



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Taney County

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Office of Extension
and Engagement
University of Missouri

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December 1, 2021

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

As we look forward to 2022, I want to take a moment to celebrate all that we have accomplished together this year. You, our closest partners, are key to improving Missourians' lives and opportunities.

You have been vital to the work that has already extended broadband access and workforce development strategies statewide. You have helped us connect with the right partners, working together toward meaningful outcomes that will help our communities thrive in our areas of greatest need around the economy, education and health.

During MU Extension and Engagement Week in October, we learned about some of the ways that MU's NextGen Precision Health Initiative will help Missouri improve statewide health care indicators from our current ranking of 38th in the nation to 25th.

COVID-19 has shown us that we must expand investment in our health care resources, knowledge and infrastructure. It has exposed the urgent need to make research and expertise available in communities and to empower individuals and providers to address every aspect of individuals' and communities' health needs — including the inequities of social determinants and their effects on people's health.

Our extension faculty is poised to help identify those needs and be the bridge to the health care providers and caregivers, the clinical trials and public health initiatives that can deliver improved healthcare access and outcomes in every county across our state.

I hope you see the impact of your hard work this past year throughout this county annual report. I thank you for your continuing support as we recommit ourselves to do what we do best: help communities thrive through civic engagement, community building and neighborliness. We look forward to continuing the programs, partnerships, and sharing of knowledge that foster kindness, caring, respect and deep connections in the year and decade to come.

Sincerely,

Marshall Stewart, EdD
Vice Chancellor, MU Extension and Engagement
Chief Engagement Officer, UM System

Who we are

Faculty and staff

Taney County Staff

Pam Duitsman, Ed.D, Interim County Engagement Specialist in Community Development

Willa Williams, Ed.D, 4-H Youth Development Field Specialist transferred to Greene County Sept. 2021

Barbara Beck, Nutrition Program Associate, Retired February 2022

Cody Cox, MSU SBDC Regional Small Business Consultant

Jody LeMaster, VITA Educational PGM Associate

Lynda LaRocque, Office Support Staff

Regional MU Extension Staff Serving Taney County

Amber Allen, Human Development Specialist

Pamela Duitsman, County Engagement Specialist in Community Economic Development

Kelsa Ferguson, Community Health Field Specialist

Theresa Fossett, Regional Family Nutrition Education Program

Sarah Havens, Natural Resource Field Specialist

Kelly McGowan, Horticulture Field Specialist

Jenni Nevatt, County Engagement Specialist in Nutrition and Health Education

Amy Patillo, Labor and Workforce Development Field Specialist

Elizabeth Picking, Livestock Field Specialist

Ted Probert, Dairy Field Specialist

Tim Schnakenberg, Agronomy Field Specialist

Council members

Mark McSpadden, Chair

Shannon Tilley, Vice-Chair

Myka Brashler, Secretary

Melanie Smith, Treasurer, Farm Bureau Representative

Melvin Braden

Lynn Craft

Jeff Matthews

Carole Reynolds

Sheila Wyatt, Taney County Commission Representative



New council members being sworn in at annual dinner meeting. Taney County Deputy clerk, Stephanie Spencer swearing in Myka Braschler, Lynn Craft, Shanna Tilley and Jeff Matthews.

County commissioners

Mike Scofield, Presiding Commissioner

Brandon Williams, Western District Commissioner

Sheila Wyatt, Eastern District Commissioner

Budget and more

Appropriations budget

Income	
County Appropriation	46,807.33
Total Income	46,807.33
Expenses	
Salaries/Benefits	32,581.28
Travel	1,933.71
Postage	457.60
Telephone	2,656.67
Office Supplies/Service	2,789.24
Council Expenses	273.77
VITA Tax program	2,000.00
4-H	3,100.80
Repairs/Maintenance	<u>1,014.26</u>
Total Expenses	46,807.33

Funds Class Balances

Center Operations	9,377.39
Education & Service	33,992.03
Savings	9,439.02
Grants & Contracts	9,535.02
Council Held Funds Other Agencies	<u>5,787.70</u>
Total	68,131.43

Key outcomes and numbers

- ✓ Partnered with the Branson Chamber for a specialized webinar to support local businesses with the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) program and provided follow-on assistance with applications
- ✓ 1,210 free federal and state tax returns for area tax payers through the VITA tax program
- ✓ StrikeForce Farmer Development Award Completed, 2018-2021- Awarded \$246,588.00 and served 2,030 agriculture producers in Southwest and Southeast Missouri StrikeForce Counties, including 137 veterans, and 116 individuals identifying with a disability
- ✓ Three day camps were held at Dogwood Canyon. Greene County 4-H members participated as campers and counselors.
- ✓ Master Gardeners still provided 4,128 hours of volunteer hours
- ✓ FNEP brought 986 direct and indirect contacts were made in Taney County.
- ✓ Due to COVID 19 Extension programs went virtual, see numerous offers listed in our specialist reports

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



Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Taney 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.



Agriculture and Natural Resources



2021 Educational Programs – Tim Schnakenberg, Field Specialist in Agronomy

MU Extension / MO Department of Conservation Cooperative Education Project

MU Extension is locally working with a state-wide project funded by a grant from Missouri Department of Conservation. The project is designed to promote native warm season grasses in Missouri. Funds are available to do educational programs and demonstrations with native grasses and their use for grazing, hay and impact on wildlife. Tim Schnakenberg received approval for five 10-acre warm season grass establishment sites for farms in Christian, Taney, Stone, Ozark and Barry Counties in 2021. Locally, demonstrations were planted on the Rob Dalton farm at Brown Branch, Russ Jones farm at Garrison and Emmett Dalton farm near Theodosia. The project also paid for a native warm season grass workshop that was held in Mt. Vernon in March with 58 attending. There was also an on-farm tour of demonstration sites in Barry County in September. Participants attended these programs from all over southwest Missouri.



Rob Dalton of Brown Branch is planting his new stand of big bluestem and Indiangrass for the university demonstration on his farm in June. Farm tours are planned in the future to review his experiences with this pasture forage.

37th Annual Spring Forage Conference was Virtual in 2021

There were 146 farmers and ranchers, including several from Taney County, who attended the 37th Annual Southwest Missouri Spring Forage Conference. This year it was decided to hold it virtual on-line for the first time in its history. Concurrent sessions were held throughout the day on a variety of topics of interest to most grass producers. Despite an on-line offering, 91 percent of the participants indicated that the conference met their expectations. When asked if they plan to make changes in their operations after attending, 75 percent said they would. 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.

PESTICIDE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY TRAINING

Private Applicator Training was different in 2021 compared to prior years. Due to COVID-related policies and concerns, there was only one in-person training and it was held in Mt. Vernon with 26 participants. Field specialists in agronomy, Sarah Kenyon, Jill Scheidt and Tim Schnakenberg collaborated on putting together a 1.5 hour prerecorded Zoom session for use for training individuals statewide. This was used by specialists around the state for on-line Zoom training and were offered frequently. The other option was to have applicators answer a 25-question study guide after reviewing the pesticide manual. Several opted for this. Tim Schnakenberg reported administering 94 of these study guides to producers this year. This process is something they must be retrained on every five years in order to maintain a pesticide license to purchase and use Restricted-Use pesticides.



Agriculture and Natural Resources

Grazing Schools

Grazing schools continue to 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 2021 in Stone, Lawrence and Greene counties and Taney County farmers attended some of these schools. The schools allowed farmers to think differently about how they manage their pastures and have become a very effective tool. There were nearly 80 producers who attended all three of the schools in the region. Numerous presentations were offered along with on-farm field trips to evaluate pasture grazing systems.



A field exercise occurring during the Stone County grazing school with Mark Kennedy of Missouri Forage and Grassland Council instructing the participants on how to assess the amount of grass in their stands.

MU + NRCS Grasslands Project

Tim Schnakenberg has served actively in a project that ties MU and NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) together to address grazing and grassland development. The project assists NRCS in their EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program) efforts and the promotion of soil health and native warm season grasses. There are currently thirteen native grass demonstration sites in southwest Missouri and this project funded many of them. Sites are being assessed for success of establishment, production and soil health and on-farm tours are planned for public viewing of the successes and challenges of warm season grass establishment. The concept of using native grasses is rooted in a desire to increase hay or pasture production, extend the grazing season, return land to native habitat, enhance wildlife cover and population, improve soil health, minimize the fertilizer and lime requirement to grow grass, lower endophyte exposure to cattle, and diversify the forage base of a farm. In 2021, Tim Schnakenberg also designed a large grazing system on a 2,000 acre ranch consisting of fifty paddocks. This system was later approved for EQIP cost-share funding.

Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrient Management

Farmers and homeowners continue to need information for their fertilizer and lime purchasing decisions. These are based on unbiased fertility testing and research provided by University of Missouri Extension. Tim Schnakenberg and Patrick Byers signed each report and made additional remarks on them as needed. Taney county submitted 110 samples for testing.

PASTURE WEED CONTROL RESEARCH PROJECT

Tim Schnakenberg worked with Dr. Kevin Bradley, state weed specialist, and graduate student Haylee Schreier to set up a replicated pasture weed control research plot comparing DuraCor, ProClova, GrazonNext herbicides. This project occurred near Crane on the Bob Clark farm. There are two or three other sites across Missouri. The results of this project were shared with producers and benefited Southwest Missouri pasture managers.

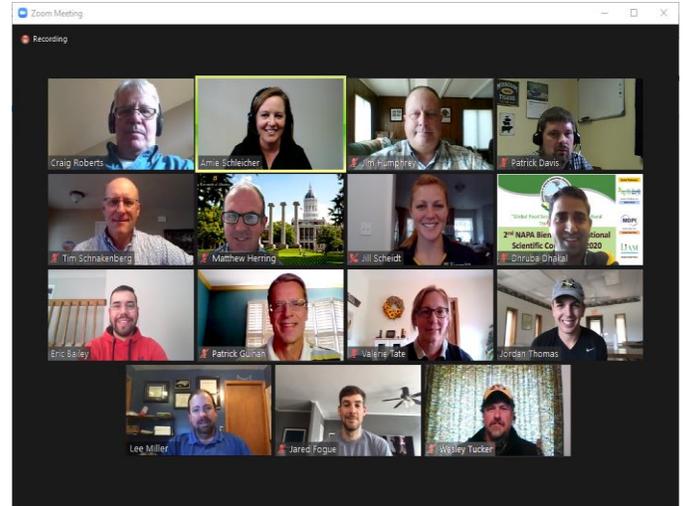


Agriculture and Natural Resources

2021 Educational Programs – Tim Schnakenberg, Field Specialist in Agronomy

Town Hall Zoom Meetings

On-line town hall meetings covering topics in forages and livestock as well as horticulture were offered throughout 2021. For much of the year, these were conducted weekly and during the winter months some were held monthly. Each time, producers from many counties across Missouri participated. This effort provided a very thorough compilation of topics and speakers throughout the growing season. The town hall meetings are simulcasted to the MUIPM You-Tube channel and to Facebook Live. All total, between the forage/livestock and horticulture town halls, there have been around 290 videos that have gone on the web since April, 2020 when COVID began. There are 1,060 subscribers to the You-tube channel to date. On-demand views reported for many of the programs are impressive.



The committee members of the statewide Forage and Livestock Town Hall Meetings. The photo was taken of the committee on Zoom just prior to one of the weekly town hall sessions. Great impacts have been made with the help of numerous presenters since its inception in 2021.

AREA PRODUCERS WIN BIG IN THE OZARK EMPIRE FAIR HAY SHOW

There were many outstanding entries this year for the Ozark Empire Fair hay show. Several of the livestock and agronomy field specialist were busy this season collecting hay samples for the show. The champion haylage producer for 2021 was Groves View Dairy of Billings with their alfalfa haylage entry that had a 281 Relative Feed Quality (RFQ) rating! The reserve champion in the haylage class went to John Staiger of Billings with his alfalfa-grass haylage entry (226 RFQ). On the dry hay class, the grand champion producer was Glenn and Toni Obermann of Monett for their alfalfa entry (238 RFQ). Ryan Bilyeu of Ozark, a first-year participant, entered his fescue, clover, brome and orchardgrass entry and was reserve champion (192 RFQ). This was a great opportunity to help producers better educate themselves on hay quality. A recent grand champion hay producer started out entering hay a few years ago that fell at the bottom of the class, but she quickly learned from the experience what good hay looked like and made changes in her harvesting practices. The changes she implemented from what was learned made a huge difference and her cow herd thanks her for it because they are benefiting and producing better from quality hay harvested on the farm. Eldon Cole and Tim Schnakenberg serve as co-superintendents for this show.



Agriculture and Natural Resources

Farm Tax Workshop

For the past few years, MU Extension has taught Farm Tax Workshops for farm businesses and families to include new legislation, tax changes, court cases, state tax issues and additional ag issues. The workshops are designed to convey information in a concise manner using information from the IRS and the Land Grant University Tax Education Foundation. The purpose of the classes is to get relevant and helpful information to farmers so they can make decisions and be better prepared to work with their professional tax preparer.

The workshops were a combination of in person classrooms and online classes, with a total of one hundred forty-seven participants.

Most participants completed an optional post survey. Eighty percent reported they understood they were responsible for records and documentation and not their tax preparer. Seventy-five percent said they had a better understanding of how to use tax tools in purchasing farm assets (Section 179, Bonus Depreciation). Ninety-two percent recognized end of year tax planning is important. Seventy-eight percent reported they know where to find Farmer's Tax Guides and where to find additional information.

Many participants planned to take some action before the end of the year. Some of the planned actions included: reviewing farm records (80%), meeting with tax preparer and communicate with family members (71%). Plans to communicate with family members about tax issues (62%) and fifty-six percent plan to review resources before purchasing begins in 2022.

Farm tax education workshops benefit individuals by increasing their understanding and knowledge, leading to more informed decisions and management of taxes. Better knowledge also leads to improved communications with their tax preparers and accountants. The result is researched and timely purchases of farm expenses, optimizing income tax scenarios and improved profitability over time. Money saved in income taxes stays local and is spent in local businesses up and down main street, making a more vibrant and sustainable rural economy.

Produce Safety for Community Gardens

Growing safe produce for community garden members, clients of food pantries and farmers markets is a goal we all should be working towards. University of Missouri horticulture specialists, Patrick Byers and Justin Keay held a virtual class detailing the best practices for growing, processing and storing produce safely.



Agriculture and Natural Resources

2021 Educational Programs – Tim Schnakenberg, Field Specialist in Agronomy



Scenes from the University of Missouri Extension booth at the Ozarks Farm Fest in Springfield. An estimated 40,000 people attended this popular event in the Ozarks and field specialists staffed the booth during the three-day event.



The effects of the spring freeze on cereal rye on April 21. The field specialists in agronomy received numerous calls from farmers and gardeners seeking advice on how to evaluate plant injury during this event.



Economic Opportunity

Food System Development – 39 programs, 768 Participants

Food system programs and activities provide resources and support for personal and commercial food production, processing, marketing, distribution, retailing, and disposal that is rooted in a particular place. The place may be a community, metropolitan area, state, or multi-state region. Target audiences are diverse, and include: producers, consumers, economic developers, policy makers, entrepreneurs, local and state government, nonprofits, hunger relief groups, and others with interest in food systems.

Food systems encompass all the people, processes and infrastructure involved in getting food from the farm to your table. Increasingly, Missourians are seeking information about how their food is produced, harvested, processed, distributed, marketed and accessed so that they can support their local communities. On this website, you — as a farmer or food business owner, consumer or community leader — will find information and resources to help you:

- Create food systems that provide for profitable, thriving farms and businesses;
- Steward our natural resources;
- Ensure a safe and affordable food supply; and
- Strengthen community relationships in rural and urban Missouri.



Community Leadership Development and Leadership Academy -- 28 programs; 944 participants

These programs increase the capacity of individuals, organizations and communities to provide leadership and address community issues effectively. *Outcomes:* Participants learn to develop strong leadership skills and increase their personal community involvement. Programs lead to more effective regional networks, improved economic well-being for individuals, businesses & communities, and more effective leadership for communities and organizations in all arenas.

Fostering Healthy Communities – 43 programs; 348 participants

Enhances community capacity to address local health systems issues at the community and local level. This programming recognizes that healthy populations are at the heart of healthy and economically viable communities and helps communities build capacity to analyze their local health data and systems issues in the broader policy and economic arena.

Community Economic Development – 16 programs

Fostering community economic development through a holistic approach involves planning, economic analysis, leadership development, and fostering a climate for innovation. Strategies focus on people and their skills as the source for economic stability and growth (as opposed to focusing entirely on recruitment of industry). Success is measured on quality of community, quality jobs created and their ability to provide a decent living. Focus is on the whole community; to build systems of support for community enterprise and entrepreneurship; and as a region to develop place-based strategies, rooted in the local culture, heritage, ecology, and collaboration. *Outcomes:* Increased knowledge and understanding of local or regional economy and applicable community economic development strategies. *Mid-term outcomes:* Increase in networks, partnerships, and resources leveraged to address community economic change. *Long-term:* Business expansion/retention; Increase in community wealth.



Economic Opportunity

Building Diverse and Inclusive Communities – 11 programs, 252 participants

- Building Inclusive Communities is about helping people, organizations, and communities deal with the challenges presented by the dramatic changes occurring in society in productive ways that respect differences and embraces the diversity that make communities vibrant places to live, work, and play. The program seeks to help community leaders engage their community in addressing issues that affect their development and increase capacity of communities to deal with a changing population.
- Communities are undergoing tremendous changes and these changes are impacting their ability to fully participate in what is increasingly a more global society. Many new immigrants are moving into our communities that bring resources with them that can make the community stronger but the integration of these newcomers also presents challenges that most communities don't know how to address. Existing groups of people in communities also are not able to fully participate in community life. Consequently, many people especially those with fewer resources, less education, and from a different culture are often left at a disadvantage in accessing public resources and are less able to participate in public decision-making.
- How this work was accomplished: Programs provided primarily to providers (facilitate discussion, share data, coordinate planning and outreach); also make available skills classes and other classes to target audience.

Show-Me ECHO – A Missouri Tele-Health Network – 37 programs, 394 participants

Show-Me ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) uses videoconferencing to connect interdisciplinary teams of experts with primary care providers and other professionals. Learning sessions offer free continuing education and medical education credits, and are provided at no cost to participating sites and individuals, while engaging from their own computer. Participants collaborate in interactive case-based learning to develop advanced skills and best practices, which improves patient care access, quality and efficiency. Programs in 2021 were offered on the following topics: Adult Psych; Asthma; Autism; Certified Peer Specialist; Child Psych; Community Health Worker; COVID-19; COVID-19 and Kids; Cultivating Positive Classroom Climate – High School; Dermatology; Developmental Disabilities; Diabetes; Disordered Eating & Eating Disorders, Foot Preservation, Head Start; Hepatitis C; HIV; Hypertension; Kidney Disease; Missouri Moms and Babies; Mothers, Infants & NAS; Opioid Use Disorder; Oral Health; Post-Acute and Longer-Term Care; Pain Management; Pediatric Sleep; Pediatric Weight Management; Rural Health Preceptors; Social Emotional Learning – Middle School; Suicide Prevention and Care; Telemedicine; Trauma-Informed Schools; Veterinary Education & Training. Many from Taney County and our region are participating in these sessions.

Show-Me ECHO: Cultivating Positive Classroom Climate – High School



Enhancing Knowledge, Efficacy and Practices for Educators

Supports teachers and administrators serving the 9th-12th grades. An expert team guides high school educators toward building stronger student-teacher relationships, promoting student prosocial behavior, enhancing student sense of belonging, and increasing student engagement in learning. Topics for learning and discussion:

- Praise for Positive Behavior
- Support the Emotional Needs of Students
- Positive Emotions in the Classroom
- Use of Effective Discipline
- How to Cultivate a Classroom Community
- Positive Teacher-Student Relationships
- Connect Students to School
- Active Engagement
- Student Voice/Leadership



Economic Opportunity

Business and Community

Business Development; Community & Economic Development; Labor and Workforce Development

Business Development helps Missouri businesses and communities succeed and fosters leadership through proven, tested counseling and training methods. An integrated statewide delivery system for programs and education is focused on helping businesses of all kinds and in all sectors grow throughout their business life cycle.

Community Development needs and challenges of communities small and large across the state of Missouri are addressed with programs that target community leadership development, economic development, community decision-making, local food systems, local government, diversity and social inclusion, and enhancement of quality-of-life.

Workforce Development offers help for Missouri's workforce, businesses and communities to attract, retain, engage, and grow a productive and healthy workforce. Programs provide workforce resources, training, and data necessary to help make your community, business, and workforce grow and thrive.

Together we can drive Missouri towards a more vibrant future.

Pam Duitsman County Engagement; Community and Economic Development



Organizational Development for Nonprofits – 22 programs

Offers support for small, community-based nonprofits to develop their capacity to address important community issues. The primary goal is to assist these organizations to more effectively achieve their goals and meet their purpose and mission. The program offers research-based education on issues affecting organizational development and operations by boards, and includes a range of topics including incorporation, planning, collaboration, financial management, marketing, and others pertinent topics.

- *Short-term:* Increased knowledge and skills for organizational development and board operation; development of networks; improved financial management practices.
- *Long-term:* Organizations are able to fulfill their missions and achieve their goals (in terms of capacity, resources, and processes as well as impact on the community). Organizations increase capacity, programs and processes to effectively address community needs; increase resources (financial and human); and increase leverage of volunteers. Communities have an increased capacity to address local issues. Organizations show improved stability and sustainability.

BOARD TRAINING ONLINE

Training for nonprofit board members



SERVING ON A BOARD?

**LEARN WHAT IT TAKES TO BE
AN EFFECTIVE BOARD MEMBER**

Impact Update

Dr. Amy Patillo
Field Specialist in Labor and
Workforce Development
patilloa@Missouri.edu



2021 Labor and Workforce Development

Annual Report

ENGAGEMENT WORK

The University of Missouri Extension's Labor and Workforce Development Program focuses on tackling Missouri's many workforce issues by collaborating with state, regional, and community workforce partners.

Workforce Development Dashboard

<https://bit.ly/WorkforceDashboard>

Workforce Development Resources

<https://bit.ly/LWDResources>



Driving Missouri's Workforce Forward

KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ StrikeForce Farmer Development Award Completed, 2018-2021- Awarded \$246,588.00 and served 2,030 agriculture producers in Southwest and Southeast Missouri StrikeForce Counties, including 137 veterans, and 116 individuals identifying with a disability
- ✓ OPPE, Agriculture (USDA)-2501 project funded for Socially Disadvantaged, farmers, Veterans, and ranchers.

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

2,030

Strikeforce participants

3974

Labor and Workforce Development

50

Volunteer and Partner Hours

NOTABLE OUTCOMES

- Awarded [Extension Foundation NTAE Impact Collaborative Fellow](#) 2021-2022
- Publications:
 - Journal of Agriculture Food Systems, and Community Development.
<https://doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2021.102.052>
 - American Educational History Journal, Special Edition- Snapshots of History: Portraits of the 21st Century Pandemic.

ACTIONS PLANNED FOR 2022

- Partner to coordinate Missouri Works Initiative program expansion to Springfield to eliminate barriers to economic opportunities to build life-sustaining careers.
- [Recovery Friendly Workplaces](#), Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Community Conversations, 2022
- Connect with MU Labor and Workforce
[LWD@Facebook](#), [LWD@LinkedIn](#),
[MUExtension417@YouTube](#)

Impact Update

Chrystal Irons
Director
417-837-2617
sbdc@missouristate.edu



Taney County

ENGAGEMENT WORK

Missouri Small Business Development Center at Missouri State University

Throughout the year our office met with entrepreneurs and small business owners to discuss funding options, pivot opportunities, staffing, and overall business operations. Our office provided multiple webinars via Zoom to support small businesses.

In partnership with the efactory and Missouri DED, we have launched Supercharge Southwest Missouri; a collaborative, regional initiative that empowers entrepreneurs, small business owners and innovators. The program accelerates job growth, creates economic opportunities, and supports the next generation of industry-leading companies in southwest Missouri. We're leveraging innovation and entrepreneurship assets across our region to create and amplify new technologies, businesses, resources, investment, and more. This will include on demand training for regional business owners.

Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Center - Springfield

Allen Waldo, PTAC counselor for the southwest Missouri area, presented several trainings on government procurement at the federal, state, and local level. Allen held 934 counseling sessions with local businesses to support them in their efforts to secure government contracts.



KEY OUTCOMES & NUMBERS

- ✓ **550+** SBDC counseling hours
- ✓ **2** New businesses started
- ✓ **39** New jobs created
- ✓ **1,021** Jobs retained
- ✓ Partnered with the Branson Chamber for a specialized webinar to support local businesses with the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) program and provided follow-on assistance with applications
- ✓ Collaborated with the Taney County Partnership to provide targeted disaster assistance and additional regional support to businesses
- ✓ Streamlined intake process allows clients to easily book meetings

110+

Unique businesses assisted by the SBDC

\$830,000

Sales increase in client companies through the assistance of the SBDC

\$1,700,824

Capitalization secured through the assistance of the SBDC



Economic Opportunity

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Taney County Residents Served

- Low to moderate income working families,
- Students,
- Senior citizens,
- Single parent households, and
- Disabled residents and veterans

What Did They Learn?

- What credits they are eligible for,
- How to determine the amount they should have withheld from their income sources,
- About health insurance requirements, how their taxes will be affected and options for getting health insurance
- About tax planning, options and future deduction possibilities
- All volunteers pass a Standards of Conduct, Intake/Interview/Quality Review and Advances Certification tests

What Action Did They Take?

- Purchased necessities, thus spending and recirculating money in Taney County,
- Paid bills,
- Reduced or paid off debt,
- Established or increased emergency savings,
- Repaired or replaced their vehicles.

How Does This Work Make Taney County and Missouri Better?

When you support MU Extension's MoTax Initiative program, participants save an average of \$200 (currently) in tax preparation fees per year, avoid high-cost refund anticipation loans, and learn basic financial management strategies which leads to establishment or increase of emergency savings, which benefits other community members by reducing demand for public assistance, stabilizing the county tax base and stimulating the economy, beginning in the taxpayer's community, through federal and state tax refund dollars and dollars from tax credits.

- VITA volunteers prepared 1,042 federal and 1,065 state tax returns for taxpayers in Taney County. Families received \$718,737 in Federal Income Tax refunds including \$172,985 in Earned Income Credit. In addition, the taxpayers saved \$208,400 in tax preparation fees. This brought in an economic impact of approximately 2.6 billion dollars to Taney county.



ENGAGEMENT WORK

With COVID restrictions still in place for much of 2021, Taney County 4-H reached out through homeschool groups, STEM kits, day camps, and online learning.

In 2021 we offered a Poultry Chain project in which we gave 12 Barred Rock egg laying chicks to each youth in the promise that they would return 3 to the Taney County 4-H Youth Livestock Show. In Taney County, we don't have many youth who show animals so this project helped us to build our show.

This not only teaches youth about agriculture and the food chain but is also a great community agricultural education and awareness project. This year we partnered with the farmers' market in Forsyth to host our youth livestock show at the same time as their farmers' market. We were able to reach many more people in the community and our youth learned about our local food systems as well. We are very grateful to all of our sponsors, but especially the Taney County Farm Bureau and the College of the Ozarks for their support.

KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ Provided curriculum and resources for Bridge of Faith's Squash Squad, Branson Head Start, and Hollister Head Start, Elevate Branson, and Hollister Tiger Time.
- ✓ 4-H partnered with the Branson Veritas homeschool group to provide four STEM courses in aerial drones, global foods, photography, and junkdrawer robotics
- ✓ Three day camps were held at Dogwood Canyon. Greene County 4-H members participated as campers and counselors.

216

Youth in community clubs and school groups

50

Volunteers and partners who led 4-H programs

\$120,700

The value of the contribution of Taney County 4-H volunteers and partners. Missouri 4-H volunteers report contributing on average 100 hours per year to the program and valuing their time at \$24.14 per hour

(Independent Sector, 2017)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4-H Trailblazers in Eastern Taney County continue to grow in participation. Youth participated in the 4-H Poultry Chain and continued to partner with the farmers' market to show their animals throughout the year. Taney County 4-H used funds to supply robotics kits and curriculum for club projects.
- 4-H Achievers maintained their success in competing regionally and at state. They continue to win blue ribbons and bring in new members.

ACTION ITEMS FOR COUNCIL

- Assist with the hiring of a new County Engagement Specialist in 4-H Youth Development and mentor them through the first year
- Establish a 4-H Expansion and Review Committee
- Offer a 4-H regional energizer for SWMO 4-H
- Reach 10% of the youth population by 2025



Emergency and Disaster Response Teams in Schools



It's never too early to educate students on hazards and emergency response. Youth preparedness programs start in early elementary, continue with disaster and home hazard awareness in middle school, and continue with Community Emergency Response Team certification for teens. Greene County 4-H is willing to teach programs, train educators, and supply some resources for the programs



How can my school or program prepare our youth for emergencies?

Find an adult willing to become a certified trainer. MU Extension 4-H has funds to offer trainings to certify MyPI Missouri CERT and Ready in the Middle trainers. Teachers, law enforcement, CERT, fire and emergency responders could be possible certified trainers. In MyPI Missouri, the basic CERT training lectures can be completed online with a full day in-person training to complete hands-on lessons. Ready in the Middle trainers can complete a zoom training led by the RITM Missouri project manager to become certified.

Do we have to purchase training materials and backpacks?

Currently we have grants to cover backpacks for the graduates and training kits for MyPI Missouri.

This sounds great! How do we sign up?

Contact Willa Williams, 4-H Field Specialist, williamswl@missouri.edu or 417-881-8909



an equal opportunity/ADA institution





Educational Access & Excellence



This year instead of having over night camps, the Southwest region hosted day camps. In Taney county we were luck to be able to host a 3 day outdoor camp at Dogwood Canyon. First day was for clover kids, second day for Junior members and the last day was for senior members.



Taney County 4-H Achievers Shooting Sports club holding archery practice on monthly range days.



The Taney County 4-H Trailblazers meeting and one of their junior members brought Butter Bean for a hands on demonstration for the club. We have amazing volunteers who lead and help teach our clubs, but we know our youth always lead the way and master their projects through hard work and teaching others.



4-H Trailblaser member picking up his chicks to participate in the 4-H Poultry Chain.





Health & Well-being



Family Nutrition Education Program

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought

\$9,646,109 in federal funds to Missouri. The funds support engagement with 485,010 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri. There were 321,372 direct educational contacts. This year we had 1,383,799 indirect educational contacts through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries, and the Show Me Nutrition helpline.

986 direct and indirect contacts were made in Taney 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.

Nutrition Program Associate, Barb Beck, programmed at Buchanan and Bradleyville Elementary schools as well as The Salvation Army – Branson Pantry and Christian Action Ministries in Branson.

Barb Beck Retires in 2021



Barb Beck, a beloved member of the Taney County Extension team retired in February of 2021. Council and staff know that Barb loves to travel and is an avid hiker and biker. What better than a gift for her outdoor sports than a Cabela cooler!

Nutrition and Health

Jenni Nevatt, County Engagement Specialist, Nutrition and Health, 417-357-6812, JNevatt@missouri.edu



As the Nutrition and Health Specialist serving Christian, Stone, and Taney Counties, Jenni aligns her work with the MU Extension mission to improve the lives of Missourians by planning, implementing, and evaluating health educational programs, policies, and systems.

Program Name	Partner Agency	Number of Participants	Impact
Living Health with Diabetes: Diabetes Self-Management Program 6-week program	Faith Community Health, Christian Action Ministries, Regional Arthritis Center, Mercy Hospital	13 participants	"This class teaches you to live the advice you always hear." "It is nice to have support from this program and the people I met here."
Virtual Tai Chi for Arthritis & Falls Prevention 8-week program	Mercy Hospital	15 participants	All evaluated participants sustained or improved balance
Cooking Matters for Adults 6-week program	Faith Community Health, Christian Action Ministries	10 participants	"Every day I use methods from this class. I would take it again if I could." "It has made me pay attention to what I am eating and especially portion size."
Virtual Chronic Disease Self-Management 6-week program	SeniorAge	4 participants	"I'm moving more and eating more salads with meals"



Nutrition and Health

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Program Name	Partner Agency	Number of Participants	Impact
Living Health with Diabetes: Diabetes Self-Management Program 6-week program	Faith Community Health, Christian Action Ministries, Regional Arthritis Center, Mercy Hospital	11 participants 	"I have more discipline in my care, lowered my blood glucose level, and now have techniques to make a plan, goal setting, and dealing with my feelings."
Home Food Preservation Harvesting and Storing Produce 1.5-hour workshop	Rocking W Farm & Home	5 participants	Following the workshop, 100% of participants felt confident or more confident about their knowledge of safe home food preservation
Cooking Matters for Adults 6-week program	Harbor House	12 participants	"I am more confident when making recipes."
Cooking Matters for Adults 6-week program	Faith Community Health, Christian Action Ministries	11 participants	"I learned to be more concerned about the choices I make when buying items and choosing how to prepare items."
Home Food Preservation Jerky Making 1-hour workshop	Rocking W Farm & Home	11 participants	"Loved it! This will help keep my husband in line to make a safe jerky."



2021 – Human Development & Family Science

Greene County

ENGAGEMENT WORK

Engagement work of 2021 has included virtual, in-person, and hybrid programming related to aging well, mental health, stress management, childcare provider professional development and various other human development and family science subjects. Amber has provided 151 sessions of programming through 76 programs with a total of 2,289 direct contacts to 1,552 participants. Some of the program impacts related to her childcare provider programming are mentioned below.

Amber has been implementing childcare programming in-person and virtually statewide. The childcare programming provides statewide clock hours for professional development for childcare providers who are required to obtain 12 hours each year. In 2021, she has served 204 childcare providers across the state of Missouri through 13 classes amounting to 408 clock hours provided for professional development. Completed evaluations showed the following feedback:

- "Amber and Amy gave such thorough and interesting information and presented it in a way that I always felt engaged and interested. I feel better equipped to deal with loss in my classroom and I definitely feel as though I will be better at handling grief." (Anonymous, 3/6/2021, Zoom)

- "The WOW moment for me was when you talked about the percentage of negative thoughts we have. I want to change that around in my life for sure! :) Thank you!" (Anonymous, Zoom, 3/9/2021)
- "I have been in Early Childhood for 40 years. I am an advocate for Open ended art. This was presented from a perspective of teaching children art appreciation as well encouraging art exploration with children!! VERY GOOD" (Anonymous, 4/6/2021, Greene County)
- "Thanks for the opportunity to have classes. Since COVID, training can be hard to find." (Anonymous, 3/11/2021, Zoom)
- "I will make a more conscious effort to instill hope into our children and make sure to develop action plans with attainable goals." (Anonymous, 10/26/21, Zoom)
- "It helped me have a different outlook on hope, and gave me better tools to be able to instill it in our children." (Anonymous, 10/28/21, Zoom)

Human Development and Family Science will continue to provide innovating program to increase impact that will foster community engagement, increase community collaboration and shift community and social norms in 2022.

KEY OUTCOMES

- ✓ Provided to 408 clock hours for professional development to 204 childcare providers across the state of Missouri through 13 classes.
- ✓ Trained 205 individuals through 14 Mental Health First Aids.
- ✓ Presented at 7 different statewide conferences.
- ✓ Amber provided 5 articles to local newspaper, 2 newsletter articles, and 4 media interviews to Kolr 10.
- ✓ Completed the National Council of Family Relations Mentorship Academy.
- ✓ Created a presentation called Sowing & Growing Hope.

2,289

Number of direct contacts with 1,552 participants through direct programming.

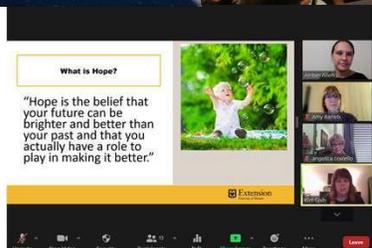
151

Number of sessions of programming provided through 76 programs.

20,908

Number of individuals reached using social media post using hashtags #Committe2MOFamilies and #ExtendMU.

2021 in Pictures



Actions Planned for 2022

- Expand the reach of the Sowing & Growing Hope presentation.
- Implement the Ouch! That Stereotype Hurts program in the Southwest Region.
- Submit 2 proposals to speak at National or State level conferences or webinars.
- Create monthly social media post related to human development for the Southwest Region.



Health & Well-being

Amber Allen, Human Development Specialist

Child Care Provider Classes

MU Extension Field Specialist in Human Development offer relevant research-based content to child care providers through both in-person and virtual settings. In 2021, a majority of the trainings were conducted virtually and made available to a state-wide audience. The staff who work in licensed child care centers must obtain twelve (12) clock hours of professional development each year for the site to maintain licensure. A total of 34 virtual trainings were scheduled between February and December and each class was repeated twice, once in the afternoon and once in the evening for the convenience of the child care providers. Each training provided two (2) clock hours of professional development through the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. In 2021, a total of 270 participants from over 37 counties in Missouri and from outside the state completed the requirements for earning clock hours for each course. Many of the care providers participated in more than one class. The effort resulted in child care providers receiving over 540 clock hours of training.

County	#	County	#
Adair	2	Miller	3
Boone	66	Morgan	1
Buchanan	2	New Madrid	3
Callaway	9	Pike	10
Camden	19	Polk	3
Carroll	6	Randolph	1
Christian	16	Ray	3
Clay	1	Scott	1
Cole	11	St. Charles	1
Cooper	1	St. Francois	5
Crawford	4	St. Louis	1
Dallas	2	St. Louis City	6
Greene	97	Taney	7
Henry	1	Texas	2
Jackson	7	Vernon	1
Jasper	2	Washington	2
Jefferson	9	Webster	1
Laclede	1	Wright	4
McDonald	1	Not from Missouri	3

Child care provider training impacts communities by meeting the three grand challenges MU Extension seeks to address.

- **Economic Opportunity:** Helping child care centers maintain the licensure needed to provide quality child care allows parents with young children to enter and/or stay in the workforce. In addition, it provides employment for the child care staff.
- **Educational access and excellence:** Providing quality educational programs to child care staff, at a convenient time and in a convenient location, increases their knowledge of best practices in procedures and their understanding of child development. This allows for a greater quality of child care for the children they work with.



County highlights

Master Gardeners of the Ozarks – 2021 Report

Master Gardener Total Impact

For 2021, the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks fulfilled their commitment to take on high-impact and ambitious projects. A total of 4,128 hours were reported in 2021 by sixty-seven master gardeners who served the entire year and reported. This was a 16 percent increase in hours submitted compared to 2020. The first-year Master Gardeners are required to provide 30 hours of service and seasoned master gardeners are only required to provide 20 hours. This year the master gardeners who submitted hours each averaged 61 hours of service! According to the latest figures from the Independent Sector organization, the hourly wage value for U.S. volunteer hours currently is \$28.54. If you put a value on the education and service hours provided to the community, the amount totals almost \$118,000 worth of volunteer time! Continuing education is an important part of volunteer service. The master gardeners reported 903 hours of continued education this year. This averages to 13 hours per person. They are expected to submit a minimum of 6 hours of continuing education each year.

Membership, Organization and Structure

As of year-end, there were 116 master gardeners in the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks chapter. Of these, there are 64 who reside in Stone County, 42 in Taney County, three in Christian County, four in Barry County, one in Howell County and two who reside in Boone County, Arkansas. The master gardeners were led this year by Chris Witherington, president, Wanda Nicol, vice-president, Gloria Cowper-Jen, secretary, and Cathy Preator, treasurer. Tim Schnakenberg served as advisor for the master gardener activities in the Stone and Taney County area.

The chapter met monthly, alternating between locations in Stone and Taney County and the executive committee met monthly between meetings. The chapter is very proud to say that there are 35 Emeritus members who have served at least ten years in the program. Some are now approaching 20 years of service.

Internal Grant Program Funded Seven Special Projects

The internal grant committee in 2021 allocated \$4,919 for eight projects: Kimberling Senior Center, Kimberling Area Library Children's Garden, Bonniebrook, Pregnancy Life Line, Faith Lutheran Church, Festival of Trees, Forsyth Demonstration Garden and Cape Fair Community Center. The committee was chaired by Penny Meador. Funds for projects originated from local educational program activities and fund-raisers.



Master Gardener executive committee members helped lead the chapter in 2022. L to R: Wanda Nicol; Chris Witherington; Gloria Cowper-Jen; Cathy Preator.



Class of 2021 photo following graduation - Front Row – (L to R) Steve Pulliam, Rob Wyer, Jerry Markle; Back Row – Susan Martin, Laurie Stallions, Eileen Atherton, Carolyn Spence-Cagle, Sharon Salmons. Shane Haskins was unable to attend



Agriculture and Natural Resources

Master Gardeners of the Ozarks – 2021 Report

Master Gardener Courses Brought in New Members

Nine new master gardeners were trained through a training class that occurred in Branson and the statewide on-line master gardener course. A graduation ceremony was conducted at a Master Gardener meeting at Shepherd of the Hills in December.

Fall Gardening Workshop Brought Out 130 Participants!

The gardening public enjoys participating in the Fall Gardening Workshop for reliable advice on gardening in the Ozarks. There were 130 participants that attended in Reeds Spring in September. Topics included this year included “Growing Vegetables and Improving Your Soil” by Nahshon Bishop; “Enchanting Lillies” with Sue Rendall; “Growing Successful Rose Gardens” with Bill Aldrich; and, “Veg Out” with Oscar Cross. In addition to the program, there was a plant sale, silent auction and vendor booths. This successful program was chaired by Joanne Anderson. Ninety-five percent of participants reported that they plan to make changes in their gardening as a result of attending.



A scene from the Fall Gardening Workshop in Reeds Spring



Volunteers at Pregnancy Life Line getting vegetable beds prepared for the growing season.



Members of the Festival of Trees Committee with the tree they decorated and was sold for donations to a local food pantry.

Many Garden Programs Were Cancelled Due to the Pandemic

Due to a lingering COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to cancel plans for the Spring Gardening Workshop, Bohemian Rhapsody Garden Tour at Bonniebrook and many of the monthly garden programs offered.



Agriculture and Natural Resources

Master Gardeners of the Ozarks – 2021 Report

Education and Improved Landscape Emphasis in our Communities

Some of the many other ongoing projects that made a significant impact in local communities included the Bonniebrook Homestead landscaping, Forsyth Demonstration Garden, Corps of Engineers Project Office Landscaping, Central Crossing Senior Center landscaping, Cape Fair Community Center landscaping, Ozarks Lake Country Senior Center garden, Kimberling Area Library Children's Garden and the Stone County courthouse and library landscaping. Some of the work for these projects were curtailed due to pandemic restrictions, but with safe social distancing practices, the committees were able to continue on with some of their projects. There were many more smaller projects that are too innumerable to cover, but combined they make a startling impact throughout our region. Pictures on this page are a sampling of some of the many projects that local Master Gardener volunteers are



Faith Lutheran Church in Branson – A location that has hosted many public educational programs over the years.



Kimberling Area Library Children's Garden



US Army Corps of Engineers Project Office near the Dewey Short Visitor's Center – A large committee oversees the grounds at this site using funds provided by the Corps and it has become a place of beauty and education for tourists who visit. This is one of the longest-running projects of the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks.



County highlights

2022 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

Taney County



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

Provisional Footprint in the county in 2021



FY21 county students

124 students

- 112 Undergraduates
- 12 Graduate and professional students
- 106 Full-time students
- 18 Part-time students
- 54 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2021)



County employees and retirees

14 people employed by UM

- 14 Campuses

21 UM retirees and beneficiaries

UM salary and retirement income: \$516,780

UM state tax revenue: \$17,360

UM federal tax revenue: \$81,297



County alumni

Selected school alumni

- 30 Medicine
- 18 Nursing
- 14 Health Professions
- 14 Dentistry
- 14 Pharmacy
- 2 Optometry
- 9 Veterinary Medicine
- 38 Agriculture
- 89 Engineering
- 27 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- 16 teachers
- 2.7% of all district teachers
- 3 principals and administrators
- 8.6% of all district principals and administrators



County breakdown

MU

- 72 students
- 364 alumni
- 10 employees

UMKC

- 15 students
- 99 alumni
- 2 employees

Missouri S&T

- 33 students
- 76 alumni
- 2 employees

UMSL

- 4 students
- 47 alumni
- 0 employees



County population: 55,114



County services provided

Health care (FY21)

- 172 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$113,029 of uncompensated care
- 4 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$66.18 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 124 visits to patients having a ZIP code associated with the county

Extension (2020)

- 9,372 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
 - 205 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
 - 9,011 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
 - 156 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy



County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Taney County



County highlights

2021 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

Taney County



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

Provisional Statewide Footprint

Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In 2019, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 54,494 jobs.



For every dollar invested from 2015 to 2017, the MU Extension Business Development Program has returned \$120 in economic impact for its clients by increasing sales more than \$1.19 billion. For a total impact of \$2.7 billion, the program has generated more than 29,000 jobs and attracted nearly \$347 million in capital investments and \$1.17 billion in government contracts.

- Between FY15 and FY20, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.27 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state but spent within the state.



In FY21, UM System was issued 30 patents and filed 60 new U.S. patent applications.

- In FY21, the UM System awarded 722 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$132.0 million in the state.



In FY21, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network Show-Me ECHO Program participated in 24,400 hours of case-based discussions with 3,017 community providers located in underserved areas in the City of St. Louis and 111 of the 114 Missouri counties.

Education and Training Provided



50,604 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2020)



Agriculture and natural resource programs served 147,623 farmers and related businesses (2020)



295,444 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2020)

Education Highlights

FY21 Financial Aid Awards

In FY21, 71.1% of the UM System's 78,208 students received financial aid totaling \$923 million



UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 57 higher education institutions (250,187 students), 491 K-12 school districts (850,000 students) and 136 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2020.

- UM System awarded 50.4% of the 30,932 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by Missouri four-year public institutions in 2020-21.
- UM System awarded 39.2% of the 1,897 research doctorates and 26.4% of the 3,606 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2020-21.
- In 2021, UM System's \$22.5 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 84.1% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.

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 2021, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM IR • Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSEDA) • Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) • MU • UMKC • Missouri S&T • UMSL • UM System • UM Health Care • MU Extension • US Census Bureau • US Dept. of Health and Human Services • National Science Foundation

