Program Impacts

**Business Development Program** helps grow Missouri's economy: In FY2011, clients of the BDP achieved more than $1 billion in economic impact for Missouri. The program helped clients start 265 new businesses; create or retain 16,143 jobs; increase sales valued at more than $515 million; acquire more than $204 million in new financing for their companies; pursue investment efforts in research and commercialization leading to $8.4 million in research grant awards; and win 2,760 local, state and federal government contracts totaling more than $467 million.

**Human Environmental Sciences** Extension provides face-to-face and Web-based education to help Missourians build stronger futures and live healthier lives. The Missouri Taxpayer Education initiative helps lower-income Missouri families with free tax preparation. In FY2011, 3,800 tax returns were completed, resulting in $4.4 million being returned to Missouri taxpayers.

**MU Extension Community Development** Programs in 2011 assisted communities in many ways: Missouri was heavily impacted by the Missouri and Mississippi rivers’ flooding and severe weather events. The Community Emergency Management Team partnered with other agencies to start the Business Recovery Center in Joplin, serving more than 500 business owners. The Multi-Agency Recovery Center used social media extensively, reaching and serving 499 tornado victims. Extension took the lead in creating a collaboratively managed Facebook presence — Missouri Flood Info — that has become the source of timely information and a means for multi-agency coordination. Community Development Academy (CDA) volunteer hours for communities increased — conservatively reported at 21,370 hours worth $396,841. One academy participant commented, "I have used CDA information to develop a volunteer corps for the county."

**Agriculture and Natural Resources** Programs added value to Missouri’s economy through educational initiatives, such as: The Missouri Value Added Center helped various entities develop business and operational plans with an estimated impact of $9.2 million and addition of 186 jobs. Half of the participants in Annie's Project reported they will develop and implement whole-farm risk management plans for their farms. A total of 118 people participated in the three-session workshop on estate planning offered at five Missouri locations through interactive video. In addition, 265 lenders attended 13 Ag Lender Seminars offered statewide.

**4-H Center for Youth Development** continues to involve youth in skill-enhancing programs. For more than a century, 4-H programs have helped young people learn leadership, citizenship and life skills. 4-H focuses on helping young people meet key developmental needs. Continued findings in national studies have an important message for parents, community leaders and educators: Active 4-H members excel in leadership and have higher educational goals. They also report fewer unhealthy behaviors, such as drinking, smoking and drug use.

**Fire and Rescue Training Institute**: Training is conducted across the state in local communities as well as through annual and regional fire schools. In 2011, MU FRTI trained 15,173 fire and emergency service personnel and conducted 639 continuing professional education courses delivered through a variety of methods. MU FRTI also aids emergency managers, disaster workers and citizens through preparedness training and support during disasters. Missouri had three major disaster declarations in FY2011. In addition to training many fire and emergency responders on the front lines of the tornado in Joplin, FRTI -- in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Homeland Security -- provided training for the Incident Management Team personnel. These teams provide the overall, top-level command and control functions for disaster search rescue and response efforts.

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