UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Dallas County
2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Located in the Courthouse Basement
P.O. Box 1072
Buffalo, MO 65662
417-345-7551
December 1, 2020

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension,

Few of us have experienced a year quite like 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought each of us so many unforeseen professional and personal challenges. Yet, as difficult as the last months have been, they have also called us at University of Missouri Extension and Engagement to think about our work differently and find new ways to serve and respond to Missouri’s needs.

We are working harder and more innovatively to develop local and statewide partnerships and collaborations that help us improve lives, communities and businesses across the state. Through our four UM System universities, we are working to expand our state’s broadband access and support statewide efforts to prepare our workforce for 21st century opportunities. This work is key to keeping Missouri’s economy competitive and helping people and communities in every part of our state thrive.

We continue to expand and develop tools like the All Things Missouri web portal (https://allthingsmissouri.org) that provide a wealth of data local leaders can use to pinpoint county and community needs and plan for coordinated solutions. New COVID-19 tracking tools, for instance, help county health departments accurately assess the local impact of the virus and coordinate targeted responses. A new Missouri Food Finder tool (https://mofoodfinder.org) matches consumers with growers and producers to create a market for locally grown foods. The UM System Community Connect web portal (https://community.umsystem.edu) showcases the many resources, services and faculty programs available to the community through each of the four universities in the UM System. Please explore and use these tools. Tell us how we can improve them to better serve you.

Whether online or in person, we are committed to working with you to deliver knowledge, resources and programs that best meet your communities’ interests and needs. I hope you see the impact of that work in this year’s county annual report — just as you see your own hand, as key stakeholders, in making this work possible.

We greatly appreciate your support of MU Extension as partners within your community. As always, I welcome your input on how the University of Missouri can better serve you as we look forward to a brighter year ahead.

Sincerely,

Marshall Stewart, Ed.D.
Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement
Who we are

Faculty and staff

Allison Gunter
CES in Nutrition & Health

Becky Bell
4-H Youth Program Assistant

Council members

Julie Turner-Crawford, Chairman
Steve Johnson, Vice-chairman
Rachel Badgett, Secretary
Dee Dugan, Treasurer
Travis Bybee
Kirby Vest
Chais Rankin
Tim Ryan
Hollie Elliot
Jen Portis
Angie Gann

Specialist Serving Dallas County

Ramon Arancibia
FIELD SPECIALIST IN HORTICULTURE
MU Extension in Bates County
660-679-4167

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MU Extension in Camden County
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FIELD SPECIALIST IN AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS
MU Extension in Polk County
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Katie Stewart
Office Support Barn Quilt Lead

About us:
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Dallas County Courthouse Basement
P.O. Box 1072
Buffalo, MO 65622
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417-345-7551
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County commissioners
Kevin Sharp, Presiding
Roger Bradley, Associate, North
Mike Lewis, Associate, South

State legislators:
Sandy Crawford
SENATOR

Jeff Knight
REPRESENTATIVE
2020 was a year of challenges but Dallas County persevered. As the County Engagement Specialist (CES), I work to recognize the needs of the community and actively address them through MU Extension. To help achieve this goal I attend many community driven meetings on Extensions behalf. The Dallas County Extension council works closely with our staff to assist us in our efforts and our successes could not be that without their support.

In 2020 amidst a quarantine, we held a Dallas County Agri-Business virtual tour via Facebook. This was an effort to showcase agricultural based area businesses for county residents. The tour was a success as 6 local businesses were highlighted.

Extension was able to host Barn Quilt instructional classes once again to a total of 82 students despite restrictions set in place due to the pandemic.

We were also proud to play a role in a local event to honor and celebrate public servants of Dallas County, Back the Blue. Joe’s Hardware is the home to a 4x4 Patriotic Barn Quilt which is the first many quilts to come. Joe has donated the side wall of his business towards our Barn Quilt Wall project. Office support staff Katie Stewart is the artist behind this quilt.

The meeting room used by the Dallas County council, 4-H meetings and various other events got some attention this year in updates to make it more equipped to host these organizations.

Nutrition and Health Specialist

As the Nutrition & Health Specialist housed in Dallas County, I also provide programming for Camden & Laclede counties. Despite the challenges of 2020, many programs were SAFELY conducted either in person or via virtual presentation.

As our programming during the pandemic was dramatically altered, we learned some of our material can effectively be delivered online to broaden our audience reach. Because of this a majority of classes were held virtually.

My most popular class was held in-person again this year! Stay Strong, Stay Healthy a 16 session class offered over 8 weeks. For older adults, this is a strength training exercise class designed to help improve balance and flexibility.

Looking forward to future nutrition and health programming!

2020 Programs Offered
In-Person and Virtual

- Walk with Ease
- Stay Strong Stay Healthy, Level 1
- Matter of Balance
- Taking Care of You
- Diabetes Self-Management
- Cooking Matters Grocery Store Tours
- Dallas County Amp Up Your Shape Up
- Performance Nutrition
- Let’s Get Cooking Video Series
- Quaran-Time Cooking Videos
- Health & Nutrition Webinars
Dallas County 4-H, 2020, was a community of 204 youth building life skills, contributing to community, and adapting to change along side of seventeen volunteers.

4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential working and learning in partnership with caring adults. The mission of 4-H is to provide meaningful opportunities for all youth and adults to work together to create sustainable community change. This is accomplished within three primary content areas, or mission areas – civic engagement and leadership, healthy living, and science. These mission areas reiterate the founding purposes of Extension through agriculture (e.g., community leadership, quality of life, and technology transfer) in the context of 21st century challenges and opportunities.

Volunteers are the backbone of the 4-H program. They put in countless hours of preparation and presentation. The relationships and bonds they create with the youth hold great value and allow 4-H to provide new opportunities for many.

Sportfishing Slam was one activity members could do outside of a meeting and with their families help. The Sportfishing Slam contest was created to challenge all 4-H members to stretch their skills and knowledge surrounding fishing in the State of Missouri. The Sportfishing Slam contest encourages members to learn more about fish species and to determine the appropriate, habitat, and bait that will allow for the completion of a slam category.

What is 4-H? Why Join 4-H?

4-H, the nation’s largest youth development organization, grows confident young people who are empowered for life today and prepared for a career tomorrow. 4-H programs empower nearly 6 million young people across the U.S. through experiences that develop critical life skills. 4-H is the youth development program of our nation’s Cooperative Extension System and USDA and serves every county and parish in the U.S. through a network of 110 public universities and more than 3000 local Extension offices.

The research-backed 4-H experience grows young people who are four times more likely to contribute to their communities; two times more likely to make healthier choices; two times more likely to be civically active; and two times more likely to participate in STEM programs.
4-H Youth Led and Facilitated by Volunteers

Volunteers create, support, and are part of the 4-H community. Independent consulting group TEConomy Partners LLC values the contribution of Missouri 4-H volunteers at $39 million. Missouri 4-H volunteers give over 95,000 hours of service annually to their communities. (TEConomy Partners LLC)

In Dallas County during the 2019-2020 4-H year, seventeen adult and nine youth volunteers led fifty-four members in club and project activities. Three community clubs with a total of 54 youth enrollments were the basis of the Dallas County 4-H groups in 2019-2020.

The Dallas County 4-H Council is youth led. The council president and vice president are both youth members. The secretary and treasurer are adult volunteers who teach the youth those officer duties. During the meetings all youth participate. Some skills learned are: being recognized by the chair, help with budgets, making motions, serving on a committee, working out compromise, and voting.

Volunteer shares her passion of the beef industry. Youth learn about selection, shelter, feeding, breeding and more about cattle production.

Learn by Doing

4-H clubs offer long-term educational experiences where members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking and working with others. Members learn by doing under the guidance of adult volunteers who teach projects ranging from robotics and arts to beef production and sportfishing. Clubs also involve children and teens in community service, camping and educational trips.

During 2020 COVID-19 interfered with project meetings. Volunteers maintained project work through virtual connections, telephone, texting, social media, and at home assignments. The beef project, as well as others, remained successful. The Beef project leader had to give home assignments during the lockdown. Some youth entered shows by video, taping themselves and sending their video entry electronically to the exhibitions. Adjusting to change for virtual shows was challenging and lacked the excitement of being on the fairgrounds but that didn’t stop the 4-Hers. Dallas County was fortunate enough to hold their county fair in person. All of the members who raise livestock were thrilled to be able to participate along side their friends and other 4-H members.

Showing virtually to adjust to change.
County highlights

Becky Bell, 4-H Youth Program Associate

After School and In School 4-H Participation

Dallas County 4-H participates in after school programs. Approximately 80 students participated in 4-H after school programs. These 4-H after school projects focused on STEM in the middle school and health and nutrition in the elementary school. Paper bridges, potato batteries, and moving plastic cars, used to demonstrate the laws of motion, were part of the 2020 lineup. Along with STEM skills leaders include some career readiness options. 4-H curriculum encourages reflection on learning and challenges the youth to apply what they learned to all aspects of their lives.

During after school program youth experiment to see how the paper bridge can be folded to hold more weight.

80 youth participated in after school programs. About 60 of those were in the elementary Kids in the Kitchen group. The other 20 were in the middle school STEM group.

Civic Engagement Through Community Service

4-H Civic Engagement involves working to make a positive difference in one’s community and developing the combination of knowledge, skills, values, and motivation to make that difference (Elrich, 2000). 4-H youth engage within communities on many scales--from local to global--making contributions that reinforce their sense of purpose and strengthening their sense of belonging with peers and community adults.

Dallas County 4-H have youth connect as active participants in their community. Community service builds an appreciation and respect for others. Community service provides opportunity for youth to understand their part in shaping change and working together towards the common good. Participation in food drives, diaper drives, parades, making treats for law and emergency workers, as well as making cards for local nursing home residents have all helped shape youth into contributing citizens in their community.

“I didn’t realize so many people needed food.”

Packing groceries for commodity distribution to those in need.
Agricultural and STEM hands-on programs are offered to Dallas County 4-H members. Participation in agriculture contests such as livestock judging and raising and showing animals like rabbits, poultry, cattle, and hogs have provided youth the opportunity to develop technical and soft skills, communication skills, and confidence to defend their opinions. Robotics, electricity, and gardening, are examples of projects that drive the development of youth curiosity and exploration of how the world works around them. These projects engage youth in the areas of science, math, engineering, technology, and agriculture/natural resources.

4-H programming empowers youth to be healthy. The Body and Mind project helps members develop skills to make healthy decisions and lead healthier lives. Having the confidence and skills to lead healthy lifestyles not only improves overall well-being; it enables youth to tackle life’s challenges today and become leaders in their lives, careers and communities as they grow into responsible adulthood.

In Dallas County 4-H provides programming in the areas of nutrition, physical activity, drug and substance abuse prevention, and suicide prevention. Sixty-eight high school students participated in Prescription RX, an opioid addiction prevention program, facilitated by the 4-H Youth Program Associate.

Four youth participate in the Foods 2 Healthy Cooking and Nutrition project. Topics include foodborne illnesses, reading and understanding a nutrient label, safe handling of food, food values, cost per serving, and why knowing how much sugar you consume can help prevent chronic disease such as diabetes.
Missouri is Global Leader for ECHO

**MU Extension’s Community Engagement Specialists contributions in their collaborations with ME’s Show-Me ECHO Program.**

*Show-Me ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes)* uses videoconferencing to connect interdisciplinary teams of experts with primary care providers and other professionals. Participants collaborate in interactive case-based learning to develop advanced skills and best practices, which improves patient care, access, quality and efficiency. Show-Me ECHO learning sessions offer free continuing education and are provided at no cost to participating sites and individuals. MU Extension officials from across Missouri have been collaborating with Show-Me ECHO to help increase awareness of the opportunities Show-Me ECHO provides to rural communities, as well as help increases participation in their learning programs.

Extension’s Community Engagement Specialists (CES) in collaboration with Show-Me ECHO Program at MU’s School of Medicine were instrumental in recruiting staff from 135 nursing homes to participate in our **Nursing Home COVID – 19 ECHO** aimed at increasing best practices for preventing COVID - 19 in nursing home settings. Each nursing home that participates, at a predetermined level, will be awarded 6,000 dollars, funded by the ECHO Institute of Albuquerque in New Mexico. These efforts will likely be resulted in $810,000 in funding being awarded to nursing homes (many of them rural) in Missouri in 2021. Furthermore, we believe that information shared in these weekly informational meetings with Show-Me ECHO’s nursing home professions will result in improved care of the residents entrusted to their supervision.

Show-Me ECHO currently has over 27 different topics that our ECHO’s cover. Many of them strive to reduce health disparities and improve health outcomes in rural communities. Extension’s Community Engagement Specialists have been actively promoting these programs to professionals in organizations throughout their communities. They meet weekly to share outreach efforts, brainstorm additional opportunities for outreach, and trouble shoot challenges. These professionals have even participated in focus group meetings with Dr. Kimberly Keller, and Dr. Kevin Everett to gain insight into how the CES’s may be useful in collecting information/data on rural community’s attitudes, awareness, and behavior as it relates to health and health related issues. Currently the Community Engagement Specialists are helping spread the word about our newest ECHO, **Managing Hospitals and Patients in a Pandemic**, see the link: https://showmeecho.org/clinics/managing-hospitals-patients-in-a-pandemic/. This ECHO was created (in a very short time) in response to the rapidly increasing COVID spike taxing Missouri’s health care system, to help maximize hospital’s resources and capacity to respond to growing demands. As this brief perspective is being written, Community Engagement Specialists are hitting the ground running to help spread the word and inform pertinent hospital employees in their communities of this valuable ECHO. We believe it has the potential to save lives.
January 26, 2021
Dallas County Extension Center
108 S. Maple St., Courthouse
Buffalo, MO 65622

Re: Dallas County SNAP-Ed Public Value Statement 2020

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought $9,964,840.00 in federal funds to Missouri. The funds support engagement with 723,461 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri. There were 3,209,545 direct educational contacts. This year we had 2,817,878 indirect educational contacts through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries, and the Show Me Nutrition helpline.

516 direct and indirect contacts were made in Dallas 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.

The following is a list of the locations where participants were served in Dallas County:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mallory Elementary</td>
<td>Buffalo Senior Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo Prairie Middle School</td>
<td>Dallas County Food Stamp office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dallas County Health Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dallas County YMCA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In summary, it has been a successful year in Dallas County for FNP. We look forward in 2021 to more programming opportunities and continued progress in helping to improve the lives of Missouri families.

Thank you,

Michelle Chapman-Larson
West Central FNEP Coordinator
Based in Bates County to service 12 counties in the West Central Region. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, face to face farm visits concentrated with Amish/Mennonite growers associated with produce auctions since they don’t have access to social media or computers. Among the main concerns addressed were soil-borne diseases, foliar diseases, and pesticide use. Seven face to face workshops/trainings were conducted, however, most of the assistance to clientele was through online courses, townhall meetings, newsletters (videos), and emails. In addition, 8 articles were published in the Missouri Produce Growers (MPG) bulletin (which reaches the large audience of Mennonite and Amish growers) and other venues. Extending information and assisting produce growers is expected to increase local production and the sustainability of the industry.

**Dallas Field client consultations** (direct contacts) 16
**WC Field client consultations** (direct contacts) 456
**Presentations/workshops/field days:**
- Tomato Grafting Workshop (Morgan Co.)
- Fall production of vegetable crops (Hickory Co.)
- Pesticide safety training for youth (Vernon Co.)
- West Central Regional Energizer (Henry Co.)
- Farm to Fork Breakout Session: Planning for Success (ST. Clair Co.)
- Private Pesticide Applicator Training (Bates Co.)
- Food Safety Modernization Act - Produce Safety Alliance training (Bates/Vernon Co.)

**Statewide Online Courses trainings:**
- Commercial Fruit Crop Production Webinar
- Beginner farmer Commercial Small Fruit Crop Production Webinar
- Commercial Horticulture Town Hall interactive web meetings (6)
- Sustainable urban Agriculture webinar (in Spanish) 8
- Food Safety Modernization Act - Produce Safety Alliance 1
- Commercial Horticulture COVID-19 Rapid Response Team Activities Recordings 1

**Total direct contacts** 3596

**Articles:**
- Commercial Horticulture Newsletter (statewide biweekly) 5
- MO Produce Growers (statewide) 5
- Ag in Focus (WC- MO) 1
- HortScience (National) 1
- Journal of Economic Entomology (international) 1

**Total indirect contacts** 1589
Taking Care of You
During 2020, I taught 7 Taking Care of You courses, partnered with several colleagues in Human Development and Nutrition across the state. I did teach one in-person course in February, that transitioned early to virtual due to Covid-19. The rest of my courses this year have been virtual, and attracted a state-wide audience, with over 200 participants. I facilitated a course for UM System, as well as being one of the instructors for a course offered to OSHER members.

Taking Care of You: Body, Mind, Spirit (TCoY) is a four-session, community-based group program that meets two hours per week. The program is designed for adults of any age and involves discussions, experiential exercises and mini lectures. It is not designed as a group therapy program for people with clinical mental health conditions. TCoY integrates various research-based principles and techniques from the field of positive psychology and the scientific study of what leads to optimal functioning, with an emphasis on mindfulness.

As one of the State Leads for the Taking Care of You curriculum, I am excited to report that we have seen a large number of instructors offering this course in 2020. Overall, MU Extension offered approximately 46 courses, in either 4-2 hour or 8-1 hour sessions via zoom.

Short-Term Learning:
Session 1: brain structure, balloon activity, responding vs. reacting, and joy list activity/conclusion
Session 2: definitions, dimension of wellness, Weeble activity
Session 3: factors of stress, time management matrix activity, mindfulness, and recasting
Session 4: hope and resiliency, Iceberg of Health, Taking Care of You toolbox, Johari Window activity, unpacking the backpack of stress, and conclusion

Participants completed both Pre/Post evaluations using the Perceived Stress Scale and the Ardell Wellness Scale. Those outcomes showed that participation in the Taking Care of You course gave participants skills to help reduce their perceived stress during the 4/8 week session. Plans to conduct 3 and 6 month follow up surveys are underway.

Participant comments:
As a result of this workshop I learned: better coping skills, better understanding of thoughts and emotions and how they relate to stress, the dimensions of wellness
As a result of this workshop, I now plan to: work on the tools in my toolbox to better manage stress, focus on being grateful and do more things that bring me joy.

Additional programs offered in 2020 include:
Boost Your Brain and Memory
Alzheimer’s Association presentations
Childcare Provider Trainings
Focus on Kids: 26th Circuit - I marketed and was the instructor for this class. County clerk took registrations and sent them to me prior to class. Early 2020, we were able to have classes in person, and then transitioned to online offerings for several months due to Covid-19. Pre/Post Standardized evaluation completed. Reports sent to campus and attendance; certificates filed with County Clerk.

In-person courses were held January (2 participants) March (16 participants) September (2 participants) October (4 participants)

Due to Covid-19, many of our courses were shifted to online. Participants in the following counties attended Focus on Kids as a result of contact with MU Extension or a referral through their local family court system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Camden</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howell</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laclede</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webster</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wright</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Short-term learning outcomes:

Avoid Putting Children in the Middle:
1. Avoid criticizing the other parent in front of the children.
2. Avoid arguing in front of the children—discuss co-parenting issues when children are not present.
3. Plan how pick-up & drop-off will take place and follow the plan, but be willing to change the plan if needed.
4. Reassure children that conflict and divorce are not their fault.

Transitions Between Households
1. Make time for yourself when children are with the other parent.
2. Transitioning between households is stressful for children. A routine with built-in “down time” helps.
3. Differences between households are to be expected. It is impossible to control what happens in the other parent’s household.
4. Children need to feel loved and have consistent routines and responsibilities in each household.

Money Matters
1. Avoid using the child as a messenger—discuss parenting and financial issues directly.
2. Have a plan for dealing with the child’s unexpected expenses.
3. Avoid discussing child support issues with children.
4. Update the parenting plan as children’s needs change.

Parenting Time
1. You will not be replaced if you stay involved in your child’s life.
2. Avoid asking questions that make children feel like spies.
3. Avoid using parenting time as leverage or a way to try to control the other parent.
4. Consider what role potential new partners should have in the lives of your children before bringing a new partner into the child’s life.
This past year came with many challenges which required a different approach to my position and operation. I serve Hickory, Dallas, Laclede, Camden, and Polk Counties. The following is a summary of the year. Articles written and submitted to be released:

April 7th Does Soil Sampling Really Work? April 16th Interpreting your Soil Test Results, June 24th Japanese Beetles, July 22nd Common Pasture Herbicides Brands & Their Restrictions, August 27th All Hay is not Created Equally, September 23rd Winter Wheat Management.


Farm Visits Made (2020) 41
Soil and Water Board Meetings 11
Hickory County Council Meetings 6
Hickory County Master Gardener Monthly Meetings
PPAT Trainings in Person: 4  Online Training: 3

- **Classes Offered in Person**: Warm Season Grass Workshop, Master Gardeners Program (First 3 were taught then CoVid. Course cancelled and refunded money), Cured Ham Workshop, 4 class mini-series taught to local Ag Ed instructors on how to train an FFA Agronomy CDE Team, All Hay is not Created Equally Workshop, Container Grown Gardening, Hay Fields and Pasture Pest Management, Understanding Your Soil Test, Landscaping Class, Surviving
- The 2020 Drought (4 mini workshops over Caring for Beef Cattle after the Drought)
- Hickory County Grazing School: 24 participants
- Participated in West Central 4 H Energizer: Clinton, Mo (Taught classes on Beginning Bee Keeping.)
- Spoke at Farm Bureau 2020 State Young Farmers & Rancher Conference as a break out speaker.
- Member of the Spring Forage Conference Committee and helped put on the conference in February at Springfield, MO.
- 6 to 8 meetings and the conference offered the First-Grade Gardening Program to Area Schools. Started program and visited Macks Creek, Skyline, Fair Grove, Weaubleau, and Humansville Schools before being shut down by CoVid. The plan was to touch over 1000 students and was on track to do so.
- Workshops and Conferences attended: Dallas County Soil and Crop Conference, Hickory County Cattleman’s Meetings, MU Extension Summit, Agronomy One Day Pre Summit, 2020 MU Crop Management Conference

**Soil Test Addressed:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Test Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hickory County</td>
<td>163</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Counties</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Polk County</td>
<td>168</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camden County</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dallas County</strong></td>
<td><strong>219</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laclede County</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>857</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Andy McCorkill is a Livestock Field Specialist with the University of Missouri Extension. Housed in Laclede County, primarily serving Camden, Dallas, Greene, Hickory, Laclede, Polk and Webster Counties and the rest of Southwest Missouri as needed. He is involved in a number of programming efforts throughout Southwest Missouri in the areas of Beef Cattle, Forage Production and Youth Livestock Education.

2020 proved to be a challenging year, full of twists, turns and road blocks. Besides COVID’s crippling grip on our society, the southern part of his coverage area saw a cool wet spring, followed by the driest summer recorded since the infamous drought of the 50’s. In spite of these challenges, we were able to accomplish some good things and develop new ways of doing things.

Early in the year, he was an integral part of a Calving Workshop, developed to teach participants how to handle calving difficulties. The annual Southwest Missouri Spring Forage Conference was as always, a huge success, with Dr. Temple Grandin as the keynote speaker. A new joint effort with a committee of National Weather Service, USDA, MU Extension, and local health officials resulted in a first in the nation, SWMO Ag Weather Preparedness conference, attended by farmers and agency personal across the SW corner of the state. The normal SWMO Performance Tested Bull Sales and Show Me Select Heifer Sales were both successful efforts in 2020. Although COVID greatly reduced the statewide Grazing School Efforts, there were a few of those across the region, enabling those producers to be eligible for both Federal and State Cost Share Programs for grazing management improvements on their farm; McCorkill also taught at a Grazing School for Missouri State University Darr College of Agriculture Students, a valuable tool for students looking for a career in farm and ranch management after college.

As we transitioned to a world of restrictions, online meetings, both for planning and teaching became the new norm. McCorkill helped plan organize and teach several fall management and winter preparation workshops that were held on an online platform. Some were well attended, with audiences from across SWMO as well as other states. Printed material has always been a key way of communicating with the farm audience; McCorkill wrote and contributed to a number of articles published in regional farm publications, such as Ozarks Farm and Neighbor, Farm Talk, and others.

Andy spends a good deal of time with on site farm consultations, advising area livestock producers on ways to improve efficiencies within the operation through improved forage management, genetic selection and targeted nutrition. His passions lie in providing this helping hand to others and in many instances learning alongside them.

Estrus Synchronization/Artificial Insemination Trial Update- Starting in late November of 2019, MU Division of Animal Science Extension Faculty began work on a research trial on a new synchronization protocol at the Willard Farm, near Sleeper. Over 400 head of aged cows were synchronized and artificially inseminated to compare results between the new 7&7 protocol and the 7 day CO-Synch+ CIDR program, historically used on beef cows. Dr. Jordan Thomas, State Beef Reproduction Specialist is overseeing the project.

First year results yielded a 18% advantage in estrus expression, an 11% advantage in AI conception with conventional semen and 8% using sex sorted semen with the new 7&7 protocol over the control group on a traditional 7 day CO-Synch + CIDR protocol. Late November of 2020 marked the start of a second season of the project.

A special Thank You goes to Bradley Willard, Kyle McClure, and Craig Evans for agreeing to help with our ongoing research project and your continued support. More information about the newly released 7&7 Synchronization Protocol can be found in the MU Guide Sheet G2023, in the following link:
[https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g2023#:~:text=7%20%26%207%20Synch%20was%20compared,interval%2C%20body%20condition%20scores.](https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/g2023#:~:text=7%20%26%207%20Synch%20was%20compared,interval%2C%20body%20condition%20scores.)
Engagement Work

This year the University of Missouri (MU) Extension Labor and Workforce Development (LWD) team pivoted towards more innovative and responsive programming. Their integrated marketing and delivery initiatives reached new audiences and delivered crucial information and resources to even more Missourians.

Workforce development was the theme for the UM Extension & Engagement Week, many virtual events were held and LWD launched a new interactive Workforce data and mapping tool. This new tool will help workforce stakeholders better understand their local workforce dynamics.

Key Outcomes

The onset of the pandemic challenged LWD to create new opportunities for engagement.

- Over the past year, LWD offered approximately 60 webinars to business, labor, and community leaders across the state of Missouri.
- Responsive webinars brought timely information to more than 1,000 registrants.
- Along the way, LWD gained nearly 600 social media followers across the state and the nation.

Upcoming Events

- January 13 – COVID-19 and Missouri’s Workplace, Labor Law Series
- January 14 – Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, U.S. Department of Labor
- February 2 – Change is Coming to the Show-Me State, Economic Implications of Climate Change
- February 11 – Joint Council of Extension Professionals Social Media Engagement presentation

Action Items for Council

- Building connections and engagement with Missouri’s Labor Unions
- 2021 Labor Law Series marketing and promotion
- Engaging with small businesses around Workforce Data Analytics
- Connect with MU Labor and Workforce Workforce Updates, LWD@Facebook, LWD@LinkedIn, Greene County@Facebook, MUExtension417@YouTube, LWD Newsletter
Connecting Rural Communities with Remote Work

In partnership with Utah State University Extension, The Rural Online Initiative is a resource designed to help teach rural communities and their citizens how to capitalize on the Remote Work Revolution and use virtual jobs to revitalize their economies. With a growth rate of over 140% since 2005, remote work is an opportunity for rural communities to provide jobs and attract young professionals for quality of life. Some of the career fields with the most remote jobs include medical and health, computer and IT, education and training, sales, customer service, accounting and finance, and travel and hospitality.

Michele Kroll, State Project Coordinator piloted the WC region leading to 22 participants earning the ROI certificate. Cohort participants evaluated reported 100% showing significant increase in knowledge across all 8 modules, 87% felt their value as a remote worker improved after completing the course and felt empowered to seek remote work, 75% fewer miles per week were driven by participants who found remote work.

SKILL SETS Learned:
- Hard skills (World Time Buddy, Internet Speed Test, Slack, Trello, Google Drive, Zoom, Wix, Skillshare)
- Soft Skills (Written/Verbal Communication / Problem Solving, Critical Thinking, Time Management, Accountability, Flexibility, Knowledge Management, Goal Setting, Collaboration)

Data for Decision Makers:
Generating reports and analysis for local government, businesses, organizations and individuals

- Covid 19 Missouri Economy Indicators Briefs
- EMSI County Economic Development Report
- Missouri Map Room - GIS
  - Hosts more than 33,000 mappable data layers
  - Map your community and easily share maps with others
  - Provides powerful query tools, data export capability, and annotations
- Broadband Access Story Map
- Interactive Community Reports
  - Ag and Environment
  - Business and Communities
  - Youth and Family
  - Health and Safety
  - Missouri Food Finder
  - Rural Opioid Response Hub

COVID-19 Missouri Economy Indicators

Unemployment in Missouri has continued to decline after spiking in April and May. Missouri’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for October declined to a pandemic era low of 4.6%. Although this is still higher than the state’s unemployment rate prior to the pandemic, it represents a significant improvement over the previous six months. However, other labor market indicators — namely, the size of the state’s labor force and the number of people employed — point toward continued concern, especially since the start of fall.

Metro Employment
Employment in all of Missouri’s metropolitan areas has declined since the start of the pandemic, but the impact varies by metro.
Employment in the Columbia MSA declined the least between September 2019 and September 2020 — a 3.9% reduction.
Meanwhile, the Cape Girardeau MSA saw the biggest decline in employment, which decreased by 10.1% from September 2019 to September 2020.

Of Missouri’s three largest metropolitan areas, Springfield has seen the smallest decline in year-over-year employment at 3.7%, and St. Louis has the largest decline at 6.3%. Kansas City has seen a 5.1% decline over the same period.

Source: Missouri Local Area Unemployment Statistics available at mers.gov
Dallas County

UM System Footprint in the county in 2020

FY20 county students
23 students
• 17 Undergraduates
• 6 Graduate and professional students
• 17 Full-time students
• 6 Part-time students
• 10 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2020)

County breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MU</th>
<th>18 students</th>
<th>76 alumni</th>
<th>8 employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UMKC</td>
<td>0 students</td>
<td>26 alumni</td>
<td>0 employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri S&amp;T</td>
<td>5 students</td>
<td>22 alumni</td>
<td>0 employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UMSL</td>
<td>0 students</td>
<td>6 alumni</td>
<td>0 employees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

County employees and retirees
8 people employed by UM
• 8 Campuses
4 UM retirees and beneficiaries
UM salary and retirement income: $303,640
UM state tax revenue: $7,997
UM federal tax revenue: $38,055

County alumni
Selected school alumni
• 3 Medicine
• 3 Nursing
• 4 Health Professions
• 5 Dentistry
• 4 Pharmacy
• 1 Optometry
• 4 Veterinary Medicine
• 17 Agriculture
• 16 Engineering
• 6 Law

Alumni teaching K-12
• 5 teachers
• 2.8% of all district teachers
• 2 principals and administrators
• 20.0% of all district principals and administrators

County services provided

Health care (FY20)
• 122 in-state patients seen at UM Health Care, with $89,746 of uncompensated care
• 3 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of $56.94 per patient in uncompensated care
• University of Missouri Health Care’s Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 197 visits to 164 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

Extension (FY19)
• 5,786 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of district counties, including:
• 472 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
• 5,285 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
• 29 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy

County properties and offices
MU Extension in: Dallas County
UM System Statewide Footprint

Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In 2019, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 20,283 jobs.

  For every dollar invested from 2015 to 2017, the MU Extension Business Development Program has returned $120 in economic impact for its clients by increasing sales more than $119 billion. For a total impact of $2.7 billion, the program has generated more than 29,000 jobs and attracted nearly $347 million in capital investments and $1,17 billion in government contracts.

- Between FY14 and FY19, UM System brought Missouri more than $1.1 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state but spent within the state.

  In FY20, UM System was issued 42 patents and filed 41 new U.S. patent applications.

- In FY20, UM System construction projects resulted in a total investment in the state of $134.4 million.

  In FY20, Missouri Telehealth Network brought the expertise of University of Missouri Health Care physicians to underserved areas—45,057 visits from 35,640 patients from all 114 Missouri counties and the City of St. Louis.

Education and Training Provided

- 72,581 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2018)

- Agriculture and natural resource programs served 138,921 farmers and related businesses (2019)

- 300,807 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2019)

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 2020, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources Include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM-TR • Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA) • Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) • MU • UMKC • Missouri S&T • UMSL • UM System • UM Health Care • MU Extension • U.S. Census Bureau • U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services • National Science Foundation
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 Dallas County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Dallas County Commissioners for their continued support of extension programs.

Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Dallas 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.

Key outcomes and numbers

- 6 grazing school events held
- LETI recertified 12 officers in firearm training
- The University of Missouri has launched MU Community Connect, a platform designed to improve opportunities for connection between the university and various populations in the communities they serve.
- Virtual workshops via Zoom began to inform childcare providers about the importance of sleep
- SBDC held multiple classes to help Missourians learn about starting a business and how to write a business plan
- Farm Tax Workshop classes began to help farmers navigate their taxes
- 16347 people served by university system

Appropriations budget

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<th>Income</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>County Appropriations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries/Benefits</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
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<td>Office Supplies/Service</td>
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<td>Advertising/MLsc</td>
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<td>Furniture/Equip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage/Election expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
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Return on Investment

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<tbody>
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<td>University System</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<td>Program Revenue</td>
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