



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

# Greene County

# 2023 Annual Report

2400 S. Scenic Avenue  
(Inside the Springfield Botanical Center)  
Springfield, MO 65807  
417-881-8909

<https://extension.missouri.edu/counties/greene>

**SERVE  
MISSOURI.**

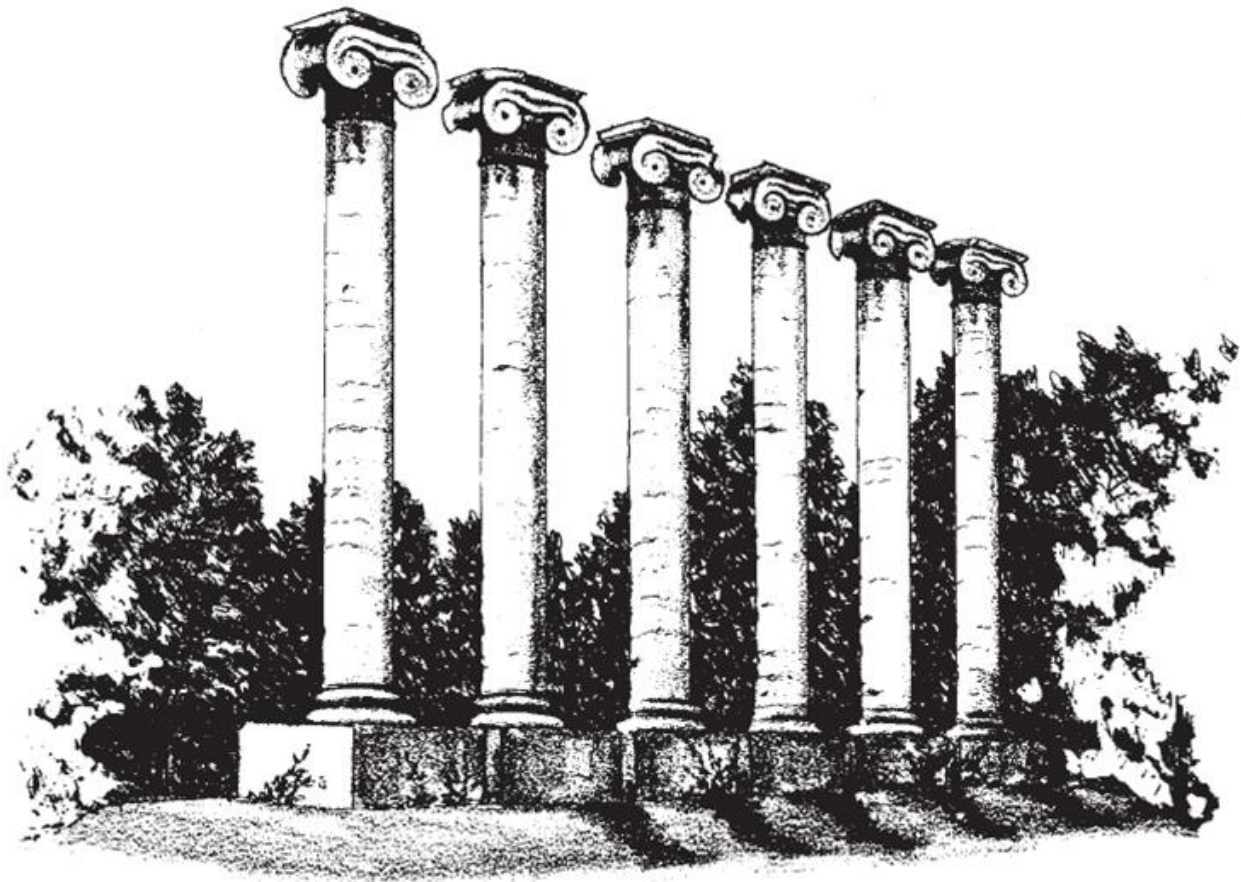
**DELIVER  
MIZZOU.**



**Extension**  
*University of Missouri*

an equal opportunity/ADA institution





# Extension

*University of Missouri*

## **Vision Statement**

MU Extension is a valued and trusted educational solution to improve the quality of life in Missouri, the nation and the world

## **Mission Statement**

Our distinct land-grant mission is to improve lives, communities and economies by producing relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies that enhance access to the resources and research of the University of Missouri.



Office of Extension  
and Engagement  
*University of Missouri*

**OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR  
FOR EXTENSION AND ENGAGEMENT**

108 Whitten Hall  
Columbia, MO 65211

PHONE 573-882-2394

EMAIL: [cchiggins@missouri.edu](mailto:cchiggins@missouri.edu)

December 2023

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

Thank you for your important partnership with the University of Missouri Extension this past year.

I want to highlight three areas that address needs you helped us identify.

You may recall that the FY 23 state budget provided a one-time \$5 million infusion to MU Extension for growth. Of that, we allocated about \$3 million for field faculty in the areas of agriculture, 4-H, health/human development and business and community development.

Through a dedicated hiring effort, and thanks to that allocation, we have hired 168 new employees since November 2022. That includes 72 academic/faculty members, most of whom are field specialists in a priority area noted above, and 96 staff members (e.g., office administrators, youth and food and nutrition associates, etc.).

We also returned more faculty to local program delivery that best serves your county's needs, while preserving the partnership and relationship building work you value. Our extension and engagement specialists focus full-time on that work as they serve their assigned multi-county groups. Currently, 19 have been hired, with two more in the pipeline.

Finally, we are prioritizing our work with county extension councils. In the new role of partnership and council development director, Lorin Fahrmeier focuses on strengthening council representation and governance. This role will build stronger links with regional, educational and campus leadership to better identify and address local priorities.

At the UM System level, our engagement work across four universities and with leaders across the state makes a difference in areas of greatest need: broadband, workforce development, health access, food security and healthy futures for our youth.

Your county annual report shows what we are accomplishing together as we Serve Missouri and Deliver Mizzou. We look forward to strengthening that partnership with county commissioners and community stakeholders in the coming year.

Sincerely,

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

## GREENE COUNTY EXTENSION CENTER

---

January 31, 2023

Dear Greene County Commissioners and Residents:

Greene County MU Extension expanded its reach and impact in the county during 2023. We are proud of those efforts but the real benefit is felt by the residents of Greene County. In 2023, we focused on new partnerships and ways to deliver impactful education and resources taking advantage of the council's established mini-grant program.

**Here are some of the most noteworthy impacts for the year.**

- MU Extension specialists and associates in Greene County brought educational programs to 80,365 residents this year. That places Greene County in the number three position statewide.
- Statewide our FIPCO score is calculated by taking direct and indirect contacts from county, state and national programs. The same measurement is used for every county extension program and Greene County ranks third statewide.
- Our "mini-grant" system helped the council fund new programs and brought a new level of engagement for our council members.
- Our specialists were recognized as being some of the best in the nation in their areas of programming. As a group they earned two state awards and three national awards. This type of recognition demonstrates the quality of the work being done in Greene County.

**Our specialists were recognized as being some of the best in the nation in their areas of programming.**

- "Rising Star for the Year" at Neighborhood Organizations and Volunteer Awards program by Community Partnership of the Ozarks, December 2023.
- "Engaged Neighbor Program." Named Outstanding Program of the Year (2023) by the University of Missouri Extension Association.
- Missouri Good Neighbor Week named Neighborhood Program of the Year for the United States. Announced May 13, 2023 at National Conference of Neighborhoods USA.
- 2023 Human Development/Family Relationships Award, 3rd Place National, National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences
- 2023 Human Development/Family Relationships Award, 1st Place Central Region, National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

On behalf of the Greene County Extension Council, we thank the County Commissioners for their support in 2023.

Submitted by:

**Morgan Ash**  
Council Secretary

**Christina Hammers**  
Council Chair

## Greene County Extension Council

Christina Hammers  
*Chair*

Judy Stainback  
*Vice-chair*

Morgan Ash  
*Secretary*

Lisa Bakerink  
*Treasurer*

John Russell  
*County Commission*

Tammy Lowrey  
*Farm Bureau*

Shelia Taylor  
*MFA*

Joseph Hoffman  
*City of Springfield*

Vacant  
*City of Republic*

Vacant  
*4-H Youth member*

*Members at large*

Allison Anbari

Eric Bruning

Sandi Haustein

Aaron Jones

Ray Meyer

Elaine Montgomery

Rick Stenberg

Merri Sutherland

Eric Sutton

Buck Van Hooser



# Who we are

## Faculty and staff

Sarah Havens,  
Regional Director, SW Missouri



Amber Allen,  
Human Development



Bailey Andrews,  
4-H YPA



David Burton,  
Community Development



Robin Clay,  
Administrative Assistant



Kelly McGowan,  
Horticulture Specialist



Amy Patillo,  
Workforce Development



Kyle Whittaker,  
Extension Engagement  
Specialist



## Council members

Christina Hammers, Chair  
Judy Stainback, Vice-chair  
Morgan Ash, Secretary  
Lisa Bakerink, Treasurer  
John Russell, County Commission  
Tammy Lowrey, Farm Bureau  
Shelia Taylor, MFA  
Joseph Hoffman, City of Springfield

### *Members at Large*

Allison Anbari  
Eric Bruning  
Sandi Haustein  
Aaron Jones  
Ray Meyer  
Elaine Montgomery  
Rick Stenberg  
Merri Sutherland  
Eric Sutton  
Buck Van Hooser

## County commissioners

Bob Dixon, Presiding Commissioner  
Rusty MacLachlan, Commissioner, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
John C. Russell, Commissioner 2<sup>nd</sup> District

## Greene County Faculty and Staff Continued

### Family Nutrition Education Program



Terri Fossett, Associate Director



Jacqueline Basham, Program Manager



Jennifer Callahan, NPA



Sherri Hull, NPA

(No Picture Available)  
Haylee Netemeyer, NPA



Randi Williams, Office Support

## Greene County Partners

### *Special thanks to Greene County Partners!*

Alzheimer's Association  
City of Republic  
City of Springfield  
Community Partnership of the Ozarks  
Greene County 4-H Foundation  
Greene County Commonwealth  
Greene County Juvenile Center  
KOLR TV  
KY3 TV  
Leadership Springfield  
Lincoln University Cooperative Extension  
Missouri State University

Master Gardeners of Greene County  
Ozark Empire Fairgrounds  
Springfield Community Gardens  
Springfield Daily Citizen  
Springfield-Greene County Library  
Springfield Neighborhood Alliance Council  
The Hopeful Neighborhood Project



# Budget and more

## Understanding Our Financial Report

By law, the Greene County MU Extension Council must annually publish its Income and Expense Financial Report for all of the restricted and unrestricted accounts.

That report (at right) includes monies from all Greene County MU Extension grants and accounts for programs and monies for Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists.

MU Extension programs in Greene County are funded by county, state and federal dollars. The County Commission provides local extension funding for office expenses and local programs. The Springfield-Greene County Park Board provides office space in the Botanical Center. University of Missouri provides salaries and benefits for professional and para-professional staff members headquartered in Greene County as well as training expenses, staff communications and computer equipment costs and maintenance.

## Greene County Extension Center Annual Income & Expense Financial Report January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
Income	
0100 · Student Fees	2,416.83
0210 · County Appropriations	65,000.00
0400 · Gift/Grants/Contracts	19,783.89
0900 · Resales/Educ Services Fees	33,592.59
1300 · Miscellaneous Income	60.00
1600 · Balance Transfers	0.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>120,853.31</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>120,853.31</b>
Expense	
2700 · Persnrl Serv - Salaries & Wag	14,672.75
2800 · Payroll Expenses	190.50
2900 · Non Payroll Salaries	-1,715.79
3100 · Travel	4,689.37
3600 · Postage	658.24
3900 · Advertising	7,714.12
4700 · Publishing/Printing	4,900.44
5100 · Supplies/Services	61,986.64
5115 · Professional Development	771.94
5200 · Professional Development - 1	357.66
5600 · Professional Services	5,517.72
6400 · Other Contract Services	14,111.21
66900 · Reconciliation Discrepancies	-14.05
6800 · Insurance	2,439.00
7000 · Miscellaneous	-135.89
7100 · Soil Test Expenses	5,890.00
7300 · Repairs/Maintenance	1,950.13
7400 · 4-H Expense	195.27
7700 · Furniture/Equipment	69.80
7999 · Fee Generation Distribution	9.75
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>124,258.81</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-3,405.50</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
Other Expense	
Voided Checks	35.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>35.00</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>-35.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-3,440.50</b>

# Budget and more

## Greene County Extension Center Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2023

	Dec 31, 23
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
0050 - Checking	177,538.23
Total Checking/Savings	177,538.23
Total Current Assets	177,538.23
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>177,538.23</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
0053 - VISA Commerce Bank	4,259.20
Total Credit Cards	4,259.20
Total Current Liabilities	4,259.20
Total Liabilities	4,259.20
Equity	
0002 - Retained Earnings	176,719.53
Net Income	-3,440.50
Total Equity	173,279.03
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>177,538.23</b>

### Our Campus Endowment Fund

An endowment is a permanent fund individuals or companies can donate too on behalf of our county extension program. All donations remain in the endowment as part of the principal fund. Only the interest earned but that fund can be spent by the council on approved council programs or local needs. The distribution account is sometimes referred to as the gift account and also includes monies given by individuals to the Greene County Extension Council via our account on the Mizzou campus.

### Greene County Extension Council Endowment Report

Funds maintained by University of Missouri. Report ending December 31, 2023

#### Endowment Principal Account

Beginning Value 1/01/23: \$20,757.09

Ending Balance 12/31/23: \$20,867.04

#### Endowment Distribution Account

Beginning value 1/01/23: \$21,391.87

Ending Balance 12/31/23: \$22,305.68



# Budget and more

## Council Budgets and Funds

The Greene County Extension Council annually receives an allocation from the Greene County Commission for local programs and office operations. Those monies are managed carefully in the primary (1000) fund. The 1000 account budget is monitored by the council monthly. In addition to annual funding from the Commission, the Council manages monies related to the sale of services, donations, and restricted gifts like grants, and the accounts of our 4-H, Master Naturalists and Master Gardener funds. Those amounts are reflected here in this year-end report.

### Greene County Extension Center Funds (Classes) Balances As of December 31, 2023

	Dec 31, 23
<b>1000-County Appropriations</b>	
1500-Juvenile YPA Funding	-1,973.63
<b>Total 1000-County Appropriations</b>	<b>-1,973.63</b>
<b>2000-Center Operations</b>	
2200-Unrestricted Gifts	29,498.59
2000-Center Operations - Other	16,588.03
<b>Total 2000-Center Operations</b>	<b>46,086.62</b>
<b>3000-Education and Services</b>	
3100-Soil Testing	13,534.05
3200-Resale and Services	6,845.54
3300-Short Courses	7,117.09
<b>Total 3000-Education and Services</b>	<b>27,496.68</b>
<b>5000 Restricted Grants &amp; Contr</b>	
5100-Professional Development	
5101-County Program Director	1,787.40
5102-Horticulture Specialist	168.63
5104-4-H Specialist	400.00
5105-Human Development	678.83
5108-Community-Workforce Spec	200.01
5100-Professional Development - Other	-326.64
<b>Total 5100-Professional Development</b>	<b>2,908.23</b>
5340-Blueberry School	6,937.79
5850 4H Greene County	6,333.23
5860-Local Program Sponsorship	257.99
5870-Water Wise Donations	44.69
5885 - Neighboring Project	35,241.05
5000 Restricted Grants & Contr - Other	-5.00
<b>Total 5000 Restricted Grants &amp; Contr</b>	<b>51,717.98</b>
<b>9100-Master Gardeners GCE</b>	<b>25,844.77</b>
<b>9200-Master Naturalist GCE</b>	<b>24,106.61</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>173,279.03</b>

# UM System County Impacts

2024 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

## Greene County



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

### UM System Footprint in the county in 2023



#### FY23 county students

##### 1,059 students

- 787 Undergraduates
- 272 Graduate and professional students
- 756 Full-time students
- 303 Part-time students
- 158 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2023)



#### County employees and retirees

##### 171 people employed by UM

- 157 Campuses
- 11 MU Health Care
- 3 UM System

95 UM retirees and beneficiaries

UM salary and retirement income: \$8.5 million

UM state tax revenue: \$249,713

UM federal tax revenue: \$1.3 million



#### County alumni

##### Selected school alumni

- 263 Medicine
- 260 Nursing
- 336 Health Professions
- 167 Dentistry
- 167 Pharmacy
- 23 Optometry
- 72 Veterinary Medicine
- 385 Agriculture
- 1,000 Engineering
- 537 Law

##### Alumni teaching K-12

- 116 teachers
- 3.9% of all district teachers
- 20 principals and administrators
- 12.7% of all district principals and administrators



#### County breakdown

##### MU

- 568 students
- 3,838 alumni
- 122 employees

##### UMKC

- 156 students
- 1,014 alumni
- 22 employees

##### Missouri S&T

- 228 students
- 963 alumni
- 12 employees

##### UMSL

- 107 students
- 284 alumni
- 1 employee



County population: 296,875



#### County services provided

##### Health care (FY23)

- 1,275 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$1.1 million of uncompensated care
- 33 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$43.61 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 946 visits to 430 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

##### Extension (2022)

- 136,095 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
- 6,652 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 10,882 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
- 118,561 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy



#### Construction projects

- \$708,901 remitted to 2 county vendors, for 14 projects



#### County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Greene and Greene - Annex Counties



# UM System County Impacts

2024 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

## Greene County



University of Missouri System  
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

## UM System Statewide Footprint

### Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In 2022, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 81,645 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 FY17 and FY22, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.46 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



In FY23, UM System was issued 33 patents and filed 61 new U.S. patent applications.

- In FY23, the UM System awarded 805 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$279.2 million in the state.



In FY23, to improve access to medical and health related services, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network's Show-Me ECHO program provided 18,381 hrs of case-based instruction to 2,938 learners located in 112 of 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.

### Education and Training Provided



41,992 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2022)



Agriculture and natural resource programs served 174,692 farmers and related businesses (2022)

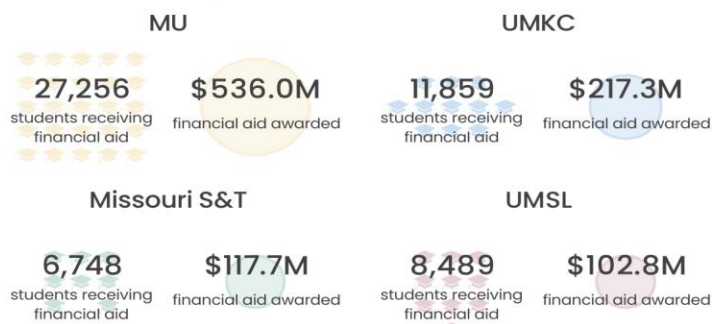


311,749 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2022)

### Education Highlights

#### FY23 Financial Aid Awards

In FY23, 67.3% of the UM System's 80,702 students received financial aid totaling \$973.7 million



UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 58 higher education institutions (230,000 students), 485 K-12 school districts (832,000 students) and 132 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2022.

- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 32,098 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by Missouri four-year public institutions in 2022-23.
- UM System awarded 36.6% of the 1,935 research doctorates and 26.9% of the 3,593 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2022-23.
- In FY23, UM System's \$37.9 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 88.3% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.
- In 2023, over 10,900 Missourians accessed [mobroadband.org](https://mobroadband.org), part of the UM System Broadband Initiative which helped the statewide build-out of high-speed internet infrastructure. MU Extension also supported residents in making individual challenges to the FCC that resulted in \$810,000 in additional funding for the state of Missouri.

**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 2023, 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

### GREENE 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: *Business Dynamics*

#### Business Growth/Change

The rate of business change reflects the net gain or loss in total establishments. The report area saw a net gain of 704 businesses between 2011 and 2021. There were 7,982 establishment "births" and 7,278 "deaths" contributing to the change. The rate of change was 9.70% over the ten year period, which is higher than the state average of 8.04%.

##### Establishment Net Change Rate

9.7%

Greene

Missouri

8.04%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [Business Dynamics Statistics](#). 2011-2021.

#### Largest Job Sectors

Understanding the local economy is vital to describing a community. In this region, the largest sector by employment size is Health care and social assistance, which employs 36,482 people. The average wage for the industry is \$72,442. Retail trade and Government and government enterprises are the next largest sectors, and they employ 24,911 and 22,003 workers, respectively.

Job Sector	Total Employment	Average Wage
Health care and social assistance	36,482	\$72,442
Retail trade	24,911	\$37,881
Government and government enterprises	22,003	\$69,037

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



# Grand Challenges

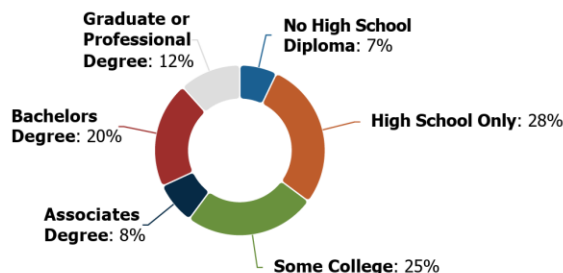


## CHALLENGE 2: Educational Access and Excellence: *Educational Attainment*

### 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, 25.0% of adults have at least some college education and 28.2% of adults have an associate's level degree or higher. However, 28.1% stopped their formal educational attainment after completing high school, and 7.1% of adults did not complete high school.



#### No High School Diploma

7.10%

Greene

Missouri 9.02%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2017-21.

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#). 2017-21.



## CHALLENGE 3: Healthy Futures: *Mental Health*

### Deaths of Despair

Untreated mental health conditions, substance abuse, and stress have caused an epidemic of "deaths of despair" across the United States. Research shows that deaths due to suicide, alcohol-related disease, and drug overdose have caused the first decreases in U.S. life expectancy in the 21st century. Within the report area there were an estimated 1,316 deaths of despair, or 64.9 deaths per 100,000 population between 2011 and 2017. This rate is higher than the state rate of 52.01 per 100,000, and represents an increase of 17.87% since the 2001-2007 report period.

#### Mortality Rate, 2014-2020

64.9

Greene



Missouri 52.01 🟡

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [CDC - National Vital Statistics System](#). Accessed via [CDC WONDER](#). 2014-20.

### Poor Mental Health Days

Self-reported mental health status is a widely used measure of health-related quality of life. In 2020, adults in the report area averaged of 5.4 mentally unhealthy days per month, which is higher than the state average of 4.9. This measure of mental health status has worsened since 2016, when adults in the report area averaged 4.6 mentally unhealthy days per month.

#### Average Poor Mental Health Days per Month, 2020

5.4

Greene



Missouri 4.9 🟡

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Accessed via [County Health Rankings](#). 2020.

# Grand Challenges

## CHALLENGE 4: Agriculture: *Value Added from Agriculture*

Value-added agriculture refers to production or manufacturing processes, marketing, or services that increase the value of primary agricultural commodities. In 2021, the total value-added derived from agriculture, forestry and related economic activity was an estimated \$34.9 billion. Meat processing, food processing, animal and pet food manufacturing, and crop production and related industries are Missouri's top value-added products: \$9.5 billion and 155,425 jobs from livestock production and related industries alone. [Learn more about Missouri Agriculture's Economic Impact.](#)



Data Source: Missouri Department of Agriculture, [Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority](#). 2021.





# MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Missouri 4-H for ages 8 – 18**



## **Afterschool clubs**

These clubs meet after school for periods ranging from a few weeks to a full 4-H program year. These clubs typically focus on a single project at a time but can rotate through more than 100 different project topic areas. Members can elect officers and plan learning activities with options of public speaking, community service and links to career readiness.



## **4-H's Healthy Living**

programming teaches skills for healthy choices and lifestyles, enhancing overall well-being and equipping youths to tackle life's challenges. Emphasizing social-emotional health, 4-H fitness, health, nutrition and safety programs cultivate confident, caring young leaders who prioritize mental and physical well-being.



## **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



# Greene County 4-H Youth Development



Bailey Andrews  
4-H Youth Program  
Associate  
417-881-8909  
bafmm@missouri.edu



Greene County

## 2023 - ANNUAL REPORT

### ENGAGEMENT WORK

I started my work with Extension in June of 2023. Since then, I have been busy conducting programs at the Greene County Juvenile Center, assisting with state and region wide 4-H events, promoting 4-H at community events, working with the Greene County 4-H Foundations, attending trainings and workshops, and working with community clubs.

### KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ Hosted a weeklong day camp for the Greene County Juvenile Center Youth Academy Program
- ✓ Greene County 4-H had a successful livestock show and project exhibit with several projects moving on to the Ozark Empire Fair and Missouri State Fair
- ✓ The Grow to Ride 4-H club hosted a successful gardening half day camp over the period of a week. Youth had the opportunity to explore several different aspects of agriculture here in Greene County
- ✓ The Greene County Foundation hosted a very successful Cake and Pie Auction at Farm Fest
- ✓ The Greene County Teen Council received a \$500 Day of Service Grant and used it to prepare care packages that they then delivered to the Veterans home in Mount Vernon, MO
- ✓ Taught safety and preparedness at the Missouri State Fair
- ✓ Had over 3,000 contacts at the Springfield Back to School Bash where Greene County 4-H had a booth with origami projects and talked about the opportunities 4-H offers with hundreds of families
- ✓ Two Greene County 4-H members attended the Zoo Apprentice Camp at the Busch Gardens in Florida



Greene County 4-H members at the Greene County 4-H Recognition Night

### ACTIONS PLANNED FOR 2024

- Offer a 4-H regional energizer for 2024
- Expand programming with the Boys and Girls Clubs and Springfield Public Schools
- Conduct food drives in several parts of Greene County
- Continue Youth Academy programming with Greene County Juvenile Center
- Form and coach a Greene County Livestock Judging Team
- Start a Kids in the Kitchen SNAC Club
- Expand community partnerships
- Assist teens with college and career planning
- Encourage more participations at fairs on the county level
- Promote membership with Greene County 4-H Foundations
- Strengthen Greene County 4-H Shooting Sports program



# Fun With Greene County 4-H 2023



4-H members learning the fundamentals of horse riding at the Grow to Ride Summer Camp



Greene County 4-H member Aubrey Suter (left) enjoying the Zoo Apprentice Camp in Florida



4-H members learning proper animal care at the Grow to Ride Half day Camp



Boys & Girls Club members learning about nutrition while enjoying the smoothie bike activity



4-H Clover Kids enjoying fun activities at their monthly club meeting



Greene County Teen Council delivering care packages for the Mount Vernon Veterans Home



Extension  
University of Missouri







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



## **MU Extension specialists**

play an important role in addressing emergencies and disasters. MU Extension specialists swiftly distribute information so farmers and ranchers can make timely decisions that safeguard their enterprises.



**"A lot of veterans come right out of the service and may feel disconnected and may be struggling with finding job opportunities. The Heroes to Hives program offers a diversion as well as opportunities."**

**Eric Work, Heroes to Hives participant**



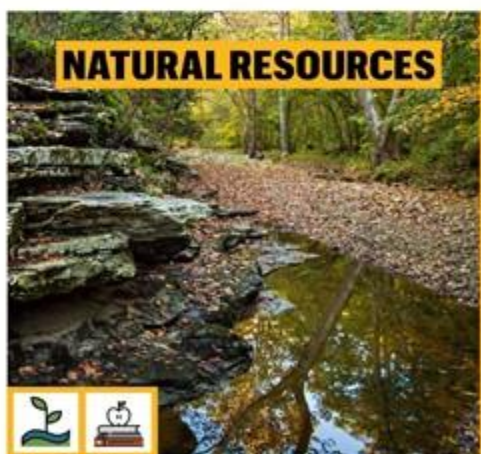
Two programs provide resources to socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in Missouri.

## **The Missouri AgrAbility**

**Project** supports the independence of farmers and ranchers with disabilities.

## **Heroes to Hives**

offers free professional training in beekeeping to veterans, promoting financial and personal wellness through community development.



## **NATURAL RESOURCES**

**The Missouri Master Naturalist program** is a community-based initiative for adults, supported by the Missouri Department of Conservation and MU Extension. It aims to create a group of knowledgeable volunteers who can offer education, outreach and service for the responsible management of natural resources in Missouri communities.

Additionally, the **Missouri Woodland Steward program** offers a short course that equips private landowners with knowledge of woodland management, helping them identify wildlife habitats, develop plans and connect with local natural resource experts.



## Legend



Agricultural Growth  
& Stewardship



Economic  
Opportunity



Educational  
Access &  
Excellence



Health  
& Well-Being



# Greene County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact



There were 73 participants who attended the 98<sup>th</sup> **Greene County Ag Production Conference** in February. Topics covered included a beef market outlook discussion, warm season grasses to mitigate drought and how to manage the spring flush of grass. Greene County farm producers are an economic generator for the local economy. When they suffer economically, their farm product suppliers (feed and fertilizer dealers, hardware stores, fuel suppliers, seed dealers, etc) also suffer. Their economic situation can tie directly to food costs in grocery stores. This program addressed ways this sector in the county economy can remain viable.



A free **Pesticide Waste Pick Up** was offered by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in conjunction with MU Extension. This was the only regional opportunity to dispose of waste pesticides offered in Southwest Missouri in 2023. It was held in May in Crane. This was an outstanding effort toward environmental protection since the products gathered were legally incinerated without harm to the environment and will never be found in groundwater or create a human health risk in the future.



**Farm Visits with Farm Producers** is a hallmark of MU Extension. These personalized visits are invaluable to producers and help MU to be involved first-hand with the issues facing today's ag industry. Here, a cattle producer gets a visit from livestock field specialist, Patrick Davis, to evaluate what may be causing a lameness issue. Pest issues, nutrient management, animal health and nutrition, crop management and economics are just a few of the topics that are discussed. Other specialists who regularly did farm visits in the county included Kelly McGowan, Tim Schnakenberg, Andy McCorkill and Patrick Byers.



# Greene County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact



There were 341 participants who attended the **Private Pesticide Applicator Trainings** offered by Tim Schnakenberg. Trainings occurred in Cassville, Springfield, Galena, Clever, Mt. Vernon, Fair View, Taneyville and Point Lookout. Pesticide applicators also benefited from a 1.5-hour prerecorded Zoom session that was used for training statewide. Several other classes were offered virtually across the state. This training has direct impact on environmental safety, human safety and the safety of the American food supply. Farmers are retrained every five years in order to maintain a private pesticide license to purchase and use Restricted-Use pesticides.

*"Very informative program that is great for gaining knowledge about pesticides." "I think the program was well thought out and interactive." "I like the examples and stories you share to relate info to the real world."*



**Regional Drought Assessments** were conducted by Tim Schnakenberg, Micha Doubledde and Hunter Lovewell for Farm Service Agencies in 13 counties. These extensive reviews of the 2023 drought helped the state FSA office and county committees to determine financial assistance for landowners who had signed up for drought insurance programs.



Thirty-five local farm producers participated in the **Novel Tall Fescue Renovation Workshop** in Mt. Vernon in March. Other events were offered in Virginia and Georgia this year. This program is sponsored by the Alliance for Grassland Renewal program that involves many extension specialists. In addition, Tim Schnakenberg assisted in a nationwide Zoom training for farm government employees and extension employees. There were 105 participants across the Eastern US, including many from Missouri.



# Greene County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact



**Missouri Grazing Schools** provide the most in-depth training on how to be successful with Management-intensive Grazing (MiG) practices. These three-day schools are unique to Missouri and have set a standard for teaching and demonstrating the newest grazing concepts. Schools were offered in 2023 in Christian, Greene, Newton, Dade and Lawrence counties. The schools allowed farmers to think differently about how they manage their pastures and have become a very effective tool. There were 131 livestock producers who attended the sessions from many counties. Numerous presentations were offered along with on-farm field trips to evaluate pasture grazing systems.



This year's **Ozark Empire Fair Hay Show** had outstanding participation with 39 entries submitted from eight counties. Several ag specialists traveled to 23 farms to collect samples of the entries. This was a great opportunity to help producers better educate themselves on hay quality. Counties represented this year included Greene, Vernon, Lawrence, Christian, Webster, Stone, Pettis and Barry counties. The highest-testing entry and champion dry hay came from Charles Kruger of Verona. It was a third cutting alfalfa hay entry that was harvested on June 27. It produced a 277 Relative Forage Quality (RFQ). The champion haylage was entered by Groves-McDonald of Billings, Missouri. It's cutting date was June 21 and the RFQ was 223. The show has occurred since 1985. Tim Schnakenberg and Reagan Bluel served as Superintendents for this show.



**Farm Fest** at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds in Springfield is the largest gathering of the farm community in Southwest Missouri. MU Extension ag specialists staff a booth at this event throughout the entire weekend in October. This year there was an emphasis on native warm season grasses. Thousands of visitors streamed by the booth and hundreds stopped in to visit with regional specialists.



# Greene County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact



There were 370 farmers and ranchers from across Southwest Missouri who attended the 39<sup>th</sup> annual **Spring Forage Conference** this year in Springfield. This is the largest conference and trade show offered to the livestock community in the region. There were sixteen concurrent sessions were held throughout the day on a variety of topics of interest to most grass producers. This event is a partnership between University of Missouri Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Missouri Department of Conservation and Missouri State University.



**Career Exploration Field Day** is a large gathering of high school agriculture students from sixty-one communities in Southwest Missouri. The picture shows about a half-mile of school buses in the parking lot. Most MU Extension regional ag specialists were involved in this effort at the Southwest Research, Extension and Education Center at Mt. Vernon in September. Each provided a booth and an agricultural topic to discuss in several 20-minute segments. They also took time to discuss career options for these youth to consider in agriculture. Over 1,600 students along with volunteers, extension and MU faculty and businesses made the Career Exploration Field Day successful!



**Building Resilience in the Beef Industry** events were offered in Mt. Vernon and Clever in August to assist livestock producers who were directly affected by the drought. There were 56 participants from nine counties who attended. There were six field and state specialists who provided presentations on topics such as assessing the price of stored forages, market outlook, culling tips, early weaning, forage renovation and irrigation options.



# Greene County

## Agriculture and Environment

### Local Impact



### 2023 Greene County Farm Family

Jeff, Rebeca, Regan and Lucas  
Clines

This award honors the contributions of  
an individual farm family from each  
county in the State.

**Missouri Century Farm**  
**Larry & Debbie Cox**  
**Grantham Farm**

To be eligible, the same family  
must have owned the farm for 100  
or more consecutive years!





# Impact Update

Kelly McGowan  
Field Specialist in Horticulture  
417-874-2955  
mcgowank@missouri.edu



2023 – Horticulture Annual Report     Greene, Christian, Stone, Taney and Dallas Counties

## ENGAGEMENT WORK

### 2023 Research Outcomes

- 'Growing the Lavender Industry in Missouri', a three-year project which took place at four locations statewide, ended on September 30. I served as Principal Investigator with the goal of producing grower guides for commercial and home lavender production in Missouri. This project also resulted in 1361 project beneficiaries through workshops and consultations.
- Elderberry research continues at the Southwest Research Center in Mt. Vernon. New developments include a cultivar release of 'Pocahontas' and a publication in *Acta Horticulturae*.

### KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ Educational presentations direct contacts - 1647
- ✓ Led core training classes for new Master Gardeners (28 students; 11 classroom sessions)
- ✓ Coordinated and oversaw day-to-day operations of 458 volunteers.
- ✓ 250 Soil test interpretations for counties served.
- ✓ Represented University of Missouri Extension during the Public Issues Leadership Conference in Washington, DC.
- ✓ 39 one-on-one consultations with small farmers and those interested in starting an operation.



### Media

20 KOLR 10 TV Interviews, 13 other media contacts including radio, magazine, newsletter, and other local TV interviews.

### Volunteers

Coordinator of Master Gardeners of Greene County (285 members), Christian County Master Gardeners (53 Members) and Springfield Plateau Master Naturalists (120 Members)

### Actions Planned for 2024

- "Increasing Farm Sustainability and Local Food Security through Grafted Tomatoes". Includes workshops and on-farm demonstrations of grafted tomato use and production.
- Hydroponic growing demonstrations and workshops
- Core trainings for new Master Gardeners (including updated curriculum) and Master Naturalists





## ‘Pocahontas’: a vigorous and highly productive American elderberry

A.L. Thomas<sup>1</sup>, P.L. Byers<sup>2</sup>, R. Starnes<sup>3</sup>, S.E. Sargent<sup>4</sup>, A. Templemire<sup>4</sup>, K. McGowan<sup>5</sup>, B. Schuessler<sup>6</sup>, M.A. Gold<sup>4</sup>, M.N. Westwood<sup>7</sup> and R. Biagioni<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Missouri, Division of Plant Science and Technology, Southwest Research Center, Mt. Vernon, MO, USA; <sup>2</sup>University of Missouri, Cooperative Extension Service, Marshfield, MO, USA; <sup>3</sup>Diamond City, AR, USA; <sup>4</sup>University of Missouri, School of Natural Resources, Center for Agroforestry, Columbia, MO, USA; <sup>5</sup>University of Missouri, Cooperative Extension Service, Springfield, MO, USA; <sup>6</sup>University of Missouri, Division of Plant Science and Technology, Columbia, MO, USA; <sup>7</sup>Missouri State University, Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Springfield, MO, USA.

### Abstract

American elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* subsp. *canadensis*) is a rapidly emerging specialty crop in the midwestern and eastern portions of North America, primarily used in health-promoting dietary supplements. A limited number of improved cultivars are available to elderberry producers, and current breeding programs are largely based on evaluation of promising wild selections. ‘Pocahontas’ is a wild American elderberry selection from Pocahontas, Arkansas (USA) that was provided to the University of Missouri by Rockey Starnes in 2014 for evaluation. Because of its immediate promise, ‘Pocahontas’ was included in a replicated, randomized evaluation of elderberry genotypes at two Missouri locations from 2015 to 2021. ‘Pocahontas’ out-yielded the standard ‘Bob Gordon’ in many situations (site × year). For example, at one site in 2017 and 2018, ‘Pocahontas’ yielded 6.03 and 11.61 kg plot<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, whereas ‘Bob Gordon’ yielded 2.54 and 5.16 kg plot<sup>-1</sup>. Individual berries from ‘Pocahontas’ were dark purple and medium-sized (65-70 mg) – generally similar to the other genotypes tested. Plants were vigorous and tall (to 1.9 m), with a strong, upright growth habit. Cymes were exceptionally large, bearing even-ripening fruit a few days later than ‘Bob Gordon’. Because of its exceptional vigor and productivity, ‘Pocahontas’ was disseminated to producers beginning in 2019 on a limited scale. Preliminary assessments by producers are positive and demand is very strong for propagules of ‘Pocahontas’.





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



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.**



## **DEMOGRAPHIC, ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DATA TRAINING**

**MU Exceed** offers customized data training. Participants learn how to use public data through hands-on exercises and demonstrations.

**In 2022, Exceed provided data training to MORE THAN 200 MISSOURIANS. 95% of the attendees said that the information they learned was useful to their work.**



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.**

## Legend



Agricultural Growth  
& Stewardship



Economic  
Opportunity



Educational  
Access &  
Excellence



Health  
& Well-Being



# Business and Community Development

David L. Burton  
Community Development  
Specialist  
417-881-8909  
burtond@missouri.edu



## LOCAL IMPACT FOR ANNUAL REPORT

## GREENE COUNTY

MU Extension Community Development Specialists (CDS) help build Civic Muscle, which is the collective strength of people in a place (neighborhood, town, region) to respond to challenges and proactively pursue thriving communities. CD specialists coach communities to build Civic Muscle in four key “Muscle Groups.”



### BELONGING

**Neighboring 101** is offered monthly on Zoom and features nationally known practitioners of neighboring, like Maxwell King (at left), author of “The Good Neighbor” on Mister Rogers. **Greene County** has 168 individuals in this class.

**Media Outreach & Podcasts on Neighboring** featuring David Burton reached over 90,000 people in **Greene County** this year.



### CONTRIBUTION

**Missouri Good Neighbor Week**— statewide we document 19,582 acts of neighbor between Sept. 28 and Oct. 4. **Greene County** had 6,948 acts reported.

**Springfield Block Parties** — Four of these were held with help from KY3 and Parks during good neighbor week. **Greene County** reached over 1,000 people.

**Wont You Be My Neighbor Day** — Has become a national effort to celebrate Mister Roger’s birthday. We had 294 participants from **Greene County**.



### LEADERSHIP

**Neighborhood Leadership Academy**—The Southwest Missouri cohort had 12 participants this year, all 12 from **Greene County**.

**Neighborhoods USA** — Presented a workshop on neighboring at the national conference and won the Best Neighboring Program of the Year.

**Being a thought leader** — As a leader on this topic, wrote 68 newspaper and magazine columns related to neighboring in 2023 along with additional research



### VITALITY

**Neighborhood Socials**— Created a guide on hosting neighborhood socials and provided coaching and support for 14 neighborhood events in **Greene County**.

**Engaged Neighbor Pledge** — A commitment to pursue the Engaged Neighbor principles. In **Greene County**, 82 people have taken the pledge.

**Coming in 2024** — Neighborhood Exploration Teams, Neighborhood Labs and Show-Me Neighborhood Art Week are being introduced in 2024.

# Missouri Good Neighbor Week 2023

## Snapshot of Results



Named "Neighboring Program of the Year" in 2023 by Neighborhoods USA



74 +

### Service Events

These groups — including 65 MU Extension county councils — worked together to serve their neighbors.



8973 +

### Visitors to website

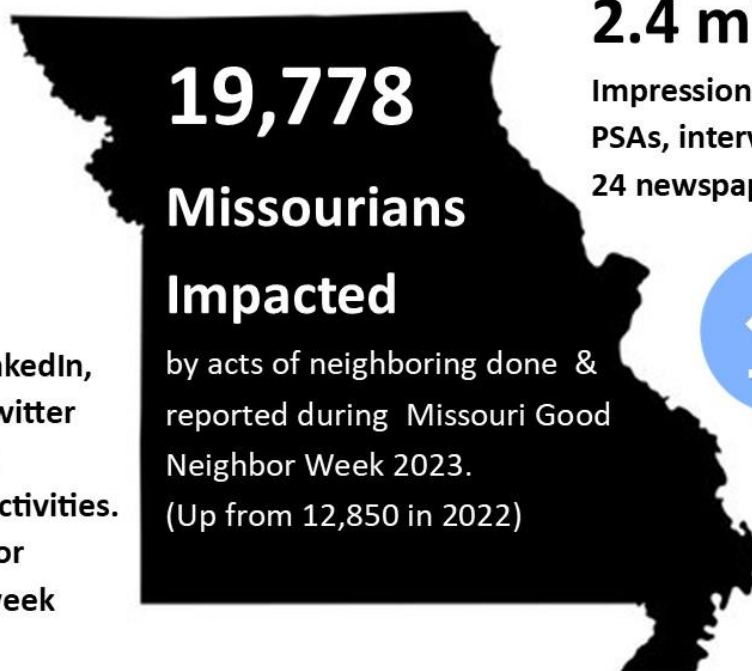
to learn more about what it means to be an engaged neighbor in Missouri.



382

### tagged posts

On Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Twitter celebrating good neighbor week activities. #mogoodneighbor #goodneighborweek



19,778

### Missourians

### Impacted

by acts of neighboring done & reported during Missouri Good Neighbor Week 2023. (Up from 12,850 in 2022)

2.4 million

Impressions from TV PSAs, interviews, radio, podcasts & 24 newspaper columns statewide.



2302

### downloads

of reports, graphics, idea & library packets, and digital toolkits for Missouri Good Neighbor Week.

62

People were nominated as one of Missouri's **Most Engaged Neighbor.**

Missourians really appreciate neighbors that go the extra mile.



1183

People involved in an **act of neighboring.**

Everything from mowing yards to delivering cookies to first responders. Many times more than one person was involved.

<http://missourigoodneighborweek.com>



## Labor and Workforce Development

Amy Patillo, Ed.D.  
Labor and Workforce  
Development Specialist  
417-881-8909  
[patilloa@missouri.edu](mailto:patilloa@missouri.edu)



### LOCAL IMPACT FOR ANNUAL REPORT

### GREENE COUNTY

MU Extension Labor and Workforce Development is dedicated to advancing the skilled workforce of Missouri through a comprehensive approach to applied research and teaching. Through our commitment to research-based solutions, we are able to provide cutting-edge strategies that are tailored to the specific needs of the workforce actors we partner with across the state. By working together, we can build a skilled and sustainable workforce that will drive Missouri's economic growth and prosperity.

### Building Workforce Capacity

**AgriProspects** a national collaboration with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Extension Foundation to form a robust network of public and private entities across every U.S. region and 112 Land Grant Universities to build the nation's capacity to respond to the changing needs in the food and agriculture sector.

A preliminary Workforce Development Assessment identified 113 Workforce Development programs in Cooperative Extension and identified ongoing workforce challenges.



### Heroes to Hives, Workforce Development for Veterans and their Allies



Heroes to Hives seeks to address the financial and personal wellness of veterans through professional training and community development centered around beekeeping. This project is funded by United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Enhancing Agriculture Opportunities for Military Veterans grant.

24 year military veteran reports, "MU Extension programs are a godsend. I benefit from the amazing, high-quality learning opportunities that University of Missouri Extension continually provides, not only to veterans but many other diverse groups that are interested in learning and potentially pursuing new careers."

### Missouri Farm and Ranch Stress



The Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance program provides mental health assistance and suicide prevention services. The program served 3,173 farm community members in 114 of 114 Missouri counties and the City of St. Louis. In 2023, the total value of mental and behavioral health services totals \$411,976. Through MU Extension's Farm and Ranch Stress programs and five different field-tested workshops, rural participants are equipped with tools to improve their mental health, are connected to useful mental health resources, and participants gain access to free one-on-one telepsychology sessions.

# 2023 FARM STRESS ANNUAL REPORT



**Extension**  
University of Missouri

An equal opportunity/access/affirmative action/pro-  
disabled and veteran employer

Amber Allen & Amy Patillo, team members

## PROJECT GOALS

**Increase access and utilization of free teletherapy coaching sessions.**  
**Prioritize providing mental and behavioral support services and training in urban counties.**  
**Provide training for community members who work with the youth.**  
**Provide mental health training in 100% of counties.**

Missouri's mental health crisis is more challenging for the agricultural community, fueled by growing economic and mental health challenges that are severely affecting the health, safety, and well-being of farm families. These stressors have contributed to substantial and critical mental health issues among rural Missourians, especially farmers and ranchers.

To address Missouri's mental health crisis, the University of Missouri Extension provides free mental health classes, prevention of suicide programs, and stress/depression awareness resources and collaboratively partners with the University of Missouri College of Arts & Sciences Psychological Services Clinic offers free teletherapy counseling services.

In 2022 MU Extension was awarded a gift of \$500,000 from the MFA Foundation which covers the cost of free coaching sessions from a trained therapist. In 2023, 42 clients participated in 203 hours of responsive teletherapy counseling. The services are provided at no-cost to farmers, ranchers, and farm families and are valued at \$54,303.





# PROTECTING OUR FARMERS

Agriculture remains the backbone of Missouri's strong economy, supporting both rural and urban communities. It is critical to help Missouri farmers, ranchers, and their families remain safe, healthy, and productive.

## 2023 ANNUAL IMPACTS

1,391

FARMERS AND ALLIES  
SERVED

100%

COUNTIES SERVED

\$247,413

TOTAL VALUE OF  
SERVICES

74

Workshops

996

People  
Completed  
Mental Health  
First Aid  
Training

46

People  
Completed  
Question  
Persuade  
Refer  
Training

307

People  
Completed  
Weathering the  
Storm Training

## Client Quotes

- "Use 988 for myself when no one is available to talk with [me] about my family member."
- "I'm capable of helping our students. I feel more confident to help our students."
- "I learned that some of the feelings/emotions [that] I've experienced when helping others are valid."
- "I learned 988 isn't just for suicide. Anyone can call."
- "I learned the importance of self-care."
- "I will work with other staff members to review our policies and procedures to see where we need to make updates and then retrain staff on policies."
- **"I plan to speak with a family member regarding concerns about feeling sad or anxious. I now have better tools to open the conversation"**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Show-Me Strong Farm Families is supported by funds from the North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Alliance Center (NCFRSAC),  
USDA NIFA grant number 2020-70028-3272  
USDA NIFA MO FRSAN Grant Award #: 2021-70035-35436

# 2023 2501 ANNUAL REPORT



An equal opportunity/access/affirmative action/pro-disabled and  
veteran employer

Amber Allen & Amy Patillo, team members

## PROJECT GOALS

- Assist socially disadvantaged/veteran farmers and ranchers in owning and operating successful farms and ranches.
- Increase participation among socially disadvantaged or veteran farmers and ranchers in USDA programs.
- Build relationships between beginning farmers and USDA's local, state, regional, and national offices.
- Provide innovative training and technical assistance techniques.

USDA's 2501 Program supports the development of socially disadvantaged and veterans (SDV) who want to start or grow their own farm or ranch.

MU Extension's multidisciplinary team collaborated by utilizing a culturally appropriate experiential learning model of formal education. Activities include Farm WalkABOUTs, Value-Added Product Classes, Value-Producer Accredited Program, (North Sarah) and Team-to-One Coaching.



The project team identified an interest in food security and self-sufficiency among urban farmers, with an interest in poultry production.

"Empowering Missourians is the goal of poultry processing education. Teaching the process of safely preparing chickens for consumption empowers participants to take control of their personal food supply."

~Jennifer Lutes



# GROWING THE NEXT GENERATION OF FARMERS

USDA's 2501 Program supports the development of socially disadvantaged and veterans (SDV) who want to start or grow their farm or ranch.

## 2023 Annual Impacts

768

BEGINNING FARMERS

35

36

11

5

505

VETERAN FARMERS

Farmers  
Started an  
USDA Grant  
Application

Team-to-One  
Farmers Who  
Were  
Coached

Team-to-One  
Individual  
Farmer  
Coaching  
Sessions

Farmer  
Workshops  
& Classes

236

SOCIALLY  
DISADVANTAGED  
FARMERS

## SUCCESS STORIES

- Team-to-One Farmer Client in Jackson County, Missouri, was funded for equipment valued at \$29,084.99 by Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation through Missouri AgrAbility.
- \$11,274 awarded to an urban farmer for "scaling up production to meet low-income/low-access food needs."
- \$14,995 (SARE) was awarded to a beginning farmer to increase production of morel mushrooms.

"I will do a better job of keeping track of my sales and costs"  
Beginning Farmer Client



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Outreach & Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers & Ranchers  
and Veteran Farmers & Ranchers (2501 Program)  
Grant ID # AO212501X443G004





# Economic Opportunity

Serving: Greene County

## Missouri Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

The Missouri SBDC at Missouri State University (MSU) provides support to Greene County entrepreneurs and small business owners through 1:1 assistance and training. Over the course of 2023, our office met with clients to discuss a wide range of topics including:

- Starting a business
- Business financing
- Business expansion and relocation
- Financial planning & cash flow management
- Marketing strategy
- Course projects with MSU students
- Purchasing a business
- International expansion opportunities
- Technology commercialization

Through leveraging regional partnerships, several programs geared toward small businesses and enhancing the local workforce were offered through an initiative called Innovate SOMO. This collaborative effort led by Codefi and efactory at MSU aims to unlock the full potential of entrepreneurship and innovation to transform communities in the southernmost 47 counties in Missouri. Programs include:

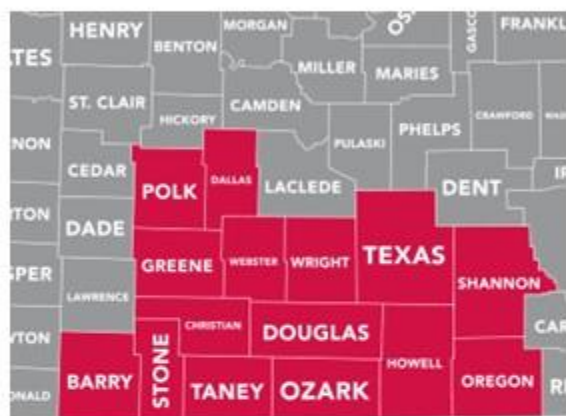
- Early-Stage Business Boot Camp
- 120 Day Tech Startup
- Code Labs
- Youth Coding League

## KEY OUTCOMES IN GREENE COUNTY

- ✓ **392** Business owners in the County received multiple 1:1 consulting sessions regarding their small businesses.
- ✓ **\$27.6 million** Approved capital funding
- ✓ **\$79.5 million** Increase in sales
- ✓ **16** New businesses started
- ✓ **262** New jobs created
- ✓ **2,484** Jobs retained
- ✓ **800** Attendees from Greene County joined our business and professional development training programs.



Missouri State  
UNIVERSITY



The Missouri SBDC at Missouri State University serves 15 counties in southwest Missouri (highlighted).

## Learn more about our latest programs and training

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

417-837-2617

[sbdc.missouristate.edu](https://sbdc.missouristate.edu)

## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

**\$86,365,454**

Increase in sales for client companies through the assistance of the SBDC

**\$100,580,145**

Government contracts secured through the assistance of APEX (formerly MO PTAC)

**\$33,490,877**

Capitalization secured through the assistance of the SBDC





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



The Law Enforcement Training Institute (LETI) has provided basic and advanced training for law enforcement since 1948. LETI's **Basic Peace Officer Academy** exceeds the 600 hours of training required for licensure in Missouri. From 2019 through 2023, the basic academy has licensed almost 300 peace officers, more than any other academy in the state. During that time, all but one graduate became employed by a law enforcement agency. LETI graduates come from around the state and return to their communities to serve and protect.



The **Missouri Extension Disaster Education Network** provides education and technical assistance to individuals and families, local governments, schools and organizations so they can prepare for and respond to natural and man-made disasters. Because of the unique relationship it maintains with each community, MU Extension is a key resource for the public, emergency services and public officials.



The **Fire Service Leadership Enhancement Program** (FSLEP) prepares fire and emergency service leaders for the opportunities and challenges they will face. For 22 years, the MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute has partnered with the Missouri Association of Fire Chiefs and the Missouri Association of Fire Protection Districts on this program.

## 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**



Divorcing or separating parents encounter distinct challenges when living apart. **Focus on Kids** guides parents in fostering effective co-parenting strategies to support their children through this process.

**“Understanding that divorce doesn’t ruin children, but parents can significantly influence positive outcomes through good communication, was invaluable.”**



**Mental Health First Aid** equips people to recognize and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders.

The youth version of the program is designed to support adolescents ages 12-17 facing mental health or addiction challenges, while the adult version focuses on adults age 18 and older. Participants learn how to offer initial assistance and guide individuals toward the care they need.

**In Missouri, approximately  
1 MILLION ADULTS and 72,000 ADOLESCENTS  
suffer from MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.\***

\*Missouri Department of Mental Health 2020 Status Report



**Cooking Matters** teaches shopping strategies, using nutrition information to make healthier choices and to learn how to cook delicious, affordable meals at home.

**“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



# Health and Human Sciences

Amber Allen  
Human Development  
and Family Science  
Field Specialist  
amallen@missouri.edu



## LOCAL IMPACT FOR ANNUAL REPORT

## GREENE COUNTY

In 2023, Amber Allen's engagement extended across educational programming, conference presentations, outreach efforts, and media involvement. Amber had educational contact with 3,396 participants through 108 educational sessions through 80 programs in areas of aging well, parenting and families, professional development, and mental health. Amber's impact was also shared at the national and state levels this year through six posters, seven statewide conference sessions, three national webinars, and two breakout sessions at national conferences. Amber was recognized this year with the following three awards: National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Science Ambassador Award for Poster Excellence, 3rd Place Human Development/Family Relationships Award, and 2nd Place honor at the National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Science Central Region.

Amber was also involved in various other opportunities in 2023 for community impact. She actively engaged in multiple workgroups and local coalitions focused on childcare professional development and early childhood education initiatives. She also was accepted into the University of Missouri Extension Fellows program to further her work on the Sowing and Growing Hope Program. Amber also held leadership roles, actively participated in other professional organizations, workgroups, and local coalitions, and collaborated with various media outlets. Educating, creating, and connecting in 2023 has provided a great path to create impact, foster community engagement, increase community collaboration, and shift community and social norms in 2024.

## Program Highlights

## Snapshot of Results



### Aging Well

Programs done this year to promote aging well included A Matter of Balance, Keep Your Keys, Wits Workout, and Alzheimer's programming. These various programs contacted 471 Missourians. The impact of these included:

"The camaraderie in this group has been wonderful. I am, by nature, an introvert, quiet, and private, and like being with myself. But this gathering, thanks to the two coaches, has helped to foster my confidence in the group and my ability/willingness to share. Thank you, Jenni and Amber!" -Matter of Balance Participant, Greene County, 4/20/23

"Now I can move my leg into the car and over curbs and stairs easier." -Matter of Balance Participant, Greene County, 4/20/23

"A friend noticed I am walking with more confidence. Also, I moved a chair into the living room to do the balance exercises." - Matter of Balance Participant, Greene County, 4/20/23

"Wits Workout has made me realize how important brain health and training is especially as we age. Thanks, so much to Amber for hosting this wonderful program." -Wits Workout Participant, Greene County, 6/7/23

# Program Highlights

## Snapshot of Results

### Childcare Professional Development

Childcare programming by Human Development and Family Science Field Specialists in-person and virtually was completed statewide. The childcare programming provides statewide clock hours for professional development for childcare providers who are required to obtain 12 hours each year. In 2023, 610 childcare providers attended across the state of Missouri through 36 sessions amounting to 1,220 clock hours provided for professional development. This program served 32% of Missouri counties and the City of St. Louis.



### Mental Health and Well-Being

Programs done this year to promote mental health and well-being included Taking Care of You, self-care programming, Youth Mental Health First Aid, Adult Mental Health First Aid, and other mental health events. These various programs impacted 1,825 Missourians. The economic impact of providing the Youth Mental Health First Aid and Adult Mental Health First Aid programs amounted to an economic impact of \$23,460.

"This was very informative. Some of the strategies have been used/shared before, but much was a fresh take on coping with stress in our lives. I am very appreciated of the opportunity to participate in this training." - Taking Care of You Participant, Barry County, 8/7/23

"Although I wasn't in all classes, the resources we discussed opened my eyes to attitudes and behaviors I had been ignoring." - Taking Care of You Participant, Barry County, 8/7/23

### Parenting and Families

Programs done this year to promote parenting and families included Focus on Kids and Building Strong Families. These various programs impacted 394 Missourians. The impact of these included:

"I learned a lot during this class and am using these skills on a daily basis. Thank you all for your time and helping us learn positive coping skills to make our homes happy and safe for our children." Building Strong Families, April Participant, Virtual

"I think this class will help me in the future with co-parenting." - Focus on Kids Participants, Polk County, 2/20/23



### Sowing and Growing Hope

Sowing and Growing Hope continued to be piloted. This program focuses on learning the science behind hope, creating a culture of hope, and how to create a personal foundation of hope. These various programs contacted 306 individuals statewide and nationally. The impact of these included:

I'm going to be more focused about having hope for others! -Participant, Virtual, 1/25/23

"From this course, I will start considering "Hope" as a protective factor with the families I serve." Conference of the Young Years Participant, 3/10/23, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo

"As a 30 year breast cancer survivor, who was given two years to live, I love the topic of Hope. This was my first training in Hope and the protective factors were new. I also loved the sliding.com word for Hope survey." -Participant, Virtual, 10/13/23

"This was a great presentation. I had never really thought about hope as it related to work and education, but I definitely see the correlation. It has also caused me to be more aware of the state of hope of those around me." -Participant, Virtual, 11/19/23



# Greene County

## Health and Human Sciences

### Local Impact

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education Program (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) is funded by a federal grant and brought in \$10,874,798 to Missouri. The funds supported engagement with over 1.8 million Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri. Participants in SNAP-Ed learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices and 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 their 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.

### Greene County Impact

Nutrition Program Associates:

Sherri Hull

Jennifer Callahan

Haylee Netemeyer

#### Youth Direct Teaching

1,822

#### Adult Direct Teaching

151

#### Indirect Teaching

10,238





# Greene County

## Health and Human Sciences

### Local Profiles and Stories



Programming at Farmers Markets this summer was one way Jennifer Callahan and Haylee Netemeyer engaged with the community and spread the word about healthy eating and the Double Up Food Bucks program for SNAP recipients. They also utilized the blender bike to reinforce concepts about physical activity and making wise choices with fruits and vegetables in the form of smoothies.



Midtown Carnegie Branch Library participants try the fruit smoothies they made. The iCook curriculum is designed for participation of a youth and adult that prepare meals together. The lessons focus on basic kitchen skills, accessible recipes, stretching food dollars and the importance of family meals and activities. Due to its success, the library has requested another series of lessons for 2024.



### Schools & Agencies Served

Bingham Elem.  
Bowerman Elem.  
Boyd Elem.  
Campbell Elem.  
Delaware Elem.  
Fremont Elem.  
Holland Elem.  
Jeffries Elem.  
McGregor Elem.  
Truman Elem.  
Weaver Elem.  
Williams Elem.  
York Elem.

Rogersville Elem.  
Reed Academy  
Strafford EC  
Strafford Elem.  
Willard South Elem.  
Douglas Head Start  
Macedonia PK  
Salvation Army  
Crosslines  
Ash Grove FM  
Fair Grove FM  
C-Street FM  
Greater Spfd. FM

Habitat for Humanity  
LifeHouse Crisis  
Maternity House  
Midtown Library  
MSU Bear Power  
Northview Sr Ctr  
OACAC  
Ozark Food Harvest  
Schweitzer Flourish  
Victory Mission  
Weller Community  
Church





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



**Cooking Matters** teaches shopping strategies, using nutrition information to make healthier choices and to learn how to cook delicious, affordable meals at home.

**"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**

## ***Cooking Matters*** in partnership with **K and C Stepping Stones**

**Outcomes:** of the 12 participants surveyed...

- 100% tried new foods during the program
- 100% increased their weekly fruit and vegetable intake
- 100% learned a new skill for preparing foods
- 67% increased their confidence in using healthy ingredients in more than one meal

**\$250**

**in estimated annual  
medical cost savings**



**A Matter of Balance** helps older adults overcome their fear of falling, increase their activity levels and reduce their risk of falls. In eight classes, participants learn fall-prevention strategies, develop personal prevention plans, acquire balance-improving exercises and make lifestyle changes to minimize their fear of falling.

***A Matter of Balance*** in partnership with  
**Schweitzer Brentwood Branch Library**  
and **Springhouse Village** in collaboration with  
**Human Development Specialist, Amber Allen**

**\$5,712**

**in estimated annual  
medical cost savings**

**"Now I can move my leg into the car and over curbs and stairs easier." "I am more confident in my movement and have made a new contact who can help me."**

**Legend:**



Health  
& Well-Being

Jenni Nevatt, Nutrition & Health Field Specialist, JNevatt@Missouri.edu







Jenni Nevatt  
Nutrition and Health Field Specialist  
JNevatt@Missouri.edu

# Greene County

## Health and Human Sciences

### **Nutrition Basics** in partnership with **Evangel University's Achieve program**

- **Objectives:** Provide hands-on activities for neurodiverse students to learn about basic nutrition and make healthier food choices.



**"I learned how important it is to get ALL the food groups."**



### Partnership with **Missouri State University Dietetic Program**

As a preceptor, Jenni exposes graduate students to MU Extension, provides opportunities to observe, create, and implement nutrition and health education products and activities. For most interns, this is their first exposure to education concepts as well as MU Extension.



## **Policy, Systems, & Environmental Change**

*Improving community health  
by making the healthy choice the easy choice.*

**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.

**Problem:** neurodiverse adults are making unhealthy food choices

**Why:** lack of understanding of how to make healthy food choices among staff and clients, antiquated policies and systems, lack of tools and equipment to prepare healthy foods

**\$540**  
in estimated annual  
medical cost



Nutrition and Health Field Specialist, Jenni Nevatt, collaborated with community partners, S and S Day Services and K and C Stepping Stones, to provide guidance and subject expertise on creating policies, amending systems, and changing environments. These changes include:

- menu improvements
- implementation of nutrition education for clients and staff
- development of system to monitor changes
- inclusion of tools in facility kitchens to prepare healthy foods



