Dear Supporters of Greene County Extension:

Since 1914, Greene County residents have sought help from Greene County Extension on topics related to agriculture, gardening, 4-H youth, nutrition, cooking, families, housing and business and community development. Now you can make a positive impact on your community by giving monetarily to the Greene County Extension Center. Your gift will support Extension programs in Greene County during 2014. Donors like you also receive benefits from the local extension center and University of Missouri as a “Friend of Greene County Extension.”

Your gift is more important now than ever before. For the last three years we have received $10,000 from the County Commission for our office operations. Local funding from the county government has not been this low in Greene County since 1955. Thanks to donors who gave over $27,000 in cash and $11,000 of in-kind donations (November 2012 to September 2013) our office has remained opened and our educational programs have continued (even with reduced staff). Private donations made these Extension program successes possible during 2013:

- The Master Gardeners of Greene County reached over 2,000 county residents with horticulture information and contributed over 20,500 hours in volunteer service (valued at over $380,000) to the citizens of Greene County.

- The Greene County Extension Council became the first extension council in the state to write and implement a business plan to guide future operations and funding efforts.

- Greene County Extension reached over 200,000 Ozarkers a week with Extension research and information in print, via email, on radio and television and online.

- Our nutrition assistants introduced new, healthy, nutritious and affordable foods to over 25,000 county residents this year. Nearly 18,000 of those were youth at area schools.

- Nutrition specialists worked with 15 area child care centers during 2013 to introduce new nutrition standards through MU Extension’s Eat Smart Certification program.

- Our urban and housing development specialist worked with students at Drury to develop a neighborhood plan for the Rountree Community in Springfield.

- Our nutrition specialist has served in a leadership role for the Ozark Food Policy Council which is working to ensure access to healthy nutritious food for all Greene County citizens, regardless of socio-economic status.

OVER
The MU Extension business specialist working in Greene County has served 174 people and their companies with business start-up and management counseling, training, and other assistance during 2013. Her efforts have resulted in 59 new jobs and nine new businesses.

Greene County Extension’s Master Naturalists chapter has 63 active members who contributed 5,956 volunteer hours (valued at $111,972) to the community last year. Their efforts have resulted in community gardens, new trails, improved parks and school gardens.

Greene County 4-H has about 200 active youth members and 98 volunteers who contributed over 9,800 hours to 4-H (that time is valued at over $184,000). Clubs in this county can boast of members who have won state, regional and national 4-H competitions this year.

Members of the Greene County Extension Council have contributed to the “Friends of Greene County Extension” campaign. Now, it is your turn to help us reach our goal of $30,000 during the 2013-2014 program year. You will find a brochure enclosed that provides details about how you can make a tax deductible gift to Greene County Extension. We have also enclosed a sheet of testimonies regarding the impact of Greene County Extension on our local community.

Sincerely,

David L. Burton  
Civic Communication Specialist  
County Program Director

Carl Allison  
Chairman  
Greene County Extension Council

PS: For many years in MU Extension financial classes we have taught adults to “save some, spend some and share some.” This campaign is your opportunity to “share some” with county residents by supporting Greene County Extension with an annual gift.

PSS: Write your check and send your donation today! Due to budget cuts, this may be our only opportunity to ask for your gift and your only opportunity to give for the next 12 months.

Now, it is also possible to give online at https://donatetomu.missouri.edu/Extension/