



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Henry County

2024 Annual Report

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Clinton, MO 64735
660-885-5556

**SERVE
MISSOURI.**

**DELIVER
MIZZOU.**



Extension
University of Missouri

an equal opportunity/ADA institution



December 2024

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

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

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

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

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

Warm regards,

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

Who we are

Faculty and staff

Travis Harper
Field Specialist in Agronomy

Lynnlee Parrott
Health and Nutrition Specialist

Delaney DeHart
4-H Youth Program Associate

Debbie Dody
Nutrition Program Associate

Verlinda Talley
Office Manager

Additional Faculty & Staff Serving Henry County

Ramón Arancibia
Horticulture Specialist

Amie Breshears
Agriculture Business Specialist

Kyleigh Brown
Field Specialist in Human Development

Kim Hall
4-H Youth Specialist

David Hoffman
Livestock Specialist

Mitchell Moon
Field Specialist in Labor & Workforce Dev.

Wayne Prewitt
West Central Regional Director

Elaine Anderson
Extension Engagement Specialist

Council members

Alice Huenefeldt, Chairman

Daniel Wilson, Vice-Chairman

Susan Maggi, Secretary

Jeremy Campbell, Treasurer

Shane Brookshire

Joshua Bullock

Connie Conner

Deborah Day

Donna Engeman

Rick Fosnow

Denise Haas

Jim Huenefeldt

Lauren Kernohan, 4-H Liaison

Curtis Mills

Ali Schaffer, 4-H Liaison

Travis Smith

Megan Swaters

Jaime Woods

County executives

Jim Stone
Presiding Commissioner

Rick Fosnow
Northside Commissioner

Dale Lawler
Southside Commissioner

Who we are



**2024 Henry County Farm Family
Morgan and Justin Patrick Family**



2024 Century Farm Family

Donna Unruh was recognized as a Henry County Century Farm with her 214 qualifying acres in Deepwater, Missouri. Her Great-Great Grandfather Elijah W. Sanders was the original owner in 1874.



Budget and more

Appropriations budget

Income	
County Appropriations	69,552
Total Income	69,552
Expenses	
Salaries/Benefits	54,851
Travel	2,472
Postage	1,000
Telephone	3,324
Advertising	150
Office Supplies/Service	4,494
Insurance	2,255
Capital Repairs	1,006
Total Expenses	69,552

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



Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to *Henry* 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.

Henry County



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

UM System Footprint in the county in 2024



FY24 county students

69 students

- 61 Undergraduates
- 8 Graduate and professional students
- 55 Full-time students
- 14 Part-time students
- 14 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2024)



County employees and retirees

14 people employed by UM

- 11 Campuses
- 3 MU Health Care (includes additional employees gained via the recent integration of Capital Region Medical Center)

5 UM retirees and beneficiaries
 UM salary and retirement income: \$628,385
 UM state tax revenue: \$17,183
 UM federal tax revenue: \$94,280



County alumni

Selected school alumni

- 9 Medicine
- 6 Nursing
- 28 Health Professions
- 13 Dentistry
- 16 Pharmacy
- 4 Veterinary Medicine
- 58 Agriculture
- 35 Engineering
- 24 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- 17 teachers
- 7.0% of all district teachers
- 1 principal or administrator
- 5.0% of all district principals and administrators



County breakdown

MU

- 35 students
- 221 alumni
- 8 employees

UMKC

- 16 students
- 118 alumni
- 1 employee

Missouri S&T

- 11 students
- 28 alumni
- 2 employees

UMSL

- 7 students
- 4 alumni
- 0 employees



County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Henry County



County population: 22,194



County services provided

Health care (FY24)

- 345 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$424,285 of uncompensated care
- 27 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$52.57 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 104 visits to 55 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

Extension (2023)

- 6,095 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
 - 526 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
 - 3,422 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
 - 308 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy

Henry County



University of Missouri System
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UM System Statewide Footprint

Economic and Community Development Highlights

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

\$3.1 billion

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

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



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

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



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

Education and Training Provided



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



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

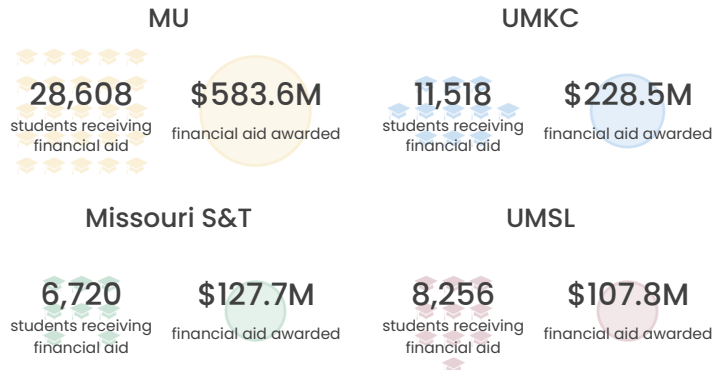


210,577 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2023)

Education Highlights

FY24 Financial Aid Awards

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



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

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

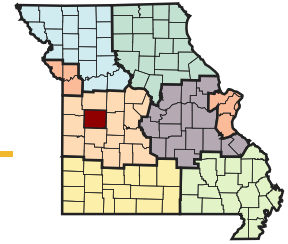
Supporting the University of Missouri is an investment in the future of Missouri.

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

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



Missouri Grand Challenges: Local Solutions



HENRY COUNTY

Knowing Missouri's Needs

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

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

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

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



Economic opportunity

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



Educational access and excellence

Increase participation in postsecondary education from 66% to 70%



Health and well-being

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

Knowing Local Challenges



CHALLENGE 1: Economic Opportunity: *Labor Market*

Average Earnings per Job

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

2022 Average Earnings (\$)

\$49,572

Henry



Missouri

\$62,528 🙄

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

Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate is a measure of an economy's active workforce and includes people who are employed and those seeking employment. According to the 2015 – 2019 American Community Survey, of the 17,880 persons of working age in the report area, 55.47% are included in the labor force. This rate falls short of the Missouri labor force participation rate of 62.90%.

Labor Force Participation Rate

55.47%

Henry

Missouri

62.9%

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

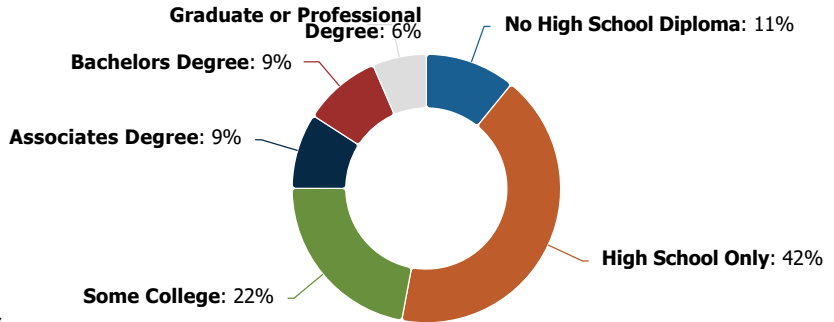


CHALLENGE 2: Educational Access and Excellence: *Educational Attainment*

Adult Educational Attainment

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

In the report area, 22.1% of adults have at least some college education and 18.5% of adults have an associate's level degree or higher. However, 42.1% stopped their formal educational attainment after completing high school, and 10.9% of adults did not complete high school.



No High School Diploma

10.85%

Missouri

8.69%

Henry

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

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



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 77 deaths of despair, or 51.06 deaths per 100,000 population between 2011 and 2017. This rate is lower than the state rate of 52.01 per 100,000, and represents an increase of 24.42% since the 2001-2007 report period.

Poor Mental Health Days

Self-reported mental health status is a widely used measure of health-related quality of life. In 2018, adults in the report area averaged of 5.6 mentally unhealthy days per month, which is higher than the state average of 5.3. This measure of mental health status has worsened since 2014, when adults in the report area averaged 4.6 mentally unhealthy days per month.

Mortality Rate, 2014-2020

51.06

Missouri

52.01 😞

Henry



Average Poor Mental Health Days per Month, 2018

5.6

Missouri

5.3 😞

Henry



Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Accessed via [County Health Rankings](#). 2021.

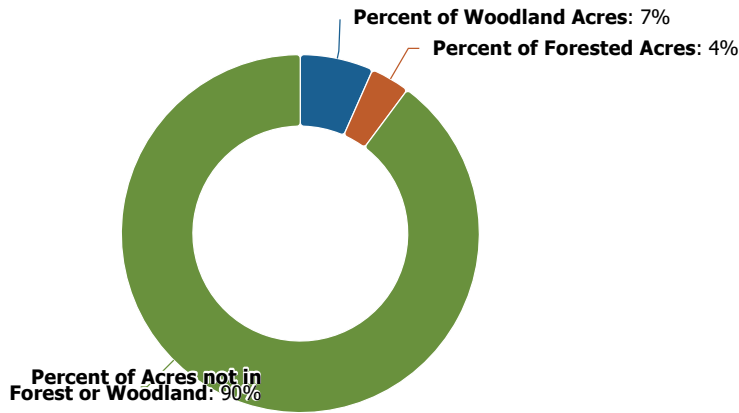
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [CDC - National Vital Statistics System](#). Accessed via [CDC WONDER](#). 2014-20.



CHALLENGE 4: Agricultural Growth & Stewardship: *Land Use*

Forested, Woodland & Non-forested Acres

Sustainable management of forests and woodlands and harvesting of mature trees support the state's \$10.3 billion forest products industries. Forests have a closed canopy (>80% cover) permitting little light to penetrate to the ground below. They consist of several overlapping layers of trees, with a mid-story and understory comprising a variety of shade-tolerant shrubs and a sparse layer of soft-stemmed plants. Woodlands have a more open canopy (30-80% cover), and their sparse, woody mid-story allows more sunlight to reach the ground. This light permits the growth of a dense ground cover containing a variety of wildflowers, grasses and sedges. Fire plays a large role in maintaining woodland habitats.



Data Source: Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium, [National Land Cover Database](#).

Recreational Land Acres

The recreational land use data documents Missouri land under federal, state or local government control with open or restricted access to the public. Land with no access is not included.

Acres in Protected Area

420

Missouri 1,791,829

Henry

Data Source: [United States Geological Survey \(USGS\) Protected Areas Database](#). 2023.



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

Missouri 4-H for ages 8 – 18



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



4-H's Leadership and Civic Engagement programs foster understanding, confidence and decision-making skills to empower youths to become informed and active young citizens. 4-H civic engagement initiatives prepare young people to become future leaders by engaging them in programs where they have voice and influence.



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

Henry County

Delaney DeHart, 4-H Youth Associate

Missouri 4-H

Local Impact

What is 4-H?

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



4-H in Henry County

4-H Community Clubs offer in-depth educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking, and working with others. Members learn by doing this under the guidance of adult volunteers, who lead a wide variety of projects that support 4-H members in finding their SPARK.

- Henry County 4-H is a community of **178** youth, ages 5-18, building life skills, contributing to their community, and becoming college and career ready.
- Henry County 4-H is the home of:
 - 5 Community Clubs
 - 145 Community Club Members (ages 8-18)
 - 37 Clover Kids (ages 5-7)
 - 37 Adult Volunteers

4-H Programming in Henry County

Embryology

The 4-H Embryology Program engages youth in the development of life through incubating chicken eggs.

- Henry County 4-H reached over **360 students** through the embryology program. 7 local schools participated in the program and chicks were hatched in 33 classrooms throughout the county.

SNAC

The Student Nutrition Advisory Council (SNAC) clubs are available in various settings, including before school, during school, after school, and within community programs. These clubs empower youth to enhance their knowledge of nutrition and fitness.

- Henry County 4-H reached **16 students** through the SNAC program this year. Participants learned about kitchen safety, measuring, the five food groups, and the importance of nutrition and staying active.

Summer Enrichment

Missouri 4-H engaged in expanded and enhanced programming throughout the summer of 2024.

- Henry County 4-H reached over **200 students** through the summer enrichment program. Youth participated in STEM activities related to gardening and agriculture.

Henry County

Missouri 4-H

Profiles and Stories

Whether it's the county fair or state fair, fair time is the favorite time of year for many 4-H'ers.

- 96 members exhibited projects at the Henry Co. Fair
- 513 projects were exhibited
- 89 projects went to the MO State Fair
- 6 members gave a demonstration at the MO State Fair



As responsible citizens, we promote generosity and community strengthening through service. In our partnership with Feeding Missouri and Missouri Farmers Care Drive to Feed Kids, counties engaged in a friendly competition to combat food insecurity by volunteering and collecting food and funds. Through the Fill-a-Ford campaign, **Henry County 4-H members collected and donated over 700 pounds of food to a local food pantry this year.**



The top 5 4-H projects in Henry County are Arts and Crafts, Outdoor (Hiking and Camping), Country Cured Hams, Photography, and Woodworking.



4-H Camp is an activity that many 4-H members look forward to each year. At 4-H camp, 4-H members meet new friends, sing silly songs, play games, learn new things, share camp responsibilities, and enjoy the great outdoors!



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

“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

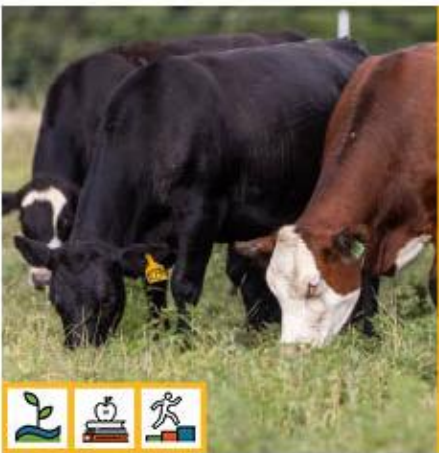


Heroes to Hives offers free professional training in beekeeping to veterans, promoting financial and personal wellness through community development. Missouri’s Heroes to Hives group has trained more than 1,200 veterans since 2021. It is the nation’s largest agriculture training program for U.S. military service members.



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

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



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

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

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Henry County

**Travis Harper, Field Specialist
in Agronomy**

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact

Heroes to Hives – Heroes to Hives is a statewide program offered through Michigan Food and Farming Systems (MIFFS) and University of Missouri Extension that seeks to address financial and personal wellness of veterans through professional training and community development centered around beekeeping. It features online training through MIFFS coupled with hands-on training from University of Missouri Extension at our teaching apiaries in Warrensburg, Mt. Vernon, Poplar Bluff and St. Louis. More than 1200 veterans from across Missouri have participated in the program with numerous participants coming from Henry County.

Soil Testing – More than 100 soil samples representing more than 2,000 acres were submitted through the Henry County Extension office for analysis at University of Missouri Extension's soil testing laboratory. Soil sampling provides Henry County's forage and row crop producers with an accurate analysis of exactly what is in their soil and provides them with recommended fertilizer application rates for the crop they are trying to grow. Henry County's agronomist reviews the soil sample results with the producers, fine-tuning the recommendations for their particular situation and needs. Soil sampling and accurate fertilizer application increases crop production, reduces input cost, maximizes profit, and reduces the environmental impact of fertilizer loss from fields through leaching and runoff.



Henry County

Travis Harper, Continued

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact

Private Pesticide Applicator Training—

Private Pesticide Applicator Training teaches producers how to safely store, handle, and use restricted-use pesticides in agricultural production. Proper application of pesticides results in greater safety for both the applicator and their neighbors. Proper application of pesticides results in reduced exposure of pesticides to the environment, ultimately leading to safer living conditions for all Missourians. Approximately 26 Henry County residents received a license in 2024. There are currently 136 active private pesticide applicators in Henry County.

Changes to Private Pesticide Applicator

Training— The Environmental Protection Agency mandated changes to private pesticide applicator trainings in 2025. These changes include the requirement that all handles of restricted-use pesticides have a license. Other changes include additional certification requirements for non-soil fumigation, soil fumigation, and aerial application of pesticides. Henry County agronomist Travis Harper worked extensively in 2024 with colleagues from around the state to ensure that these changes would be ready for the January 1, 2025 deadline and that the transition process would go smoothly for Henry County farmers. These changes provide additional protection for endangered species found in Henry County such as the American Burying Beetle and several species of mollusks.



Henry County

Amie Breshears, Field Specialist
in Ag Business

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact

Farmland Values (\$ per Acre)

	Cropland				Pastureland	
	Irrigated	Good	Average	Poor	Good	Average
State Average	10,214	8,524	6,996	5,556	5,687	5,043
Northwest	11,037	8,915	6,874	5,244	5,409	4,735
North Central	10,333	8,167	6,135	5,013	4,663	4,400
Northeast	12,833	9,912	7,906	6,396	6,415	5,756
West	8,933	8,202	7,140	6,048	6,215	5,444
Central	9,636	7,863	6,830	5,422	5,848	5,254
East	11,689	10,988	9,249	7,253	7,056	5,999
Southwest	5,531	5,650	4,563	3,906	4,320	3,883
South Central	6,688	6,194	5,203	4,219	4,547	3,776
Southeast	10,658	9,694	8,094	5,583	5,625	4,950
Urban Area	22,833	13,833	11,750	9,625	9,389	8,556

Farm Management – On My Own

A brand-new offering in 2024, 'Farm Management – On My Own' helped female landowners and operators understand ag leases and farmland values, rental rates, and custom work costs. The program debuted in the spring and summer of 2024 with an in-person class offered in 8 counties in the West Central Region. Because of updated farmland values and rental rates survey data, as well as positive evaluation response, another round of programs, both in-person and online, was offered in the fall of 2024 and will continue into the spring of 2025. I created the program in response to questions I was getting from female landowners about their farmland and farm operations.

By the numbers: 64 registrants, 100% would recommend the program to others, 3 presenters

- 4 states represented – *Missouri, Florida, Minnesota, Wisconsin*
- 19 Missouri counties represented – *Adair, Benton, Boone, Buchanan, Callaway, Cass, Cedar, Cooper, Douglas, Greene, Henry, Jackson, Johnson, Moniteau, Pettis, Polk, St. Clair, Saline, Vernon*
- 11 West Central Region counties represented - *Benton, Cass, Cedar, Cooper, Henry, Johnson, Moniteau, Pettis, Polk, St. Clair, Vernon*
- Partners included *USDA-FSA, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Ag Bankers, MU Center for Regenerative Agriculture*

Henry County

David Hoffman, Field Specialist in Livestock

Agriculture and Environment

Profiles and Stories

Animal Health and Production

Henry County livestock producers (265) participated in University of Missouri Extension Animal Health and Production programs that provide relevant, reliable and timely educational resources that has the potential to improve their production system, increase the economic impact while sustaining their natural resources. Such programs include the Missouri Show-Me-Select Bred Heifer Program, Beef Cattle Production Systems, Reproductive Management (more than 500 head of cows and heifers artificially inseminated), Forage Management and Utilization, Enhanced Record Keeping and general livestock production. Provided cattle management programs for the Henry County Cattlemen's Association monthly meetings, when asked. 4-H and FFA youth involved in livestock production attended programs related to Show Me Quality Assurance training and received requested assistance on livestock project management. Producers were reached via farm visit, office visits, workshop, phone and/or email. Livestock producers gained knowledge and/or skills to incorporate management changes in their livestock operation that have the potential to increase the economic impact and improve sustainability of their operation while maintaining their natural resources.

Prospective buyers attended the West Central Missouri Show-Me-Select Bred Heifer Sale at Kingsville Livestock Auction in November 2024. High quality Show-Me-select heifers, such as this heifer from Crooks Farm (Leeton, MO) commanded an average sale price of \$3791.00 per head.



Henry County

**Ramon Arancibia, Field
Specialist in Horticulture**

Agriculture and Environment

Profiles and Stories

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

Face to face farm visits was the main direct contact method with Amish/Mennonite growers since they don't have access to computers or social media. However, face to face visits as well as phone and emails were contact methods with other produce growers and homeowner.

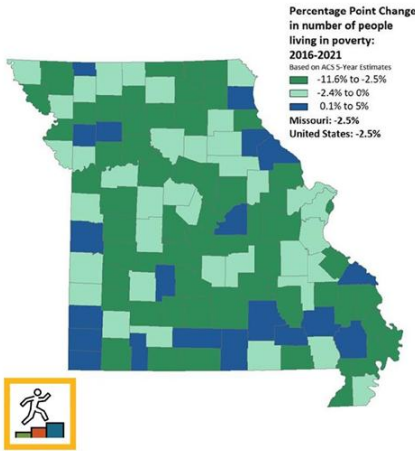
Direct contact with farmers and other stakeholders to assist them in their operations was also through presentations at growers' conferences (Chair of the Great Plain Growers Conference: MO, KS, NE, and IA), developed an educational program on 'hydroponic production of herbs at home' with displays and presentations at County fairs (Bates, Cedar, Henry, and Vernon Co.



Hydroponic display set up at the Henry County Fair



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



The **Missouri Economy Indicators (MEI)** series explores business, industry and workforce topics that affect Missouri's economy. The data is shared through newsletters and on social media. MU Extension faculty and staff receive talking points and collateral to share with local stakeholders.

In 2022, MEI published 15 issues, and MEI online resources were accessed MORE THAN 5,000 TIMES. Two out of five MEI newsletter recipients reported using the information to help guide policy or decision-making in their work.



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.

AMERICA'S
SBDC
MISSOURI

CLIENT HIGHLIGHT



LOGS
- OF -
GLORY

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

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

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Henry County

Mitchell Moon, Field Specialist in Labor & Workforce Development

Business and Community

Local Impact

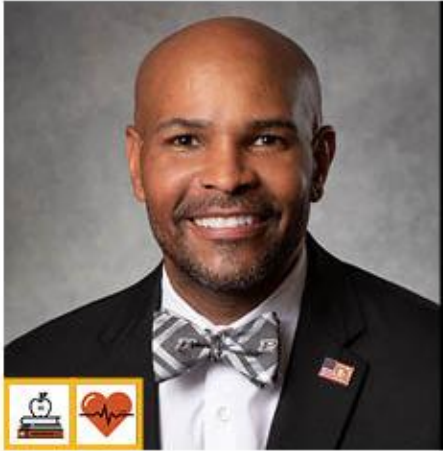


Mitchell attended this year's 2024 Connecting Entrepreneurial Communities Conference located in Fulton, Missouri. Over 100 attendees learned from local business leaders and entrepreneurs about their day-to-day challenges and what tricks these successful individuals have used to grow their business. This conference is very immersive in the host-community, as the sessions are held throughout downtown in local shops, cafes, and banks, not in your typical hotel conference room. This conference moves from town to town in Missouri, with the 2025 conference being held in Excelsior Springs, MO. Truly, this is an experience dedicated to growing Missouri's business community where attendees have the opportunity to network and learn directly from industry professionals. This was my third CEC conference, and I look forward to attending this event each year!

Mitchell and the Labor and Workforce Development team help Missouri businesses and employees thrive by offering various training programs and specialty-tailored presentations to help communities make informed decisions. He works constantly with data professionals on-campus to ensure accurate, unbiased economic information is being shared with communities. Some of the information Mitchell monitors are employee inflow/outflow from each county, median wages by each county, total number of employed persons per county, and amount of private establishments operating in each county. These specific data topics help paint a picture of a community's economic well-being and offer insight to local policymakers as to how to further improve their business community. In short, Mitchell is proud to tackle your county's economic and workforce challenges by collaborating with seasoned professionals at our land-grant institution and local stakeholders to deliver positive results, serving Missouri by delivering Mizzou.



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



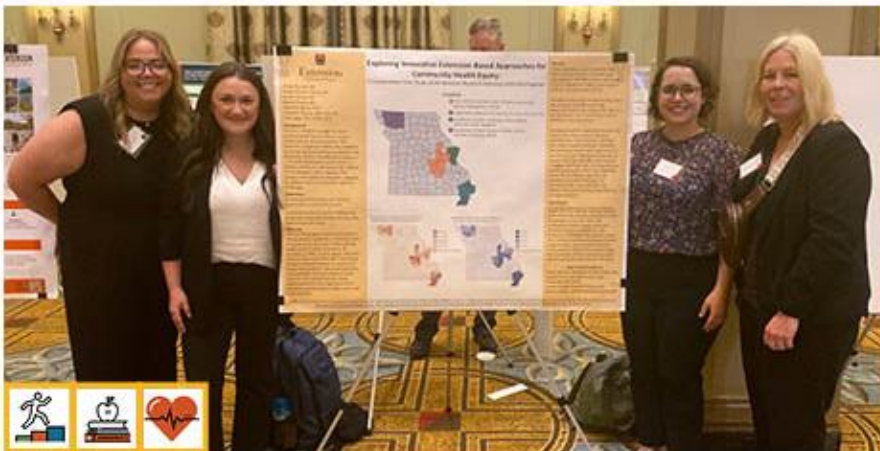
The **Show-Me Resilience** project focuses on strengthening resilience across Missouri. As part of this initiative, the Community Health Engagement and Outreach program hosted the Rural Resilience Lecture Series in 2024, highlighting how building resilience can reduce substance misuse and substance use disorders. The series concluded with a keynote from Dr. Jerome Adams, former U.S. Surgeon General, on fostering resilience in rural communities.

In the past two years, 274 people attended the lecture series. Among participants, 93% reported that the information was applicable to their daily work and useful.



Rural Immersion Program is an opportunity for medical students interested in rural practice to gain experience in the rewards and challenges of working and living in a rural community, examining rural health disparities and quality of life concerns within a specific region. Group activities and meetings with community leaders in business, government, education, health care and natural resources give students a preview of life in a rural area. The 2024 program was hosted by Union, Mo. and the 2025 host city will be Hayti, Mo.

All of the 2024 participants agreed that the Rural Immersion Program significantly contributed to them FORMING INSIGHTS on the suitability of living and working in a rural community, both personally and professionally.



The **Missouri Research-Extension** (MO-RE) Protocol emphasizes the role of Community Health Field Specialists in transforming health and well-being across the state. Following a comprehensive county health needs assessment, each specialist is sharing their findings with partners, stakeholders and organizations in their regions to address the identified priorities.

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



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Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



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



Established in 2002, the **Fire Officer Certificate Program** is designed for those who wish to further their professional development without the time and expense of traditional college classes. This program has been developed and evaluated to ensure it provides structured curriculum delivery and academic rigor. The program requires completion of 288 hours of instruction within three years.



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



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

Legend



Agricultural Growth
& Stewardship



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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.”



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

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



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

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

Legend



Agricultural Growth
& Stewardship



Economic
Opportunity



Educational
Access &
Excellence



Health
& Well-Being

**Lynnlee Parrott, Field Specialist
in Nutrition and Health**

Health and Human Sciences

Local Impact

What is Health and Human Sciences?

The Health and Human Sciences Department is designed to help individuals of all ages create and maintain a healthy lifestyle across their lifespan. This can include helping people learn about the brain and body, creating healthy habits, learning how to change habits as needed, and keeping overall well-being a priority.

Divisions within Health and Human Sciences:

Nutrition and Health: This area of the department is designed to help people create positive food and activity habits, as well as learn how to work toward building skills for their lifetime that can keep them healthy.

Human Development and Family Sciences: This area looks at how people develop through the lifespan and how individuals develop within the context of the family and society.



STAY STRONG, STAY HEALTHY: Lynnlee taught one Stay Strong, Stay Healthy class to five participants. Three of the five participants completed more than twelve of the possible sixteen sessions. All three participants improved their balance and muscle endurance based on their fitness assessments at the beginning and end of the program. This Stay Strong, Stay Healthy class contributes to an estimated \$5,000 savings for annual healthcare costs. One participant shared, "I am able to stand and work in the kitchen longer without needing to sit or work from my wheelchair because of this class."

Henry County

Debbie Dody, Nutrition Program Associate

Health and Human Sciences

Local Impact

20 students at Leesville Elementary in Kindergarten & 1st grade enjoyed learning about the 5 Food Groups & trying new foods while participating in *Show Me Nutrition*.

Kindergarten students also had a book read to them that highlighted the lesson.

In addition, they both learned the importance of physical activity & were able to practice what they learned each week in the classroom & at recess. The Kindergarten class told me they "loved me more than recess" !!

25 Kindergarten students at Lakeland Elementary participated in *Show Me Nutrition*, which also includes practicing healthy habits such as handwashing!

20 students at Head Start – Clinton also enjoyed *Show Me Nutrition*.

102 students in 5 different classes at Windsor High School participated in *Kids in the Kitchen* – Level C. *Kids in the Kitchen* encourages Youth to eat healthier meals & snacks as a result of hands-on cooking experiences. Youth participants learn to prepare simple, healthy foods they can make for themselves & their family members; taught in a series of 7 lessons that cover topics such as basic cooking skills, good nutrition, healthy food choices, food safety, physical activity & meal planning based on USDA's MyPlate.



Local Impact

Healthy Change Workshops – A series of 6 lessons were taught at Zoe's Home I & II with 5 participants. One home included a child that had participated in another program, so I was greeted warmly when I arrived!

TITLES include:

Change to Healthy Habits
Food Safety Never Changes
Change Your Label Lingo
Plan to Make a Change
Make a Change in Your Shopping
Change Up Your Celebrations

Each participant received several items to take with them to their forever homes after they complete their stay at Zoe's Home. Some of the items were reusable shopping bags, measuring cups & measuring spoons, reusable cutting boards, insulated cooler bags & small strainers.



Henry County

Debbie Dody, Continued

Health and Human Sciences

Local Impact



Local Impact

SNAP-Ed Public Value Statement 2024

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

18,142 direct and indirect contacts were made in Henry 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.



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