

Date _____

Dear _____:

For nearly 100 years, Camden County Extension has been providing programs that support youth development, 4-H, nutrition and health, business development, community development and the human environmental sciences. All of these programs work to improve participant's lives and also make Camden County a better place for people to live and work.

Today, these programs are at risk of disappearing or being drastically diminished. Due to the economic downturn and rising costs, Camden County finds itself challenged to fund the MU Extension county office operations at the level it has in the past. This year, the county will provide \$20,000 in funding to support the Camden County Extension Center, down from \$48,800 in 2012. No important county resource can sustain a 59 percent cut and go on with business as usual.

So, we come to you asking for your support.

A summary of several signature programs MU Extension delivers in the county is attached. These summaries demonstrate MU Extension's value to our local community. An in-depth report of the programs and resources provided by Camden County Extension is available online at <http://extension.missouri.edu/camden>.

To maintain county extension services at their current level, we are asking local business and organizations to help fill the funding gap. We hope that you will be able to help at one of four Extension Supporter levels:

Bronze	\$500
Silver	\$1,000
Gold	\$2,500
Platinum	\$5,000

A card is enclosed with several easy options for giving. Choose the one that works best for you. Your help will be greatly appreciated and will be acknowledged in a variety of ways. Local supporters will be recognized on the Camden County Extension website, in printed materials and on local business signage.

The financial scene has changed dramatically in the past few years. As a result, we are exploring different funding models to ensure that MU Extension can continue to deliver programs and resources to the people of Camden County. In the meantime, your support is vital. And it's tax-deductible.

We thank you in advance for your consideration, and we look forward to more prosperous times.

In service to our citizens,

Camden County Commission

Camden County Extension Council

P.S. Will you help ensure Camden County residents continue to benefit from the valuable programming and resources provided by the local extension center?

University of Missouri, Lincoln University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Local Extension Councils Cooperating