcing family connections, financial knowledge, and strong relationships is at the heart of Extension's programming. We support learning and emotional bonding by building literacy skills in justice-involved families. We guide community and individual development across lifespans. We teach financial security through rent planning and budget management.

Natural Resources & Conservation »

We work at the crossroads of communities, natural resources, and agriculture to protect our environmental assets and guide resource management. We support individual and regional water-well testing along with education to address safe drinking water. We educate farmers, businesses, and communities on safe practices to ensure access to plentiful, sustainably managed sources of food, water, and energy.

Positive Youth Development & 4-H »

Community-led 4-H programs deliver quality activities and leadership opportunities that are leading to engaged, energized, and informed young people across the state. 4-H is a movement — in Wisconsin, 98% of our 4-H members are inspired to make positive changes in their communities. They're developing leadership skills, building connections, and finding what topics spark their interest.



Human Development & Relationships

Crystal Walters, HDR Educator



Our office partners with Public Health to mail a national, monthly, hand-copy newsletter (Just in Time Parenting) to Clark County parents. The newsletter is for parents/caregivers of 0-2 year olds providing age-paced developmental and parenting information. The goal is to improve parents' knowledge, increase positive parent-child interaction, and support children's well-being. This newsletter has been sent to all parents in 2023 for an initial newsletter.



BY THE NUMBERS

- ◆ 412 Just in Time Parenting (JITP) newsletters were mailed to families with newborns.
- ◆ 113 of those families subscribed to receive continued monthly or bi-monthly paper copies of the JITP newsletter
- ◆ In-person StrongBodies classes were held across the county in 4 towns with a total of 30 participants



I attended an in-person work session to write three new book read guides for money-themed children's books in the Money as You Grow curriculum. Money as You Grow is a program where participants learn basic money concepts including goal setting, prioritizing needs and wants, solving problems, making decisions, and self-control. Through this, they lay a foundation for financial security and contribute to positive financial management in later life. I, along with another educator in Outagamie County, developed the book guide for "A Bike Like Sergio's". This book tells the story of Reuben, who feels left out that he does not own a bike due to financial constraints in his family. However, Reuben is soon dealt with a moral dilemma between owning a bike and doing the right thing. This book has emphasized the important of making good financial decisions and saving money.




We'd love to hear what you think about these children's books and book read guides. Use this QR Code or link to find our survey. <http://go.wisc.edu/55gf2g>.



MONEY AS YOU GROW

Book read guide for
"A Bike Like Sergio's"

By Maribeth Boelts

 Ages 5-8 +

This book read guide was developed by Katie Gellings and Crystal Walters, Human Development & Relationships Educators, UW-Madison Division of Extension, and has been reviewed by members of the UW-Madison Extension's Money as You Grow workgroup. Workgroup contributors include: Jenny Abel, Jackie Carattini, Beverly Doll, Amanda Griswold, and Alicia Utke-Becher. Publication production, graphics, editing support for this project by Ella Acra and Jonathon Ferguson.

For more information please contact your county UW-Extension office.





Human Development & Relationships

Crystal Walters, HDR Educator



I tabled an event at Aging & Disability Resource Center's "50 Years: Senior Nutrition Program" at the where UW- Madison Extension (Clark County) resources and information about financial security and lifespan education was shared with attendees. The goal of tabling is to share and promote information about UW-Madison Extension's Financial Security and Lifespan Education program resources. I connected with over 30 individuals of various backgrounds at this tabling event to deliver outreach materials. The most requested topic was regarding End of Life Planning and questions of future programming.



Muscle mass and bone strength are crucial aspects in keeping aging individual strong and healthy in their later years. In Clark County, I partnered with the Aging and Disability Resource Center to continue overseeing the Strong Bodies program. The Strong Bodies program is a nation wide, evidence based, exercise class held twice a week for eight to twelve weeks long. In Clark County, I oversaw three locations in Granton, Greenwood, and Loyal with approximately twenty-seven participants in the fall.

LIFTING PEOPLE TO BETTER HEALTH



STRONGBODIES



Organization and maintenance of a breast feeding space for fairgoers at the Clark County fair. I provided a private area with refrigeration, rocking chair, changing table, and children's activities for nursing and new mothers along with informational flyers. This is to encourage and support mothers during the fair to have private time with their young children.

UW-Extension

MONEY \$MART

Issue 1



A newsletter series (Money \$mart in Head Start) for parents of young children where they learn skills such as using credit wisely, keeping their money safe, saving strategies, organizing their financial records, and making choices about health insurance. Through this program, parents can make more informed financial decisions in the family. This program serves thirty students in the greater Abbotsford and Colby area of minority families. In addition, I met with the parent recipients of the newsletter to introduce myself and offer resources to those interested during a family night in Dorchester. From this, I was requested to provide additional workshops in the future for these parents.



Agriculture

Matthew Lippert, Dairy and Livestock Educator
Richard Halopka, Crops and Soils Educator



Students and instructors from 19 school districts participated in the Career Development Event in the FFA program. Eighty-five people evaluated 4 classes of dairy cattle for their soundness as a productive animal in a dairy herd, they also took a quiz on general dairy knowledge and understanding of Dairy Herd Improvement records. Many students engage in preparation in advance of the event and increase their skill considerably through these efforts. Students also give a set of spoken reasons justifying their placings, thus having an opportunity to improve their speaking skills and problem solving, The Marshfield Agriculture Research Station and another local dairy farmer provided their facilities to make the event possible along with collaboration with Mid States Technical College.



Vital is an ongoing program for farm women- Valuably Informed Thriving Agricultural Leaders. In February, 20 women interacted with their peers learning about trends in the dairy industry, farm business strategic analysis, successful entrepreneurial efforts of farm women diversifying their farm business by adding enterprises such as retail marketing of milk based lotions and cut flowers.



Meeting with the Central Wisconsin Forage Council, Matt Lippert shared insights about forage based livestock production in Argentina, and genetic variation in corn silage adapted hybrids. The group included farmers and consultants managing many acres of forage crops.



BY THE NUMBERS

- ◆ 35 people (mostly plain faith) attended a Pasture Walk on a farm by Stanley where organic rotational grazing is discussed



- ◆ NMP "On the Road Show" trained 16 farmers and NMP online trained approximately 50 farmers. NMP is a joint effort with Clark County Land Conservation
- ◆ 93 people attended PAT training and testing in 3 locations around the county
- ◆ 46 people attending the CAFO meeting in Stratford, a joint effort between our office, UW-Madison, and DNR
- ◆ 6 times per year over 1200 copies of the Extension Views are mailed to subscribers and posted on our website. This is an agriculture focused newsletter meant to keep citizens of all technology levels and belief practices up to speed on practices and aware of meetings, trainings, and events.



Agriculture

Matthew Lippert, Dairy and Livestock Educator

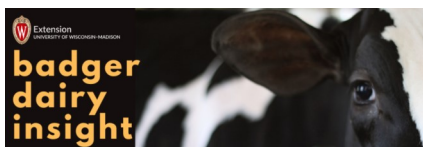
Richard Halopka, Crops and Soils Educator



Following two previous years of successful fall grazing pasture walks, local Extension Educators organized a pasture walk on the farm of a very successful organic dairy producer belonging to the plain faith community. Working with the local County Land and Water Conservation departments, an organic milk cooperative, and a vendor and provider of organic farm supplies, and ultimately with the farmer host, topics of interest, addressing the current needs of organic dairy producers were identified. These topics included establishment of perennial pasture mixtures, maintaining high yield, crop rotation and high forage quality with maximum use of crop cover to minimize erosion and to maintain soil health; breeding and identifying the optimum type of dairy cow selecting for longevity, disease resistance, fertility and consistent yields of high component milk suitable for organic markets; raising of dairy replacements on pasture systems; and testing of soil and interpreting soil reports to economically improve pasture yield.



Media including the Clark County Extension Views, Wisconsin Agriculturist, Wisconsin State Farmer, Extension Agriculture SharePoint sites and Extension Badger Dairy Insight zoom programs, included much information on dairy cattle genetic evaluation, dairy transition cow management, feeding alternative forage and management of alfalfa and corn silage reached many audiences.



Manure applicator training 101 session was held in Wisconsin Dells as part of the Midwest Forage Association Symposium. Fifty-seven applicators completed the training. The objective of the trainings were to provide training on safe manure handling and application practices. Topics covered during the training include road safety, manure gas safety, manure regulations and application, spill response, CAFO regulations, pump safety, equipment calibration, and public relations. Participants received a certificate of completion at the end of the course.

A new Division of Extension Manure Application Workbook 2023 and corresponding presentation materials were created to assist with training delivery. The workbook and materials were created by team members Kevin Erb, Conservation Training Specialist, Jerry Clark, Chippewa County, and Richard Halopka, Clark County..



Agriculture

Matthew Lippert, Dairy and Livestock Educator
Richard Halopka, Crops and Soils Educator



The North American Manure Expo provided a two-day forum for manure applicators, farmers, and agriculture professionals to learn about the latest technology and research in manure application equipment. The in-field live application event was hosted by the Division of Extension UW-Madison at the Arlington Research Station. Approximately 1,000 participants attended the Expo. The Expo included demonstrations of the latest equipment related to liquid and solid manure application, manure storage agitation, rapid transfer, and dragline. Separation and pelletizer equipment was also demonstrated for the first time at an Expo. Nineteen educational sessions and four tours were also provided as part of the Expo. Richard Halopka, Kevin Erb, Becky Larson, and Nesli Akdeniz served on the planning committee.



Dairy farmer considers UW-Extension a trusted source of information to aid in farm management decisions.

- ◇ While Richard Halopka is a crops guy, I trust and value his opinion related to producing forages for our dairy herd. In addition, I can call him and he will provide a connection to other specialist in UW-Extension to provide research based information to answer my questions. The persons in the Extension office are very helpful and I consider them one of my first sources to answer questions. - Dairy Farmer Pam

Clark County business owner impressed with Agriculture Educator

- ◇ I have read the Extension Views newsletter for a number of years. Last week I was surprised when Richard Halopka, Clark County Extension Crops & Soils was in our business. I had an opportunity to graduate from UW-Madison, but I prefer organic production. I felt as though UW promoted only conventional practices. I was pleased in visiting with Richard his knowledge of organic production and the time he took from his day off to visit with me in the shop. It is unusual today to have a person to answer questions and inform the public, even though he was on a vacation day and not really on the clock. I will recommend Extension to customers that may need advice. -George, Implement Dealer




Community Development




Natural Resources

Melissa Kono, CNRED Educator



 The Clark County Forestry and Parks Department received a request from a forest products buyer to add Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) certification to the forest lands that they manage. They wanted to gather feedback from partners to determine whether or not it is in Clark County's best interest to pursue SFI® certification. I developed a survey for them to distribute to wood/paper product companies and loggers.



 Clean Sweep events provide residents with an opportunity to properly dispose of hazardous items. DATCP provides funding to communities to hold events to help cover the costs of hazardous wastes. Additionally, Clark County provides supplemental funding for the event so that other materials can be recycled such as tires, appliances and electronics. I assisted the county with completing the funding application for a 2024 Clean Sweep event to offer agricultural, household, and prescription drug waste recycling in Clark County. I worked with county departments to plan the event.



Clark County

2024

BY THE NUMBERS

Need: Forest Management

- ◆ Clark County is made up of 134,250 acres of public land. Most of which is wooded.
- ◆ The population of Clark County is 34,691 (as of 2021 census)

Need: Election Worker Training

- ◆ Clark County is comprised of many that require inspector training:
 - ◇ 34 Townships
 - ◇ 12 Municipalities
 - ◇ 134 election inspectors trained in 2023

Need: Safe Drinking Water

- ◆ Growing number of large scale family farms and LLC farms with employee housing
- ◆ About 4 in 10 Wisconsin homes get their water from private wells. (Wisconsin Department of Health Services statistic)
- ◆ Over 95% of Wisconsin's communities and about 70% of Wisconsin residents rely on groundwater for their drinking water supply. (Nov 2, 2023–Wisconsin DNR PFAS Ambient Shallow Groundwater Study)



Community Development



Natural Resources

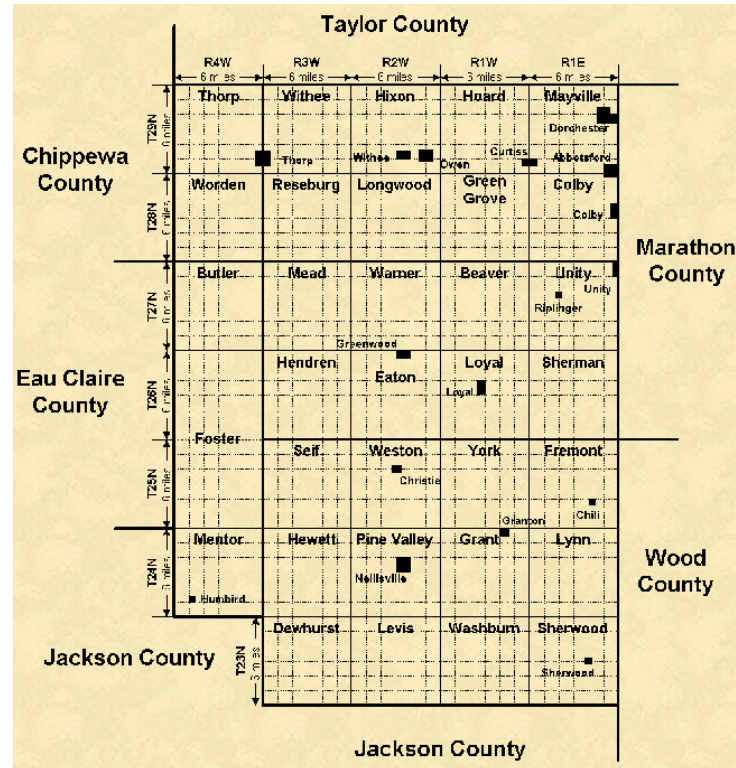
Melissa Kono, CNRED Educator



Wisconsin election laws require election workers complete 3-6 hours of training per two year term. While it is the duty of the municipal clerk to ensure election inspectors meet training requirements, there is no official curriculum provided. This leaves County Clerks responsible for developing their own materials. I partnered with County Clerks to provide required election training to election inspectors. Using my knowledge and experience of Wisconsin election laws administration I developed training curriculum that met the Wisconsin Elections Commission requirements for election training. I delivered six training sessions for election inspectors in 3 counties (Clark, Jackson, and Trempealeau Counties). Through these training 134 Clark County participants completed an evaluation that indicated participants increased their knowledge in key areas like security, ballot management, voter registration, and voting equipment.



In 2023, I applied for and received several grants for household well water testing in Clark County. Through a very generous donation from Cummins Filtration, now known as Atmus Filtration Systems in Neillsville, I was able to offer a reduced cost household well water testing program in 2024 for residents in Clark County who have private wells. In addition, I received a Dean's Innovation Grant for \$12,000 to provide water testing for farms that provide employee housing.



HOUSEHOLD WATER TESTING

April 8, 2024

UW-Extension Clark County and Clark County Public Health have teamed up to provide household well water testing to all Clark County residents for \$34.00 (50% off)

Sign up at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLsdPRUfuK3N0CXaSRq8W9uwGpGGz5paZYvX8PwAVN1hWJCJ5_w/viewform?usp=sharing
 or by calling: 715-743-5121

EVERYONE NEEDS SAFE DRINKING WATER.

1. Register: Submit a registration for each participating household using sign up information above.
2. Bottles will be distributed at various locations around the county for pick up starting March 25th, depending upon registrations.
3. Take the water sample on April 8th (keep it cool) and return to various locations in the county. The samples of the water have to be returned to the various locations by 4:30 p.m. on April 8th or to the Clark County Courthouse by 9a.m. on Tuesday, April 9th.
4. Test results will be mailed by the lab
5. There will be an in-person educational program in May. Time and location TBD.

Atmus
FILTRATION TECHNOLOGIES

This is made possible in by a generous grant from Atmus Filtration Technologies.



Healthy Choices, Healthy Lives

Mallory McGivern, FoodWise Administrator
Michelle Van Krey, Healthy Communities Coordinator

Healthy Choices Healthy Lives



FoodWise is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). With local strengths, we support healthy eating habits, active lifestyles and healthy community environments for Wisconsin residents experiencing limited incomes through nutrition education at the individual, community and systems levels.

Achieving More Together

UW-Madison Division of Extension works alongside the people of Wisconsin throughout urban and rural communities to deliver practical educational programs where people live and work. In Clark County, FoodWise partners with elementary schools, Head Start, food pantries, and Health Department to help make the healthy choice the easy choice in our communities.

Community Impacts in 2023

Engaged with 178 learners around nutrition education topics in a variety of settings, including early care and education centers, K-12 school settings and food pantries.

Partnered with St. Bernard food pantry to recruit 14 participants for a StrongBodies/GenteFuerte strength-training class in Spanish. StrongBodies provides nutrition education and improves muscle strength, balance, and flexibility so participants can stay healthy and socially connected.

Worked with Eat Right Be Fit Coalition of Clark County to establish hydroponic garden units in schools to produce food used in nutrition education and school cafeterias.

BY THE NUMBERS



Whether people are healthy or not is affected by systems, policies, and environmental factors.

7%



of county residents experience limited income and low access to a grocery store.[^]

9%



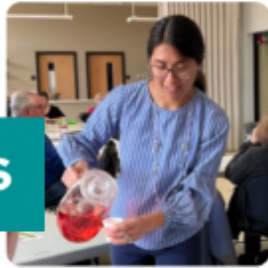
of county residents use SNAP benefits to purchase food for themselves and their families.*

[^]County Health Rankings

* WI Dept of Administration and WI Dept of Health Services



Inspiring Collaborations



Bilingual Nutrition Educator, Thalia Mauer, prioritized reaching the Latinx population in Clark County with resources offered for the first time. She became trained to teach StrongBodies, or GenteFuerte, a strength-training program. Thalia offered this twice-weekly class to Spanish-speaking participants.

During her StrongBodies class, Thalia taught a memorable nutrition education lesson about food safety. Much of what her participants knew about cooking they learned from relatives, and food safety wasn't something that many knew much about.

The lesson highlighted 10 common food safety mistakes people make, such as washing meat in the sink, not using a food thermometer, and thawing meat on the counter.

In the next class, one of her participants said she made tamales following the food safety recommendations she had learned. Thalia is thrilled that her participants are learning about food safety practices to keep themselves and their families safe.

Multi-level Program Efforts

As Thalia has worked to engage with the LatinX population of Clark County, she built relationships with multiple school districts, ADRC, Hmong & Hispanic Outreach Network (H2N), and St. Bernard Catholic Church, which provides resources and outreach to the LatinX community.

Thalia built trusting relationships with guests of the St. Bernard food pantry and gained an understanding of community needs to inform future programming. FoodWise also facilitated a focus group with participants from the LatinX community and learned that access to healthy and culturally-relevant food is a problem for many.

FoodWise is excited to work with the community to support a healthy environment for everyone in Clark County!



Connect
With Us

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517 Court Street
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Mallory McGivern
FoodWise Program
Administrator



Michelle Van Krey
Healthy Communities
Coordinator



Thalia Mauer
Bilingual Nutrition
Educator



Wisconsin 4-H

Seth Harrmann, 4-H Educator



The 2023 4-H year has been very productive with positive goal setting and accomplishments. 2023 has marked the start and almost the end of Seth Harrmann's second year as the Clark County 4-H Educator. Seth's goals for 2023 were to repeat annual traditions events and get a better understanding on how to run, manage and delegate responsibilities, to join several colleagues and assisting with many events to learn different leadership and teaching techniques and to understand how to be a better community partner by representing the University of Wisconsin Madison Division of Extension and Clark County. Below will review the trends of Clark County 4-H throughout the years.



Starting in 2022, Clark County 4-H has incorporated more educational opportunities youth could participate in. In 2023, the following 4-H opportunities youth could take advantage of were: 4-H Base and Outpost Camp, Explore Wisconsin, Cloverbud Day Camp, County Project Learning Days, fully organized county projects (Ex. horse, dog, dairy, livestock, poultry, rabbits, sewing, flowers and food), Foods Revue, Clothing Revue, Family Fun Day series, Volleyball Tournament, Performance Arts Festival, Art Camp (hosted at Kamp Kenwood), Livestock Banquet, Awards Ceremony, Discovery Day, Camp counselor trainings including one camp and a shirt and sticker design contest. These opportunities that were offered through Clark County 4-H were intended to educate the youth membership, recruit other youth to join 4-H and to retain membership in Clark County 4-H.

BY THE NUMBERS

- ◆ Clark County has 12 4-H Clubs across the county
- ◆ In 2023 enrollment was 545 members:
 - ◆ 387 youth
 - ◆ 158 adult volunteers
- ◆ Three summer camps were held:
 - ◆ Outpost (6th-8th graders)
 - ◆ Base Camp (3rd-5th graders)
 - ◆ Cloverbud Camp (K-2nd graders)
- ◆ Top project areas of interest:
 - ◆ Art
 - ◆ Photography
 - ◆ Drawing & Painting
 - ◆ Woodworking
 - ◆ Lego
 - ◆ Swine
 - ◆ Foods & Nutrition
 - ◆ Home Environment
 - ◆ Flowers
 - ◆ Cloverbuds

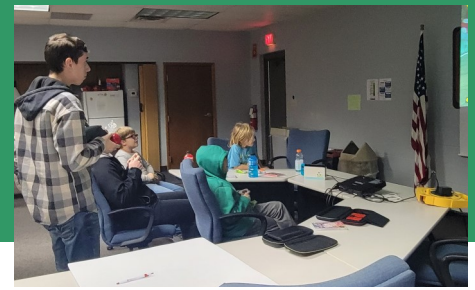


Clark County Cloverbud Camp 2023





Wisconsin 4-H



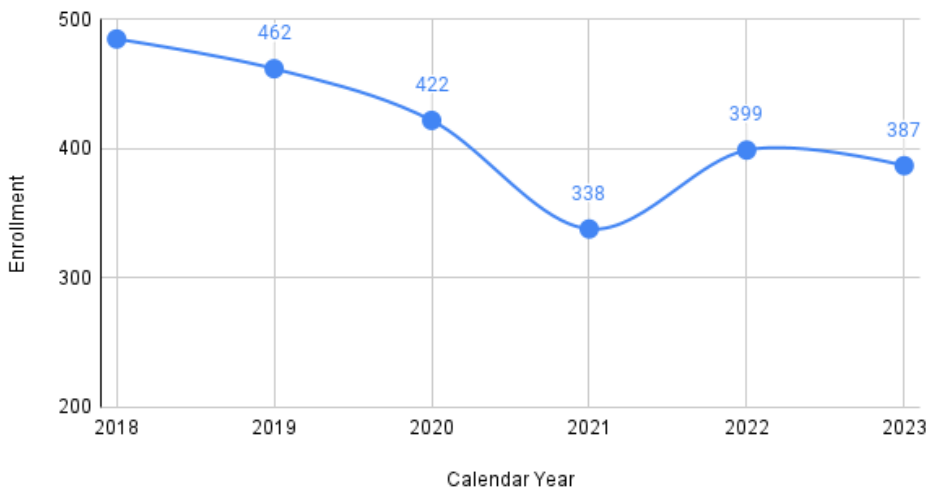
Youth membership over the past two years has shown an increase as a result of all of these additional opportunities being provided. Currently, nearly 10% of the youth in Clark County are enrolled in 4-H. That's great news and also provides opportunities for continued growth.



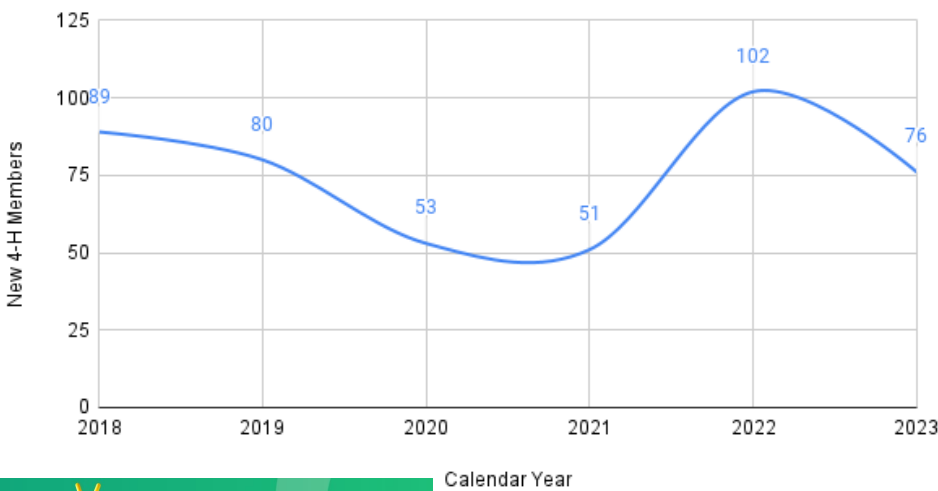

CLARK COUNTY 4-H AWARDS CERMONY
 SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH, 2023
 GREENWOOD HIGH SCHOOL CAFETORIUM
 7:00 PM

ALL ATTENDING ARE ASKED TO BRING DISH TO PASS- CHECK WHAT TYPE YOU ARE DELEGATED TO BRING BELOW:
 LETTERS A-J: SIDE DISH (HOT DISH, SALAD, ETC)
 LETTERS K-M: FRUIT/VEGGIE,CHEESE/SAUSAGE, CRACKERS
 LETTERS R-Z: DESSERTS

Clark County Total 4-H Youth Enrollment



Clark County 4-H New Member Enrollment




IT'S NATIONAL 4-H WEEK
 OCTOBER 1-7, 2023

TODAYS CHALLENGE:
 Share a selfie wearing your favorite 4-H SWAG!

Tomorrow is Share your Favorite thing you have learned through 4-H?

UNW-MADISON EXTENSION




YOUTH LEADERS

Game Night

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023
 LOYAL CITY HALL
 7:00P.M. - WHEN IT'S DONE



Wisconsin 4-H



With all the new and traditional opportunities in Clark County 4-H there was also an increase in the quality of the program. Wisconsin State 4-H sends out an annual survey called the "Thrive Survey". The survey was developed at a national level and is scientifically validated. It asks multiple questions targeting different areas of the Thriving Model. The results are indicated in the following graphics.



Clark County 4-H Measured

Program Quality Overall Score

Each component of the model was assessed on a scale of 1-7, 7 meaning outstanding program quality. Scores between 4.9 - 6.1 represents a high-quality program.



- ◇ Overall Program Quality Overall Score: 5.8/7, representing a "high quality" program.
- ◇ Youth Sparks: The Youth Sparks outcome measures how 4-H community club programs give youth opportunities to explore topics they are interested in learning about, passionate about, and engaged with, like 4-H projects.
- ◇ Youth Adult Partnership: This outcome calculates how youth feel about adult volunteers working with them and if they feel respected, listened to, and have their ideas taken seriously.



Clark County 4-H Measured

Youth Sparks

The Youth Sparks outcome measures how 4-H community club programs give youth opportunities to explore topics they are interested in learning about, passionate about, and engaged with, like 4-H projects.



Clark County 4-H Measured

Youth-Adult Partnerships

This outcome calculates how youth feel about adult volunteers working with them and if they feel respected, listened to, and have their ideas taken seriously.



- ◇ Caring Adults: This outcome illustrates how youth feel the adults in their 4-H programs care about them and invest time in their 4-H experiences.
- ◇ Challenging Growth: The Challenging Growth outcome assesses the extent to which adults in the 4-H program help youth to see new possibilities, push them to reach higher, and hold them accountable.



Clark County 4-H Measured

Caring Adults

This outcome illustrates how youth feel the adults in their 4-H programs care about them and invest time in their 4-H experiences.



Clark County 4-H Measured

Challenging Growth

The Challenging Growth outcome assesses the extent to which adults in the 4-H program help youth to see new possibilities, push them to reach higher, and hold them accountable.



- ◇ Youth Belonging: This outcome evaluates how safe, welcomed, and supported youth feel in 4-H programs.



Clark County 4-H Measured

Youth Belonging

This outcome evaluates how safe, welcomed, and supported youth feel in 4-H programs.



Clark County 4-H had a very successful year in 2023. The results of 2023 will be reflected in a strong overall program in 2024 with a focus on building Clark County 4-H project areas. In the future, this will lead to higher participation in the Clark County Fair, increase in Clark County 4-H enrollment and more new Clark County 4-H membership. Clark County 4-H is once again starting to thrive and is bringing great opportunities to youth in the county.



County Support Staff

Valerie Wood, Administrative Assistant

Courtney Becker, Program Assistant



Our support staff is our day to day face of the Clark County Extension Office. They are the first people customers see when they walk in the door and the first voice they hear when they call the office. Along with customer service they are charged with assisting the educators with programming. These tasks often include registrations, event planning, and marketing events and activities through flyer creation, social media posting and newsletter publications.

Valerie Wood, Administrative Assistant

Start February 2020 - Program Assistant

Role change August 2021–Administrative Assistant

Current Support Staff duties:

- Finances (bill pay, invoicing, accounts payable, report creation, assist with Budget)
- Assist Educators:
 - * Ag (Ex. Views, event planning and coordination, registration, flyers, news releases, social media creation & posting)
 - * CNRED (event coordination, flyers, posters, social media creation & posting)
- Ag & Ext. Committee support (meeting prep, paperwork/packets, secretary's minutes)

Val loves the growth and experience she has experienced in the Extension Office. Over the past almost four years she has wore many hats and assisted every educator in their roles. Her knowledge of the programming has made customer service an easy part of her day. She has learned that there is so much more to Extension than most community members are aware of... so much more than she knew about before taking the job in 2020.

Courtney Becker, Program Assistant

Start September 2023–Program Assistant

Current Support Staff duties:

- 4-H (Cloverleaf newsletter, emails, flyers, social media creation & posting, event coordination and assistance, and registrations)
- HDR (Parenting Newsletter, Money Smart in Head Start newsletter, StrongBodies and other programming registration, flyers, social media creation & posting, news releases and event coordination)
- FoodWise (Providing assistance with printing, laminating and storage solutions)

Courtney is a lifelong Clark County resident who began her position as Program Assistant in 2023. She works closely with our 4H and HDR Educators on a daily basis helping to make their programs run smoothly. Her main focus in her new career is to continue to get to know her educators programs better and find ways to improve things where she can. She is excited to get more comfortable in her position and become a valuable assistant.



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

www.extension.wisc.edu | info@extension.wisc.edu

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