



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

# Cedar County

# 2024 Annual Report

113 South Street  
Stockton, MO 65785  
417-276-3313

**SERVE  
MISSOURI.**

**DELIVER  
MIZZOU.**



## Extension

*University of Missouri*

an equal opportunity/ADA institution



December 2024

Dear county commissioners, elected leaders and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

As we reflect on the past year, I want to express my deep gratitude for your support of MU Extension and for your partnership in enhancing the lives of Missourians.

Your support for MU Extension fuels Missouri's agriculture, strengthens families, prepares our youth and promotes the health, well-being and vitality of our communities. Over the past year, our programs have focused on addressing key needs throughout the state:

- **Expanding access to 4-H:** To make 4-H more accessible, we've introduced more in-school and after-school clubs, reducing barriers and creating opportunities for young Missourians to develop essential skills and leadership abilities.
- **Supporting agriculture and land stewardship:** We're addressing critical issues such as succession planning for family farms, rural mental health, agricultural business management and land stewardship. These initiatives are helping Missouri's farmers plan for the future and preserve the health of our land for future generations.
- **Advancing health initiatives:** Our team of community health field specialists, covering every region of the state, works directly with local leaders to assess health needs and bring UM System resources and expertise to these communities, supporting healthier lives and stronger communities.
- **Promoting economic development:** MU Extension is helping to create economic opportunities by working with individuals, supporting businesses in their growth and collaborating with communities to enhance local vibrancy. Through these efforts, we help bring new jobs, skills and possibilities to Missourians across the state.
- **Providing essential training:** Our continuing education programs prepare Missouri's firefighters and health care workers to meet the demands of their roles with the latest skills and knowledge, ensuring they are well-prepared to serve our communities.

As you read through this annual report, I hope you feel as proud as I do of the accomplishments we've achieved together. The dedication and professionalism of MU Extension's faculty and staff are inspiring, and I am grateful to work alongside them—and each of you—as we make Missouri a stronger, healthier and more vibrant place. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we are serving Missouri by delivering the University *for* Missouri.

Warm regards,

Chad Higgins, PhD  
Vice Chancellor, MU Extension and Engagement  
Chief Engagement Officer, UM System

# Who we are

## Faculty and staff



**Mikayla Neil**  
Extension & Engagement Specialist



**Patrick Davis**  
Livestock Field Specialist



**Janet Fox**  
Nutrition Program Associate



**Debbi Crisp**  
Secretary

## Council members

### Officers

Marvin Manring, Chairman  
Trish Boyles, Vice-chairman  
Kelly Hendricks, Secretary  
Pam Ross, Treasurer

### Elected

Ryan Porterfield  
Linda Betlock  
Browning Proctor  
Joy Rutledge  
Jack Sampson

### Appointed

Kenneth Thornton - Commission  
Ben Wisner – 4-H Rep  
Rod Hendricks – Farm Bureau

## County commissioners

### Kenneth Thornton

Presiding Commissioner

### Don Boultinghouse

Northern Commissioner

### Ted Anderson

Southern Commissioner



# Budget and more

## Appropriations budget

### Income

County Appropriations 64,817

**Total Income 64,817**

### Expenses

Salaries/Benefits 25,000

Travel 3,300

Telephone 1,000

Office Supplies/Service 3,000

Utilities 2,500

Insurance 1,200

Investment Fund 16,010

Capital Repairs 800

**Total Expenses 34,700**

## Key numbers

5 Individuals completed Private Pesticide Applicator Training

70 Soil test were submitted. Providing citizens with knowledge for a fertilizer and liming plan with a budget in mind.

301 people receive the monthly E-newsletter

145 people receive the monthly 4-H newsletter

362 people receive the monthly Southwest Missouri Cattle Call newsletter

611 individuals follow the MU Extension in Cedar County Facebook page

528 individuals follow the Cedar County 4-H Clubs Facebook page

151 youth enrolled into a traditional Cedar County 4-H Club

44 Adults volunteered with Cedar County 4-H

21 individuals utilized other free equipment rental and services

## MU Extension is a unique funding partnership.

Extension funding is a three-way partnership of federal, state and county government. Federal and state money, through the University of Missouri system, pay professional staff salaries, training costs, computers and communication equipment. County funds support the local office, secretarial and youth assistant salaries, staff mileage and council expenses.

The Cedar County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Cedar County Commissioners for their continued support of extension programs.



## Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Cedar County Extension with a gift to be used immediately or as an endowment contribution for long term efforts. Monies put into the endowment are left forever to earn interest with the county office benefiting each year. You can also direct your donation to a specific program such as 4-H or Master Gardeners.

# State of Missouri



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

## UM System Footprint in the state in 2024



### FY24 In-state students

**58,862 students**  
(74.5% of total enrolled)

- 46,936 Undergraduates
- 11,926 Graduate and professional students
- 35,810 Full-time students
- 23,052 Part-time students
- 9,700 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2024)



### In-state employees and retirees

**33,434 people employed by UM**

- 23,302 Campuses
- 9,596 MU Health Care (includes additional employees gained via the recent integration of Capital Region Medical Center)
- 536 UM System

10,012 UM retirees and beneficiaries  
UM salary and retirement income: \$2.2 billion  
UM state tax revenue: \$71.9 million  
UM federal tax revenue: \$362.0 million



### In-state alumni

#### Selected school alumni

- 6,569 Medicine
- 15,188 Nursing
- 14,162 Health Professions
- 2,845 Dentistry
- 2,689 Pharmacy
- 654 Optometry
- 2,234 Veterinary Medicine
- 23,101 Agriculture
- 38,229 Engineering
- 10,233 Law

#### Alumni teaching K-12

- 11,848 teachers
- 17.1% of all district teachers
- 996 principals and administrators
- 24.2% of all district principals and administrators



### In-state breakdown

#### MU

- 24,347 students
- 159,856 alumni
- 15,334 employees

#### UMKC

- 12,292 students
- 52,723 alumni
- 3,283 employees

#### Missouri S&T

- 5,368 students
- 27,677 alumni
- 2,377 employees

#### UMSL

- 16,855 students
- 82,538 alumni
- 2,308 employees



### Construction projects

- \$251.4 million remitted to 323 In-state vendors, for 569 projects



Missouri population: 6,154,422  
Total FY24 UM students: 79,014  
Total UM Pell grant recipients: 11,667



### In-state services provided

#### Health care (FY24)

- 304,615 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$119.9 million of uncompensated care
- 4,897 in-state patients seen at UMSL Center for Eye Care with a statewide average of \$32.18 per patient in uncompensated care
- 9,043 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$52.57 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 43,519 visits to 24,933 patients having ZIP codes associated with the state

#### Extension (2023)

- 1,051,741 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of Missouri, including:
  - 241,410 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
  - 683,567 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
  - 51,052 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy

# State of Missouri



University of Missouri System

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## UM System Statewide Footprint

### Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In FY23, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 98,527 jobs.

**\$3.1**  
billion

For every dollar invested from 2019 to 2021, the MU Extension Business Development Program has returned \$133 in economic impact for its clients by increasing sales more than \$1.6 billion. For a total impact of \$3.1 billion, the program has generated more than 37,000 jobs and attracted nearly \$451 million in capital investments and \$1.5 billion in government contracts.

- Between FY18 and FY23, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.58 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



In FY24, UM System was issued 29 patents and filed 69 new U.S. patent applications.

- In FY24, the UM System awarded 707 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$287.3 million in the state.



In FY24, to improve access to medical and health related services, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network's Show-Me ECHO program provided 16,687 hrs of case-based instruction to 3,113 learners located in 105 of 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.

### Education and Training Provided



40,542 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2023)



Agriculture and natural resource programs served 369,077 farmers and related businesses (2023)

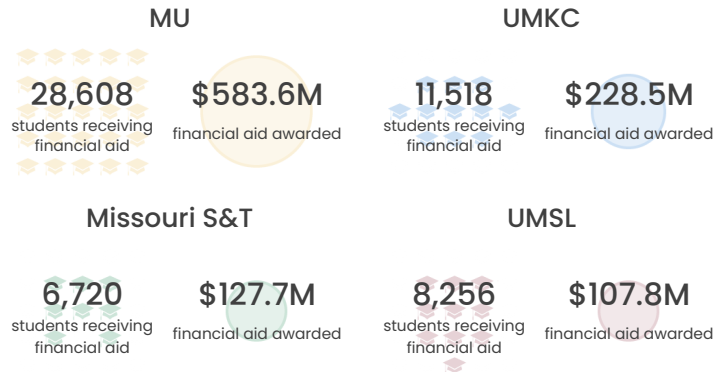


210,577 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2023)

### Education Highlights

#### FY24 Financial Aid Awards

In FY24, 69.7% of the UM System's 79,014 students received financial aid totaling \$1.048 billion



UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 58 higher education institutions (230,000 students), 484 K-12 school districts (830,000 students) and 134 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2023.

- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 31,689 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by Missouri four-year public institutions in 2023-24.
- UM System awarded 35.0% of the 1,776 research doctorates and 26.8% of the 3,796 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2023-24.
- In FY24, UM System's \$30.7 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 96.9% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.
- In 2024, over 12,400 Missourians accessed mobroadband.org, part of the UM System Broadband Initiative which helped the statewide build-out of high-speed internet infrastructure.

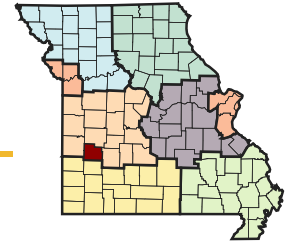
Supporting the University of Missouri is an investment in the future of Missouri.

The university advances Missouri citizens and communities through its mission of teaching, research, public service, and economic development across our four campuses and University of Missouri Extension.

Prepared in December 2024, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM IR • MU Institute for Public Policy • Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) • MU • UMKC • Missouri S&T • UMSL • UM System • UM Health Care • MU Extension • US Census Bureau • US Dept. of Health and Human Services • National Science Foundation



# Missouri Grand Challenges: Local Solutions



CEDAR COUNTY

## Knowing Missouri's Needs

MU Extension asked Missourians to share the greatest challenges they and their communities face.

We heard that feedback and made big changes in the way we work with council and local partners to improve lives. Locally, a network of county engagement and subject matter specialists now share MU's knowledge, research and engagement, targeting programs, information and assistance in:

- agriculture and environment
- youth and family
- business and community
- health and safety

**For each grand challenge, MU Extension and Engagement targets a specific gain by 2023:**



### Economic opportunity

Increase MU Extension and Engagement's economic impact to the State of Missouri from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion overall, and from \$88 billion to \$100 billion in agriculture, the top economic sector



### Educational access and excellence

Increase participation in postsecondary education from 66% to 70%



### Health and well-being

Improve Missouri's health ranking from 40th to 35th in the nation

## Knowing Local Challenges



### CHALLENGE 1: Economic Opportunity: *Labor Market*

### Average Earnings per Job

Average earnings per job can reflect the type of economy, skill of employees, and availability of jobs and workers in an area. Average earnings is calculated by dividing total full-time and part-time employment by total earnings. Earnings is the sum of three components of personal income--wages and salaries, supplements to wages and salaries, and proprietors' income. Full-time and part-time jobs are counted at equal weight. Both employment for wages and salaries and proprietors employment are included, but the employment of unpaid family workers and volunteers is not included. Average earnings per job is a measure of the wages paid at jobs in the county not the earnings of people who live in the county. The dollar figures shown are not adjusted for inflation.

#### 2022 Average Earnings (\$)

\$35,708

Cedar



Missouri

\$62,528 🙄

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, [US Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Economic Accounts](#). 2007-2022.

### Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate is a measure of an economy's active workforce and includes people who are employed and those seeking employment. According to the 2015 – 2019 American Community Survey, of the 11,385 persons of working age in the report area, 48.32% are included in the labor force. This rate falls short of the Missouri labor force participation rate of 62.90%.

#### Labor Force Participation Rate

48.32%

Cedar

Missouri

62.9%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2018-22.

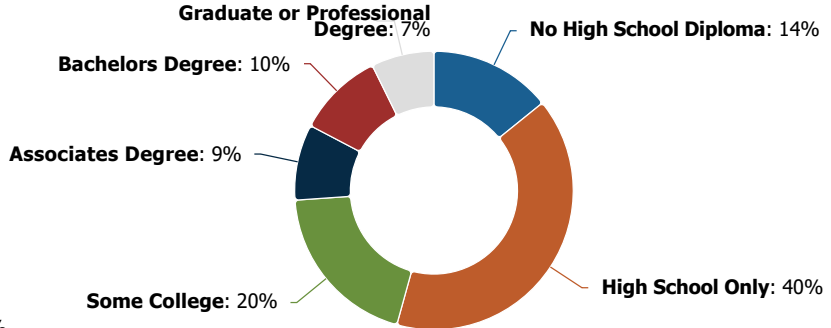


## CHALLENGE 2: Educational Access and Excellence: *Educational Attainment*

### Adult Educational Attainment

Educational attainment shows the distribution of the highest level of education achieved in the report area, and helps schools and businesses understand the needs of adults, whether it be workforce training or the ability to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics opportunities. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25 and is an estimated average for the period from 2017 to 2021.

In the report area, 19.6% of adults have at least some college education and 18.8% of adults have an associate's level degree or higher. However, 40.1% stopped their formal educational attainment after completing high school, and 14.2% of adults did not complete high school.



#### No High School Diploma

14.19%

Missouri

8.69%

Cedar

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2018-22.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2018-22.



## CHALLENGE 3: Healthy Futures: *Healthy Aging*

### Fall Injuries

Falls are the leading cause of injury-related fatality and hospitalization among older adults in the United States. Between 2013 and 2015, adults over age 65 in the report area had 620 hospital or emergency room admissions for fall and jump-related injuries. The rate of these injuries was 6,178 per 100,000 population, which is higher than the state rate of 5,396. Falls hospitalizations have increased since the 2001-03 time period when the rate was 6,094.

### Primary Care Providers

Older adults make up a historically large percentage of the U.S. population, and meeting the healthcare needs of an aging population can be challenging. In the report area, there are approximately 7 primary care physicians (MDs and DOs) to serve the area's 3,338 residents over the age of 65. The patient-provider ratio in the report area is 477:1, which means there is 1 provider for every 477 older adults. The ratio of adults to providers in the report area is higher than the state average of 250:1, which means there are fewer providers per person in this area.

#### Rate per 100,000, 2019-2021

6,178

Missouri

5,396 😞

Cedar



#### Rate per 100,000 Seniors

209.70

Missouri

399.40

Cedar

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, [Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services](#). 2019-2021.

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, [HRSA - Area Health Resource File](#). 2021.





## CHALLENGE 4: Agricultural Growth & Stewardship: *Soils Testing*

Recent public initiatives and USDA programs are putting a focus on producers to improve the health of their soil. The USDA-NRCS defines soil health as the continued capacity of the soil to function as a vital, living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals and humans. A variety of practices can improve soil health, including regular monitoring, sampling and testing protocols. The MU Soil and Plant Testing Laboratory provides testing and unbiased, research-based recommendations for economically viable and environmentally safe nutrient management practices across Missouri.

Report Area	Agriculture	Home and Garden	Community Areas	Research	Total
Cedar	69	16	0	0	85
Missouri	13,742	4,773	421	6,406	25,342

Data Source: [University of Missouri Extension Soil and Plant Testing Laboratory Annual Summary](#). 2022.



## CHALLENGE 4: Agricultural Growth & Stewardship: Food Security & Access

The ability to access healthy and affordable food can be a challenge in Missouri’s rural and urban communities alike — with negative impacts on people’s health and food security status. Food insecurity is the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life. It is associated with many adverse social and health outcomes. Missouri’s overall food insecurity rate is 11.8% — and 12.8% for children under age 18. More than half of Missouri’s 114 counties and the City of St. Louis report food insecure populations of 12.6% or higher. Multiple interventions that address the root causes of food insecurity can impact this critical public health issue. Learn more at the [Food Security Story Map](#).

### Population Living in a Food Desert

77.67%

Cedar

Missouri

17.69%

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, [USDA - Food Access Research Atlas](#). 2019.





# MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs

## Missouri 4-H for ages 8 – 18



**Community clubs** are organized by volunteer club leaders and teams of recognized volunteers. Members attend club meetings, elect officers, enroll in projects and plan learning and community service activities. Some clubs opt to be single-project clubs, where all members focus on the same project.



**4-H Natural Resources programs** employ hands-on activities in climate science, environmental sustainability, renewable energy, sportfishing and wildlife conservation. The **Shooting Sports program**, which teaches marksmanship, safe firearm use, hunting and archery principles, is a prime illustration of how 4-H programs promote holistic youth development and responsible citizenship. Supported by caring adult leaders, these programs offer opportunities to cultivate life skills, self-worth and conservation ethics.



**Missouri 4-H Agriculture and STEM programs** employ hands-on activities that foster problem-solving, creativity, critical thinking and exploration in engineering and technology. Agriculture programming emphasizes biology, environmental science, agri-science, veterinary science and engaging activities such as animal care and agronomy. STEM programs delve into computer science, robotics, aerospace, physics, chemistry and veterinary science.



### Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



# Cedar County

Missouri 4-H

## Local Impact

### Number of Cedar County residents served

151 4-H Members  
44 Trained Adult Volunteers

“Every individual matters. Every individual makes a difference. Each day we get to decide what difference we will make this day.”

~Jane Goodall, Primatologist and Humanitarian

### Accomplishments

Cedar County 4-H serves youth through 6 organized clubs. The youth of Cedar County have demonstrated learning through the following activities:



### Cedar County 4-H Events

- Land O Lakes Youth Fair
- Cedar County Youth Fair
- 4-H Council Meetings
- 4-H Week Movie Night
- Clover Kids Day Camp
- Bacon Curing Workshop
- Show-Me Quality Assurance Training
- Officer Training
- Recognition Ceremony





### Local Impact

#### Missouri 4-H Inspires Kids to Do

- 98% said they are willing to work hard on something difficult.
- 91% set personal goals.
- 97% said they try to learn from their mistakes.
- 98% said they treat others the way they want to be treated.

#### Missouri 4-H Grows True Leaders

- 97% said they like to learn about people who are different from them.
- 93% said they think about others feelings before they say something.
- 75% reported feeling comfortable being a leader.

#### 4-H Builds Leadership and Communication Skills

- 95% help others reach their goals.
- 86% comfortable speaking in a group.
- 99% said they show respect for other's ideas.
- 85% can work with someone who made them upset.
- 95% look for ways to involve all members of a group.

#### 4-H Builds Social and Emotional Skills

- 94% said they keep trying until they reach their goals.
  - 89% stop to think about their choices when making a decision.
  - 97% reported that they like to learn new things.
  - 91% of Missouri 4-H'ers surveyed said they are willing to try something they might get wrong.
-

### Local Impact

#### 4-H Clubs

4-H programs are grounded in the belief that youth learn best by doing. Through hands-on projects in areas like science, health, agriculture, and civic engagement in a positive environment youth receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles. Youth can have the opportunity to concentrate on one focus area, or they can try a variety of programs throughout their 4-H experience.

Regardless of how youth participate, all 4-H programs include mentoring and career readiness as core elements.

- 4-H participants = 151
- 4-H Community Clubs: offer in-depth educational experiences in which members learn like skills such as decision making, public speaking, and working with others. Members learn by doing this under the guidance of adult volunteers, who lead a wide variety of projects that support 4-H members in finding their SPARK.
- 4-H offers Community clubs, SPIN (special interest) clubs, In-school and After-school Clubs, and school enrichment. Families and communities can choose what fits their needs.

#### Volunteers

- 4-H members are supported by 44 youth and adult volunteers
- Time valued at \$39.49 per hour
- Volunteers are the core of the 4-H Program. They help to create, support, and deliver educational programs and experiences. Missouri 4-H volunteers report contributing an average of 100 hours per year to the program. Valuing their time at \$39.49 per hour, the contribution of Cedar county volunteers was worth more than \$1473.56 in 2024. More importantly, these individuals serve as role models and mentors for youth.

Reference: Independent Sector(2024). Retrieved from

<http://independantsector.org/blog/independant-sector-releases-new-value-of-volunteer-time-of-33-49-per-hour/>

# Cedar County

Missouri 4-H

## Local Impact

### James Reynolds, 4-H Youth Program Associate

"The main event for the month of June 2024 was the Cedar County Youth Fair held at the Ray Zumwalt Expo Center. At this event youth of the county were invited to display non-livestock items they created this year. Every entry was judged based upon the merits of itself, creativity of the presenter and execution of their efforts. Judges were asked to write confidential complements and recommendations that were given to the entrants. The judges were also tasked with choosing the best from several categories, those whose were awarded the title of Grand Champion and Reserve along with special recognition of their accomplishments. The fair board provided premiums for each entrant based on their individual ranking. Premiums were paid at the rate of \$0.40 per point granted. Points were awarded according to the rules established by the fair board. On the final day of the Cedar County Youth Fair, James had the honor of presenting the premiums to the non-livestock participants. Photos of the Grand Champions and Reserve winners with their items were taken while presenting the premiums."



Judd Lawson  
Overall Champion



Finley Proctor  
Worm Farm



Carson White  
Cured Ham



Dalton Hicks  
Bug Box



Ethan Richner  
Sheep Project



Maggie Phillips  
Cabbage



Malachi Lewis  
Bench



Raylee Hudson  
Pig Cake



Raylann Watts  
Décor. Pillowcase



Kalip Algieri  
Cowboy Skelton



Olivia Beckley  
Cured Ham



Taylee Hudson  
Blue Lemon Bread



Taylee Hudson  
Pot Holders



### Local Impact

#### 4-H Reaching Home Schoolers

James Reynolds, YPA presented 4-H curriculum on money management for youth at both Cedar County Library locations. During each session, there were 15-20 youth in attendance.







# MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Agriculture and Environment**



**Missouri Grazing Schools** teach management-intensive grazing by dividing large fields into smaller paddocks and systematically rotating livestock among them. Producers who attend the grazing schools learn how to reduce costs through improved livestock grazing and pasture management while getting insights into fencing, watering systems and grazing system design.

**The annual impact of management-intensive grazing is estimated to be \$125 MILLION per year in Missouri.**



**The Missouri Show-Me-Select Replacement Heifer Program**

strives to enhance beef herd reproductive efficiency, boost farm income and establish dependable sources of quality replacement cows in Missouri. The program brings in the power of animal genomics through an enhanced DNA-option, Show-Me-PLUS.



**Since its inception more than 900 FARMS have enrolled, with an estimated statewide impact of \$200 MILLION.**



**The Missouri Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM)**, funded by USDA grants, has been an important extension program for more than 30 years. Mizzou IPM distributes articles, pest monitoring data and publications on how to improve the application of integrated pest management strategies and systems in crops. In addition, the new Soybean Growth Monitoring Report is released through IPM every two weeks during the growing season.

**The MU Soil Testing Program delivers research-based nutrient and lime recommendations to more than 32,500 customers annually.**

## Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



# Cedar County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact

## Patrick Davis MU Extension Livestock Field Specialist

### Programming Cattle Winter Feeding and Pasture Management Workshop

- 27 people were educated on winter management of cattle and pastures for success in the next grazing season. 3 people attended the workshop from this county.
- The goal was that cattle producers would utilize knowledge on their operation to be successful through the winter and the coming grazing season.

### Feeder Cattle Grading, Marketing and Feeding Workshop

- This workshop was part of the Missouri Steer Feedout Program and was provided in cooperation with Barton County MO Cattlemen's Association, Show Me Youth Ag Academy, and Missouri State University.
- This workshop educated MO Steer Feedout participants and approximately 60 people on grading, pricing and marketing feeder cattle using the 43 steers from 6 farms in the MO Steer Feedout. Furthermore, participants were educated on feeding these cattle in the feedlot. 1 person from this county attended this workshop.



# Cedar County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact

## Patrick Davis MU Extension Livestock Field Specialist

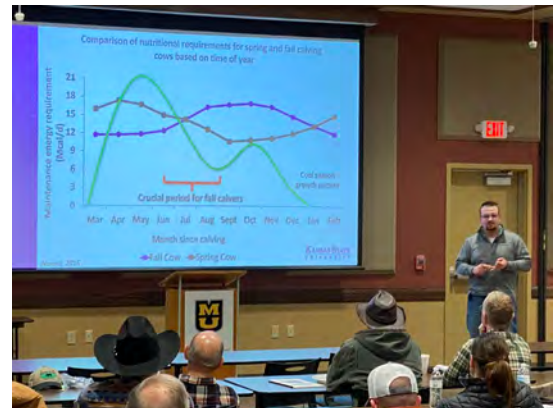
### Programming

#### KOMA Beef Cattle Conference

- This was a joint effort from universities and extension services with MU, University of Arkansas, Oklahoma State University, and Kansas State University. These university extension services were involved in planning and conducting the event. Students and professors from the 4 universities provided presentations during the event. 54 people total were educated from the conference. 2 people from this county attended the conference.
- The goal is that participants will take knowledge from the conference to make their cattle operation successful.

#### Appleton City Management Intensive Grazing School

- 3 people attended this event from this county and were educated on grazing and cattle management.
- The goal is for cattle producers to use this knowledge to more efficiently manage their cattle and forage operation.





# Cedar County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact

## Patrick Davis MU Extension Livestock Field Specialist

### Programming

#### Native Warm Season Grass Pasture Walk

- MU Extension, MFA, Polk County MO SWCD, and MU/MDC Native Grass Group to conduct the pasture walk. The event had a round table discussion that was led by Terry Halleran MU Extension Agronomy Field Specialist Specialist, Landry Jones MFA Conservation Grazing Specialist, and Kevin Welsh landowner. Topics covered included establishment and management of native warm season grasses and drill calibration. MU Extension Livestock Field Specialists Patrick Davis and Andy McCorkill provided education on why Native Warm Season Grasses might feed better than they test. Following the educational portion there was a tour of NWSG plantings on the Kevin Welsh Farm. 27 people were educated during the pasture walk. 6 people from this county attended the event.
- The goal of the pasture walk is that participants will take the knowledge and use it in their livestock and forage operation to make it successful.





# Cedar County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact

## Patrick Davis MU Extension Livestock Field Specialist

### Programming

#### Stateline Beef Cattle Conference

- This was a virtual conference that educated cattle producers on cattle and forage management following drought. Speakers from MU Extension and Kansas State University Extension educated participants on rebuilding the cowherd, utilization of summer annuals and rebuilding the forage base following drought. 41 people were educated during the conference. 4 people from this county attended the conference.
- The goal is that conference participants will use this knowledge to help be successful in rebuilding their cattle and forage operation following drought.



### Youth Programming Missouri Show Me Quality Assurance Program

- This program educates youth and parents on best management practices for raising their youth livestock meat and milk producing animal projects. This is a requirement for the youth to exhibit their projects at local, regional, and state livestock exhibitions. 2 adults and 3 youth were educated at one training in the county.

#### Community Safety Net Rural Safety Day

- 155 youth across two schools were educated on rural safety with the help of high school agriculture classes and books provided from Community Safety Net through local donations.



# Cedar County

Agriculture and Environment

## Local Impact

### Sheep & Goats Monthly Webinar Series

**Facilitator: David Brown (MU Sheep & Goats Specialist)**

**"The webinar series ran from January to November 2024."**

**Total participation in 2024: Over 1,500 across the West Central Region and the state.**

"The webinar provided practical insights that I could immediately apply to improve the health and management of my flock."

"I just wanted to let you know that I found this webinar to be very helpful".

"Thank you for your consistency in providing timely topics to support sheep and goat producers in the state."

**DELIVER MIZZOU.**

## Sheep and Goat Monthly Webinar Series

**January 30, 2024 12:00 – 1:00 pm**

**Topic: Common Diseases in Sheep & Goats (Symptoms, Prevention & Management)**



# Cedar County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact

**Ramón Arancibia** ([raa522@missouri.edu](mailto:raa522@missouri.edu))

Horticulture Specialist, West Central Region

2024 Annual Report

MU Extension Specialist based in Bates County to service 11 counties in the West Central Region. As the Field Specialist in Horticulture, the priority is to address the concerns of specialty crop growers in the west central region and statewide in collaboration with other regional specialists.

Face to face farm visits was the main direct contact method with Amish/Mennonite growers since they don't have access to computers or social media. However, face to face visits as well as phone and emails were contact methods with other produce growers and homeowner (see contacts in table below). Direct contact with farmers and other stakeholders to assist them in their operations was also through presentations at growers' conferences (Chair of the Great Plain Growers Conference: MO, KS, NE, and IA), training on Food Safety training (commercial produce growers in Bates and Vernon Co.), meetings at specific counties (Master Gardeners and garden clubs: Camden, Hickory, Laclede, St. Clair, Livingston, Carroll, Jackson, and Clay Co.), workshops (state wide growers and industry representatives), developed an educational program on 'hydroponic production of herbs at home' with displays and presentations at County fairs (Bates, Cedar, Henry, and Vernon Co.) and at the Laclede Co Agribusiness Summit and Expo, and contributed with inquiries to the weekly Q&A sessions of the Garden Hour (Statewide, <https://ipm.missouri.edu/townHalls/>). In addition, lectured on Ag. career development to school students (Hume High School Reality Day in Bates Co., Career Exploration field day at the SWREEC), judged 4H contest at the Bates Co. fair, and assisted as board secretary of the Soil and Water Conservation District in Bates and Vernon Co.

Contributed as reviewer/editor and Spanish translator of research and extension articles/books.

- Midwest Vegetable Production Guide
- Master Gardener Core Course and presentations



# Cedar County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact

Videos created over 5 years that are posted in the YouTube MUIPM channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLUfLEphtKwu5F9\\_S7XfM7SvXH2Ak6RYd](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLLUfLEphtKwu5F9_S7XfM7SvXH2Ak6RYd)

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1. Increase Sweet Potato Yield with Early Planting. | (354)  |
| 2. Growing Watermelons for July 4th.                | (304)  |
| 3. Plastic Mulch Color & Soil Temperature.          | (3.9K) |
| 4. Strawberry Frost/Freeze Protection.              | (1.6K) |
| 5. Sweet Potato Harvest, Curing and Storage         | (690)  |
| 6. 2021 Sweet Potato Slip Production Trails         | (369)  |
| 7. Early Season Watermelon in MO                    | (608)  |
| 8. On-farm Sweet Potato Slip Production Trails      | (163)  |
| 9. Sweet potato planting                            | (145)  |
| 10. Cucurbits: Flower types and fruit production    | (161)  |
| 11. Sweet potato slip production for field planting | (157)  |
| 12. High tunnel streamers                           | (100)  |





# Cedar County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact

#### Direct contacts 2024

Event name	Role	Contacts	Sessions
Farmer and stakeholders' visits	Advisor	122	12
Great Plains Growers Conference 2024	Chair, presenter	487	2
Drip-irrigation strategies workshop	Presenter	48	2
Low Tunnel Workshop	Team member, presenter	76	2
Master Gardener and Garden clubs meetings	Presenter	95	6
Extension Master Gardener Training	Presenter	436	46
Master Gardener Program	Presenter	110	10
2024 Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)	Coordinator, Presenter	34	2
Inaugural Laclede County Agribusiness Summit and Expo 2024	Display presenter	158	1
Small Fruit Production Webinar Series - Berries and Grapes	Team member	56	1
Conventional Vegetable Production Series	Team member	9	1
OFFICE HOURS			
Growing Tree Fruit, Nut Crops, and Syrup Trees	Team member	65	1
County Council Annual Meeting	Presenter	51	1
Farmers Market networking	Advisor	70	16
Hume High school Reality Day	Presenter	200	1
Career Exploration field day at the SWREEC),	Presenter		
4H contest at the Bates Co. fair	Judge		
Soil and Water Conservation District in Bates and Vernon Co.	Secretary		

#### Indirect contacts 2024

Event name	Role	Contacts	Sessions
2024 Garden Hour with MU Extension	Team member, Moderator, presenter	9356	1
Stakeholders mail and email		249	12
Stakeholders phone calls		107	12
MU IPM Youtube Commercial Horticulture	Team member,	36744	1
Missouri Produce Growers Video Newsletter	Team member,	12971	1





# MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Business and Community**



## CLIENT HIGHLIGHT



LOCS  
— OF —  
GLORY

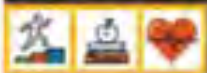
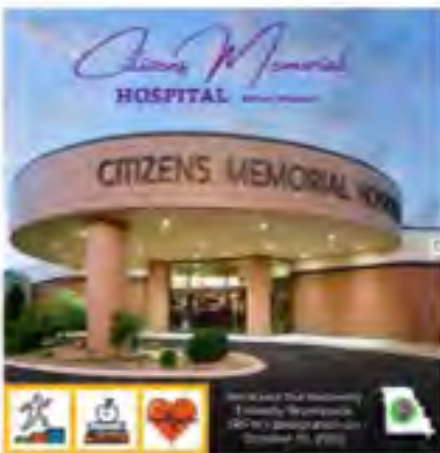
The **Missouri Small Business Development Centers** (SBDC) provide professional training and customized one-on-one counseling to small businesses across the state. Working with the Missouri SBDC helps business owners make confident decisions.

**FY2020-2022, Missouri SBDC ASSISTED 878 STARTUPS and helped Missouri small businesses earn more than \$440 MILLION.**



Missourians from all walks of life celebrated the **2023 Missouri Good Neighbor Week**, Sept. 28 to Oct. 4, by completing and reporting neighboring acts and nominating others as the most engaged neighbors in their counties.

**In 2023, the goal was to document 15,000 acts of neighboring. That goal was surpassed with 19,752 Missourians being positively affected during MISSOURI GOOD NEIGHBOR WEEK.**



**Recovery Friendly Workplaces** (RFWs) foster a workplace culture that promotes employee safety, health and well-being through strategies that support managers and employees, including reducing stigma and providing recovery resources related to the challenges surrounding substance use disorders. The framework was developed in partnership with MU Extension's Labor and Workforce Development Program.

**As of 2023, 25 Missouri businesses have been designated recovery friendly workplaces, and 2,248 EMPLOYEES have been trained on addiction, stigma and naloxone distribution.**

## Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



# Economic Opportunity

Serving: Cedar County

## Missouri Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

The Missouri SBDC at Missouri Southern State University provides support to Cedar County entrepreneurs and small business owners through 1:1 assistance and training. Over the course of 2024, our office met with clients to discuss a wide range of topics including:

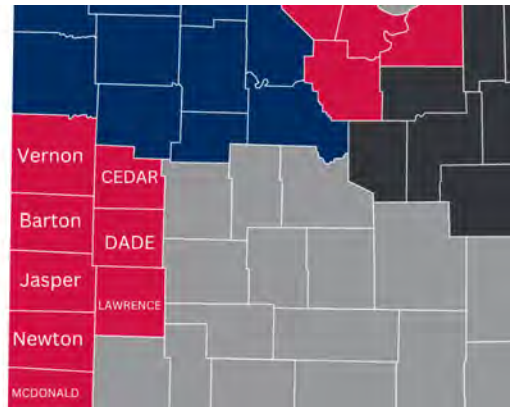
- Starting a business
- Cash flow management
- Business loan refinancing and expansion
- Business relocation
- Financial planning
- Marketing and social media strategy
- Purchasing a business
- Childcare grant application assistance
- International expansion opportunities
- Technology commercialization
- Experiential projects linking MSSU students and business owners

Through leveraging regional partnerships, we are able to offer the following:

- Innovate SOMO
- Early-Stage Boot Camp
- Government contracting assistance
- Identification of grant opportunities effecting businesses due to imports

### KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ **17** Business owners received multiple 1:1 consulting sessions regarding their small businesses
- ✓ **1** New jobs created
- ✓ **56** Jobs retained
- ✓ **4** Government contracts awarded to small businesses in Cedar County
- ✓ **27** Training event attendees



The Missouri SBDC at Missouri Southern State University serves 8 counties in southwest Missouri (highlighted).

Learn more about our latest programs and training

[sbdc@mssu.edu](mailto:sbdc@mssu.edu)

417-625-3128

[www.mssutrainig.com](http://www.mssutrainig.com)

### REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

\$74,262

**Capitalization secured through the assistance of the SBDC**





# MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Community and Professional Health Education**



MU **Continuing Education for Health Professions** (CEHP) provides evidenced-based, relevant and responsive learning activities designed to narrow professional practice gaps with respect to knowledge, competence, and performance of the healthcare team. A commitment to lifelong learning, in partnership with those we serve, contributes to excellence in practice and improved health outcomes.

**CEHP provided 169 LEARNING ACTIVITIES which reached over 53,000 PROFESSIONALS across all Missouri counties.**



The **Diabetes Prevention Program** is recognized as "Full Plus," the highest status given by the CDC and is provided by licensed lifestyle coaches to prevent type 2 diabetes. Through lifestyle changes participants can achieve sustainable weight loss, increase in physical activity and learn coping skills to manage stress.

**More than 1 IN 3 PARTICIPANTS have reached the 5 - 7% WEIGHT LOSS GOAL.**



**Strengthening Families Program: for Parents and Youth 10-14,** is a seven-session series for parents or caregivers and their young teens to attend together to improve family communication, resolve conflict and improve parental skills.

**A research study conducted by the Partnerships in Prevention Science Institute found a RETURN OF \$9.60 for every dollar spent implementing the Strengthening Families Program.**

## Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being





# MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Continuing Education**



The programming from the **MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute** (FRTI) is available to all qualified fire and emergency first responders. Seventy percent of courses are held at the local departments or agencies. With most of the state's fire service personnel considered volunteer or part-time, this local access and flexibility assures training opportunities for all firefighters and emergency responders.



The LETI **School Protection Officer Program** provides basic training for school faculty and administrators to become school protection officers. The three-week academy typically runs during June and exceeds the hourly requirements for state recognition and certification.



LETI's **National Animal Cruelty Investigations School** provides training on investigating abuse and neglect of animals. Multi-level courses prepare future animal care workers to handle most types of incidents. Several jurisdictions throughout the country require the National Animal Cruelty Investigations School's training for employment as animal cruelty investigators.

## Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being





# MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Health and Human Sciences**



**Policy, systems, and environmental** (PSE) changes encourage residents to improve community health by making healthy choices easier and more accessible. Residents design strategies around local needs, assets, and interests.

**HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY** leaders decided pantry clients needed access to healthier foods. Review of food procurement and display practices led to a new policy allocating **\$1,000** of pantry discretionary spending for **LOW-FAT DAIRY OR FRESH PRODUCE.**



**Stay Strong, Stay Healthy** teaches older adults basic exercises to boost strength, balance and overall daily functionality. Participants also gain insights into nutrition and wellness for healthy aging and active living.

After eight weeks, **Stay Strong, Stay Healthy** participants significantly **IMPROVED** their **STRENGTH, BALANCE** and **SLEEP QUALITY.**



### **Cooking Matters**

*Make quick, tasty, and affordable meals everyone will enjoy.*

Learn valuable tips for stretching your food dollars and how to prepare a recipe and sample easy, low-cost, nutritious and delicious dishes.

**"We prepared barley jambalaya in class and one participant mentioned she had never tried barley before. She tried the jambalaya and really enjoyed it. A few days later she excitedly said she made the recipe at home and her whole family enjoyed it!"**

**Cooking Matters** facilitator about a class participant

## Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



# Cedar County

## Health and Human Sciences

### Local Impact

"Stay Strong, Stay Healthy" teaches older adults basic exercises to boost strength, balance and overall daily functionality. Participants also gain insights into nutrition and wellness for healthy aging and active living". After participants completed the eight-week program they reported feeling stronger, having more energy and wanting to continue staying active.

Pre-fitness and post-fitness assessments were performed on the first day of class and they very last day of class. Each participant made improvement in their strength, balance and overall mobility. Participants showed interest in wanting to continue the class after 8 weeks was up or starting a new class in the spring. Overall Stay Strong, Stay Healthy has had a wonderful impact in our community.





# Cedar County

## Health and Human Sciences

### Profiles and Stories



Nutrition Program Associate, Janet Fox and myself, Hannah Whittaker, Nutrition and Health Specialist, co-taught the program cooking matters to a group of participants through compass health. This was a six-week program that walked participants through healthy eating, food and kitchen safety, as well as meal prepping on a budget.



This photo was taken at a training held in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Soy Chef training was directed at Nutrition and Health Specialists on how we could provide more education to local farmers and consumers on the use and health benefits of soybeans in our area.

Participants from Cedar County attended the Country Cured Ham Class where myself, Hannah Whittaker and Extension and Engagement Specialist, Kyle Whittaker provided history and instruction on how to cure a ham. Each participant left with a ham, and some entered their ham into county, regional, and Missouri State Fair.



### Local Impact

#### SNAP-Ed Public Value Statement 2024

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$11,145,237 in federal funds to Missouri. The funds support engagement with 74,864 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri who learned about being active and healthy eating on a budget. This year we had 1,164,143 indirect educational contacts through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries, and the Show Me Nutrition helpline.

**6492** direct and indirect contacts were made in Cedar County.

Participants in SNAP-Ed learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices, eating breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity, and make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a high quality of life throughout the lifespan.

This vital programming effort also reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayer money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

#### EFNEP Public Value Statement 2024

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) brought \$1,624,777 federal funds to Missouri. These funds were used to enroll 559 limited-resource families in nutrition education and meal preparation classes, representing 2,068 family members. Additionally, 2,864 youth were enrolled in EFNEP classes.

**0** of these youth and adult participants reside in Cedar County.

Participants in EFNEP learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices, eating breakfast more often, trying new foods, increasing their physical activity, and making healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a high quality of life throughout the lifespan.

This vital programming effort also reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayer money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.



# Cedar County

## Health and Human Sciences

### Local Impact

#### **Janet Fox**

#### **Nutrition Program Associate, Cedar County**

I was asked to present a nutrition/cooking class to a group of women who are in a program in Stockton that provides 90 days of transitional time between substance abuse rehabilitation and going back into their lives. I chose to do the Eating Smart, Being Active Curriculum for 8 sessions.

The women in this group are of various ages and backgrounds. They are staying in a controlled housing environment with restricted use of communication. They have classes on various topics that are mainly lectures. So, to their surprise, when I arrived with my cart, they were excited to see we were going to cook. These ladies have a kitchen/dining area they use to prepare their meals. This is where we have our class. The first time I arrived things were kind of a mess with dirty dishes and the table cluttered. We had to clean things up before we started class. After the initial class when I arrived, they had tidied up the kitchen and the table was clean. They are very excited to see me. The participation for this group is the best Eating Smart, Being Active class that I have ever had. Each of them takes on a task of preparing the recipe. They talk and share what cooking was like growing up and then in their own homes. I feel like this class has given them hope to prepare healthy meals for themselves and their families when they are out on their own again.

Many of them have gained weight while being in this program so they have welcomed the information and physical activities. This group of women have been a favorite class for me, and I feel like it's a great success.

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# Cedar County

## Health and Human Sciences

### Local Impact

#### Janet Fox

Nutrition Program Associate, Cedar County

During the month of October, the Extension participates in the “Crunch Off” throughout the state of Missouri. The purpose of this program is to bring awareness of locally grown foods. Hammons Products, our local producer of black walnuts, provided me with sample packs of caramelized black walnut nuggets to use for the crunch off. 50 were handed out at various gatherings to promote the Missouri grown product of black walnuts. I was also able to hand out 20 small packages of Missouri grown popcorn at the Stockton High School football game.





# Cedar County

## Health and Human Sciences

### Profiles and Stories

During 2024, youth and adults were served through direct teaching at schools, community groups and agencies. The following is an example of some of the locations where participants were served in Cedar County.

#### Schools

- El Dorado Springs Early Childhood Center
- Stockton Elementary
- Stockton High School
- Osceola Middle School
- Marion C. Early elementary

#### Agencies

- Wee Care Daycare
- Cedar County Library
- Megan's Place
- Maplewood Estates Senior Community

