

2023

URBAN WEST

ANNUAL REPORTS

CLAY
JACKSON
PLATTE



CONTENTS



WELCOME.....	3
MESSAGE FROM VICE CHANCELLOR	4
UM SYSTEM FOOTPRINT 2023.....	5
MISSOURI GRAND CHALLENGES.....	7
CLAY COUNTY	10
JACKSON COUNTY.....	12
PLATTE COUNTY	14
BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY	
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	17
COMMUNITY ARTS AND CREATIVE PLACEMAKING	20
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.....	21
VITA AND TCE	24
HEALTH & HUMAN SCIENCES	
FOOD & NUTRITION	26
FAMILY NUTRITION (EFNEP)	30
4-H-CLAY.....	31
4-H JACKSON	34
4-H PLATTE	37
AGRICULTURE AND ENVIROMNENT	
HORTICULTURE	39
MASTER GARDENERS.....	41
AGRONOMY	43
FORAGE & LIVESTOCK.....	45
COMMUNITY HEALTH ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH	46

WELCOME

OUR COMMUNITY

Every year, more than 1 million Missourians turn to the University of Missouri (MU) Extension to gain practical knowledge, solve problems, adapt to change, and make informed decisions. The Urban West region contributes to this knowledge, change, and information.

OUR MISSION

Our land-grant Mission is to **Bring Mizzou to YOU**; we bring research base knowledge to the residents of our counties (Clay, Jackson, & Platte) to help the people, businesses, and municipalities make informed decisions and improve their quality of life, communities, and economies by producing relevant, reliable, and responsive educational strategies that enhance access to the resources and research of the University of Missouri System.

OUR MAIN NAMED PROGRAMS OR SERVICES ARE:

- Business (Workforce)
- Community Development
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) & Financial literacy
- Nutrition & Health
- 4-H Youth Development
- Horticulture & Agriculture
- Community Health

OUR COMMITMENT

Our staff serves ~35 thousand people each year through direct educational services.

The University of Missouri Extension, Urban West region, is dedicated to impacting and engaging lives within our communities by enhancing food safety and health, contributing to our youth, and improving labor and workforce development. While there is much work to do, we will continue to walk hand-in-hand with and for our community.



Shatomi Luster-Edward
REGIONAL DIRECTOR



Tracey Sanders
URBAN REGIONS
Project/Program
Support Coordinator II



GK Callahan
URBAN WEST
Engagement Specialist



Joshua Shinn
URBAN WEST
Engagement Specialist



Lindsay Tarasovic
URBAN WEST
Engagement Specialist



Office of Extension and Engagement

University of Missouri

OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR EXTENSION AND ENGAGEMENT

108 Whitten Hall
Columbia, MO 65211

PHONE 573-882-2394

EMAIL: cchiggins@missouri.edu

December 2023

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

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



Chad Higgins
Interim Vice Chancellor,
Extension and Engagement



"Serve Missouri. Deliver Mizzou."

2024 UM Systemwide Impact Data Sheets

Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties



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

UM System Footprint in the area in 2023



FY23 area students

13,972 students

- 11,132 Undergraduates
- 2,840 Graduate and professional students
- 7,739 Full-time students
- 6,233 Part-time students
- 2,512 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2023)



Area employees and retirees

3,250 people employed by UM

- 3,144 Campuses
- 83 MU Health Care
- 23 UM System

935 UM retirees and beneficiaries
UM salary and retirement income: \$155.5 million

UM state tax revenue: \$5.7 million
UM federal tax revenue: \$22.9 million



Area alumni

Selected school alumni

- 868 Medicine
- 2,330 Nursing
- 2,159 Health Professions
- 1,025 Dentistry
- 1,061 Pharmacy
- 51 Optometry
- 210 Veterinary Medicine
- 2,336 Agriculture
- 6,415 Engineering
- 3,584 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- 2,716 teachers
- 22.5% of all district teachers
- 289 principals and administrators
- 39.5% of all district principals and administrators



Area breakdown

MU

- 3,674 students
- 22,877 alumni
- 239 employees

UMKC

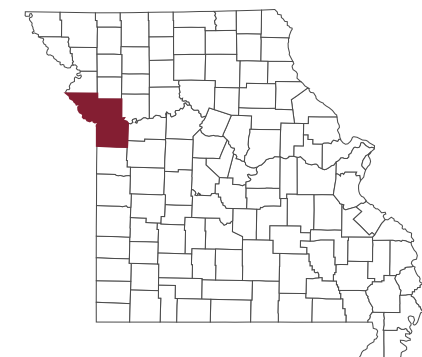
- 9,537 students
- 36,188 alumni
- 2,893 employees

Missouri S&T

- 515 students
- 2,746 alumni
- 11 employees

UMSL

- 246 students
- 840 alumni
- 1 employee



Area population: 1,068,552



Area services provided

Health care (FY23)

- 2,205 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$965,555 of uncompensated care
- 1 in-state patient seen at UMSL Center for Eye Care with a statewide average of \$34.82 per patient in uncompensated care
- 7,551 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$43.61 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 775 visits to 385 patients having ZIP codes associated with the area

Extension (2022)

- 29,477 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the counties, including:
- 7,808 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 19,769 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
- 1,900 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy



Construction projects

- \$24.8 million remitted to 42 area vendors, for 174 projects



Area properties and offices

UMKC Volker Campus, UMKC Hospital Hill
MU Extension in: Clay and Jackson Counties

Clay, Jackson, and Platte Counties



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

UM System Statewide Footprint

Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In 2022, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 81,645 jobs.

\$3.1 billion

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

- Between FY17 and FY22, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.46 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



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

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



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

Education and Training Provided



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



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



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

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

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

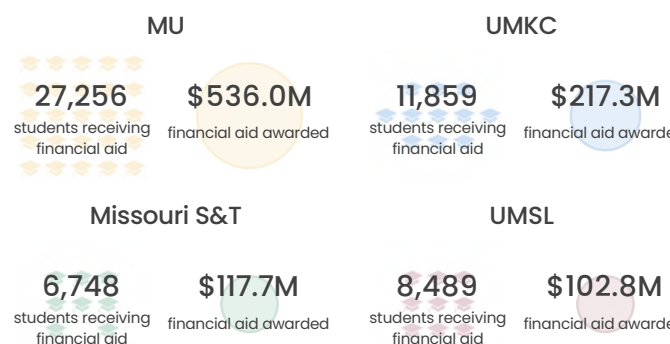
Prepared in December 2023, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM IR • MU Institute for Public Policy • Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) • MU • UMKC • Missouri S&T • UMSL • UM System • UM Health Care • MU Extension • US Census Bureau • US Dept. of Health and Human Services • National Science Foundation



Education Highlights

FY23 Financial Aid Awards

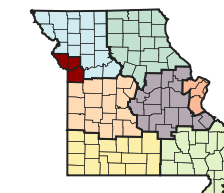
In FY23, 67.3% of the UM System's 80,702 students received financial aid totaling \$973.7 million



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

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

Missouri Grand Challenges: Local Solutions



CLAY, JACKSON AND PLATTE COUNTIES

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 (\$)

\$70,070

Report Location



Clay	\$62,585
Jackson	\$73,312
Platte	\$62,735
Missouri	\$62,528

Data Source: US Department of Commerce, [US Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Economic Accounts](https://www.bea.gov/data/gdp/gdp-by-county). 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 842,735 persons of working age in the report area, 68.27% are included in the labor force. This rate exceeds the Missouri labor force participation rate of 62.82%.

Labor Force Participation Rate

68.27%

Report Location

Clay	70.06%
Jackson	67.38%
Platte	70.06%
Missouri	62.82%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2019/acs/2019-2021/american-community-survey.html). 2017-21.



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.

No High School Diploma

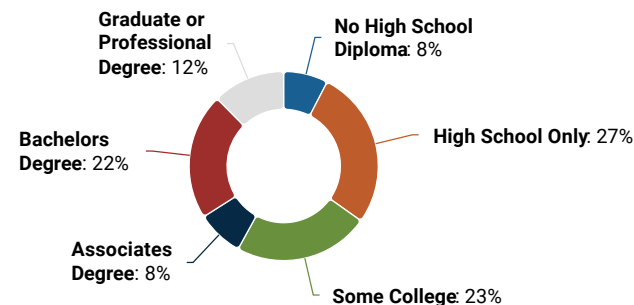
7.60%

Report Location

Clay	6.45%
Jackson	8.63%
Platte	3.37%
Missouri	9.02%

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

In the report area, 23.19% of adults have at least some college education and 29.59% of adults have an associate's level degree or higher. However, 27.22% stopped their formal educational attainment after completing high school, and 7.60% of adults did not complete high school.



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



CHALLENGE 3: Healthy Futures: *Mental Health*

Deaths of Despair

Untreated mental health conditions, substance abuse, and stress have caused an epidemic of "deaths of despair" across the United States. Research shows that deaths due to suicide, alcohol-related disease, and drug overdose have caused the first decreases in U.S. life expectancy in the 21st century. Within the report area there were an estimated 3,325 deaths of despair, or 45.70 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 12.37% since the 2001-2007 report period.

Mortality Rate, 2014-2020

45.70

Report Location



Clay	42.91
Jackson	47.71
Platte	38.48
Missouri	52.01

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

Poor Mental Health Days

Self-reported mental health status is a widely used measure of health-related quality of life. In 2018, adults in the report area averaged of 5.1 mentally unhealthy days per month, which is higher than the state average of 4.9. This measure of mental health status has worsened since 2014, when adults in the report area averaged 4.3 mentally unhealthy days per month.

Average Poor Mental Health Days per Month, 2018

5.1

Report Location



Clay	5.0
Jackson	5.3
Platte	4.5
Missouri	4.9

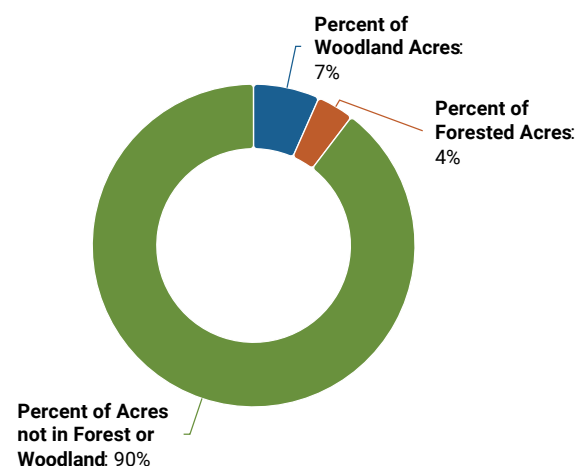
Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System](#). Accessed via [County Health Rankings](#). 2020.



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

31,162

Report Location

Clay	5,348
Jackson	22,716
Platte	3,099
Missouri	1,791,829

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

CLAY COUNTY EXTENSION COUNCIL MEMBERS – 2023

EUGENE SUTER (Chair) (Appointed City of Gladstone - 2022-24) Email: esuter49@gmail.com	ANITA McCULLOUGH (Secretary) (Elected - 2021-2023) Email: anitadawn62@aol.com
MARGARET CHAMAS (Vice Chair) (Appointed/ Farm Bureau – 2020-2022) Email: mwdunn88@gmail.com	TYLER BEDELL (Treasurer) (Elected – 2022-2024) Email: tyler.bedell816@gmail.com
JAMIE DODRILL (Elected – 2022-2024) Email: amealthatcounts@gmail.com	JOHN KILPATRICK (Appt/Elected – 2023-2025) Email: jckilpatrickiniowa@yahoo.com
GRETCHEN HEISLER-LATHROP (Elected – 2022-2024) Email: ghlathrop@sbcglobal.net	SHIRLEY CURTIS-KLEIN (Appointed/Master Gardener Liaison - 2023) Email: shirleytakeahike@gmail.com
DANIEL HARTMAN (Elected – 2023-2025) Email: danieldeanhartman@gmail.com	CHRISTI RICE (Appointed/City of Excelsior Springs 2022-2024) Email: christirice@mac.com
GRETCHEN HEISLER-LATHROP (Elected – 2022-2024) Email: ghlathrop@sbcglobal.net	MEGAN THOMPSON (Appointed/ County Commission 2023-2025) Email: mthompson@claycountymo.gov
	VERN WINDSOR (Appointed City of Liberty 2023-2025) Email: libertypins@gmail.com
	DANA WOOTEN (Elected – 2022-2024) Email: Dn_wooten@yahoo.com
	MADELYN LONG (4-H Youth Representative – 2023) Email: mgl4646@gmail.com

DISTRICT MAP – CLAY



The Extension Council serves as an advocate for University of Missouri Extension in Clay County. Elected and appointed members provide assistance in setting and accomplishing extension education program goals and objectives, developing the annual operating budget, and determining local education priorities.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION SUMMARY

MU EXTENSION CLAY COUNTY GENERAL OPERATION 2021 BUDGET

MU Extension programs serve residents of all ages, racial and socio-economic backgrounds. Extension’s educational programs in Clay County are funded with assistance from the Clay County Commission and are provided by faculty funded by the University of Missouri, with allocations from the USDA and the Missouri State Legislature.

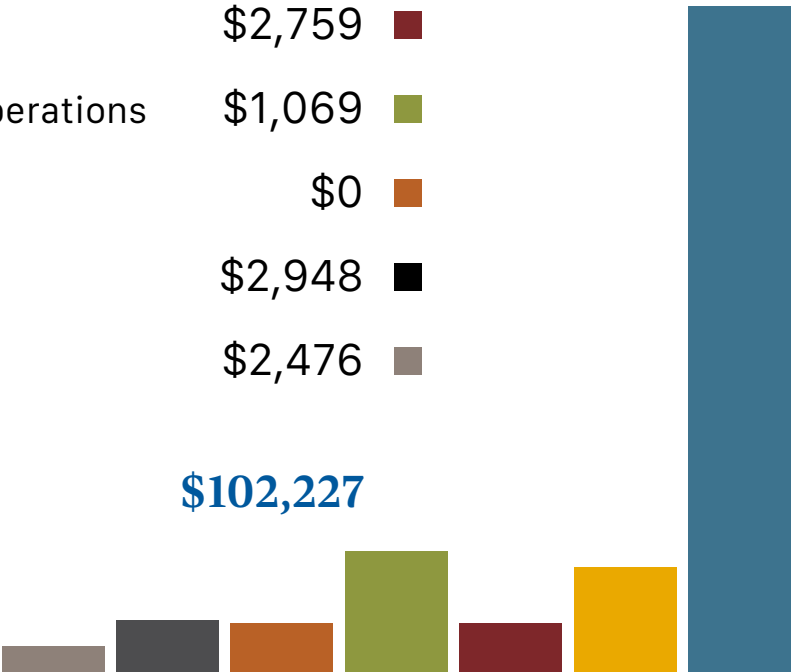
FUNDING	\$82,680	\$83,350
	VALUE OF VOLUNTEERS**	Clay County COMMISSION
	\$1,221	\$1,820
	LOCAL GRANTS & CONTRACTS	EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

EXTENSION COUNCIL OPERATIONS

Salary & Benefits	\$86,902
Supplies/Postage	\$6,073
Contracted Services	\$2,759
Extension Council Operations	\$1,069
Equipment/Furniture	\$0
Travel	\$2,948
Printing/Media	\$2,476

Total Expenses

\$102,227



JACKSON COUNTY EXTENSION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Representatives derive from Blue Springs, Grain Valley, Grandview, Independence, Kansas City, Lee’s Summit, and Raytown, Missouri. Additionally, other participants include: Farm Bureau, and other appointed members to the council as stated per RSMO. 262.563. Within the Extension County Council, there is a minimum of 10 elected members and/or a maximum of 20 elected members. Each member serves a 2-year term, which can result in two consecutive terms.

EXTENSION COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Gloria Austin - Dist. 3**
gaustin3@comcast.net

Rich Boulton – Dist. 3 1
rdboulton@hotmail.com

Angela Brown – Dist. 2
brownfamilyof5@gmail.com

Brien Darby - Dist. 1
brien@cultivatekc.org

Jacquelyn Eidson - Dist. 3
jacquelyn.eidson@gmail.com

Dennis Ellsworth - Grain Valley
dennis11ellsworth@gmail.com

Sonia Nizami - Dist. 2
soniamnizami@gmail.com

Alana Henry - Kansas City
alana.henry17@gmail.com
- Susan Jester - Dist. 3**
rrr-me@sbcglobal.net

Libet Ojeda - Dist. 2
libetojeda@outlook.com

Daniel Robinson - Dist. 1
drobinson@northeastkck.org

Doug Short - Independence
ddshort68@comcast.net

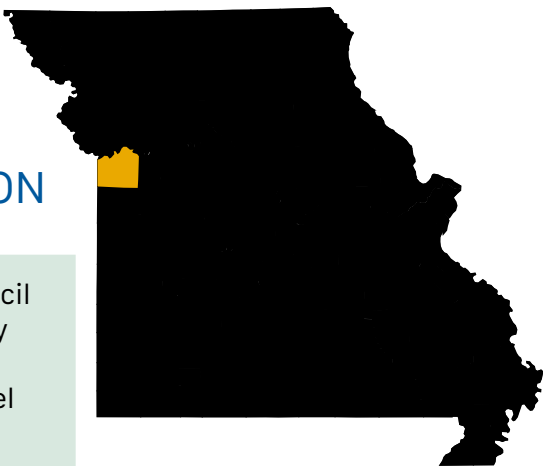
Paul LeVota - Dist. 2
paullevota@gmail.com

EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER ON COUNCIL

Paula German
panderson.german@gmail.com

DISTRICT MAP – JACKSON

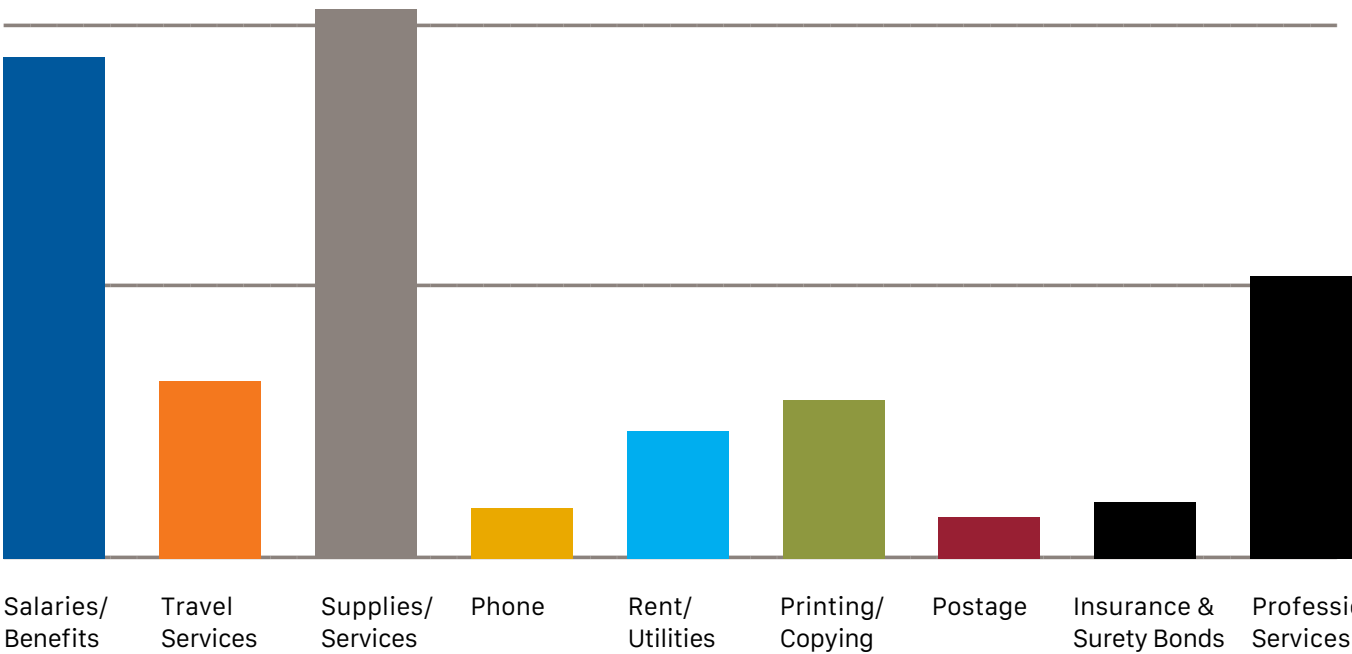
The University of Missouri Extension, Jackson County Council partnered with the University of Missouri and the University of Missouri Extension to meet the needs of citizens within Jackson County. The council assisted with county personnel management, contributed and created a diverse funding portfolio, focused on an annual operating budget, and supported the maintenance of the Extension Centers within Jackson County. These are vital components to the Jackson County community and MU Extension.



2023 GENERAL OPERATION BUDGET

Using university research and science-based knowledge, the University of Missouri Extension works with people to understand change, solve problems and make informed decisions. MU Extension addresses a wide range of needs that fall into three grand challenges for the state of Missouri:

- ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
- EDUCATIONAL ACCESS AND EXCELLENCE
- HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Salaries/Benefits	\$ 27,676
Travel	\$ 6,299
Supplies/Services	\$ 32,303
Phone Services	\$ 839
Rent/Utilities	\$ 3,770
Printing/Copying	\$ 5,559
Postage	\$ 708
Insurance & Surety Bonds	\$ 799
Professional Services	\$ 11,141
TOTAL	\$ 89,098

EXTENSION OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

COUNTY EXTENSION COUNCIL OFFICERS

(INCLUDES COUNCIL DISTRICT AND YEAR TERM ENDS)

Alan Novak CHAIR North Platte 2024	Dalyn Novak VICE CHAIR North Platte 2024	Jen Wymore SECRETARY West Platte Distric 2024	Chance Tacia TREASURER Park Hill District 2024
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COUNTY EXTENSION COUNCIL MEMBERS

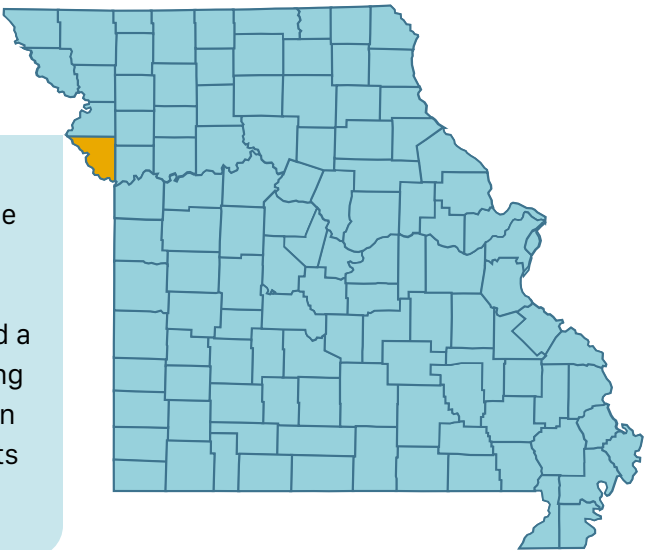
Joe Vanover Appointed - Commissioner 2023	Sharon Downs West Platte District 2024
Eric Bradley North Platte Appointed	James Depriest Farm Bureau At Large
Valerie McCaw Kansas City Appointed 2024	

COUNTY EXTENSION STAFF

4-H Youth Development Field Specialist Justin Strickland	JustinStrickland@missouri.edu
Support Staff Marilyn Whitacre	whitacremg@missouri.edu

DISTRICT MAP – PLATTE

The University of Missouri Extension, Platte County Council partnered with the University of Missouri and the University of Missouri Extension to meet the needs of citizens within Platte County. The council assisted with county personnel management, contributed and created a diverse funding portfolio, focused on an annual operating budget, and supported the maintenance of the Extension Centers within Platte County. These are vital components to the Platte County community and MU Extension.



Funding is a three-way partnership of federal, state and county governments. Federal and state money through the University of Missouri pays for faculty salaries, benefits, training costs, and part of the equipment used in the local office.

INCOME

County funds provide for a portion of the operational expenses as noted in the chart.

County Appropriations	\$30,000
Income	\$5,059
Total Income	\$35,059
Expenses	
Salary & Wages	\$20,700
Payroll Expenses	\$1,066
Travel	\$2,442
Telephone	\$741
Supplies/Services	\$2,946
Financial Audit	\$1,000
Insurance	\$1,676
Miscellaneous	\$412
Advertising	\$1,400
Professional Services	\$1,915
Postage	\$194
Other Expenses	\$536
Total Expenses	\$33,213



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAMS COMPLETED IN 2023:

✦ YPA Leadership:

We have worked to deepen our working relationships and rapport with the YPAs in the Urban West (Shachunda Hampton, Lili Sanchez, Elsa Macedo, and Amy Kllne), helping to shepherd the Urban West 4-H Team and its efforts with local events and community partnerships. We've worked helped to acknowledge (by nominating the Jackson County 4-H Team for a state diversity award) and support their ongoing program efforts in the Region.

✦ 4-H Council & Volunteer Relationships:

I maintained a connection with and understanding of the Jackson County 4-H club leaders via the 4-H Council, Equine Council, volunteer rapport, and member interactions, even after vacating the Field Specialist position in July.

✦ 4-H Shooting Sports:

We helped restart the Urban West's Shooting Sports Program in Jackson County, recruiting volunteers, attending information and training meetings at Lake City Range in Independence, and procuring and securely storing materials (e.g., air rifles, targets, and ammunition) for the program.

✦ 4-H Embryology Program:

We organized and administered the Urban West Embryology Program by purchasing new grant-funded incubators, creating revised inventory lists, procuring and distributing pre-incubated eggs, updating educational materials for teachers, and collecting and selling baby chicks to local farmers at program's end.

✦ 4-H Camps:

We assisted in the planning and the final execution of the West Central Region's 4-H Sumer camp at Bob White campground, which is located within Knob Noster State Park.

✦ Jackson County 4-H Fair:

We facilitated the Jackson County 4-H Fair by securing a new location at Truman Habitat for Humanity's Hiram Young School, and we assisted with the event's set-up, craft judging, show awards, and event tear-down.

✦ Asset Mapping:

We led asset mapping efforts for the Urban West in collaboration with our community partner Truman Habitat for Humanity.

✦ Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA):

We helped facilitate, online and in-person, MU's Neighborhood Leadership Academy (NLA) in the Urban West (also known as the I-70 cohort within NLA).



Extension and Engagement Specialist Community Development—Urban West

Joshua Shinn

Josh holds a BA in Liberal Studies (2006) and an MA in English Composition (2011) from California State University, San Bernardino. He uses his 20+ years of experience in education, administration, and community development to grow programs for youth, veterans, communities of color, and the larger KC Metro.

✦ The Engaged Neighbor Program:

The Urban West was asked to join the Engaged Neighbor Planning Team to help deliver 2023's Missouri Good Neighbor Week in the Urban West. We, along with David Burton and his leadership team, will help to plan, implement, and execute a number of engaged neighbor initiatives (e.g., Missouri Good Neighbor Week, ShowMe Neighborhood Art Week, Won't You Be My Neighbor Day, and Neighboring 101) in the new year.

✦ North KC School District Workshops & More:

We partnered with North Kansas City School District (NKCS) in their College and Career Pathways Program by offering workshops on resume writing, cover letter writing, interview preparation, and technical writing at various North KC high schools.

✦ Historic East Neighborhood Coalition (HENC):

We have been working with the Historic East Neighborhoods Coalition (HENC), an organizing body of neighborhood associations and other community stakeholders that coalesce to improve Kansas City's east side neighborhoods and neighboring communities. Their mission to "...support and empower neighborhood associations with assets geared towards improving living condition in its [12 zip-code] service area" is one that was put to pen, in a large part, due to our help codifying language in ink so they could continue to do the work they do. Their effort to "renew a sense community that embraces excellence, empowerment, and prosperity" for the 3rd Council District in KC required/ requires strategic planning and detailed documentation. This is much of our work with HENC— helping that strategy and documentation along. Thus far with HENC, we've created a detailed service-area map, drafted organizing documents (e.g., a group introduction, a mission statement, a organizational purpose, and a comprehensive plan), and we've compiled district assessment data (e.g., highlights for crime and safety, highlights for veteran resources, highlights for housing, highlights for health, highlights for economic development, highlights for elderly resources, and highlights for disabled resources).

PROGRAMS WERE HELD IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- ▼ **4-H: Blue Springs, Lee's Summit, Independence, Kansas City, Belton, Raytown, Grain Valley, and Bob White Camp Ground in Knob Noster State Park.**
- ▼ **EES: Across Jackson, Clay, Platte Counties, and Statewide.**



- ✦ YPA, Elsa Macedo, demonstrated coding and robotics to youth at MU Earth Day event, April 2023
- ✦ YPAs, Elsa Macedo & Lili Sanchez, delivered Juntos curriculum to Hispanic families
- ✦ YPA, Lili Sanchez, distributed graduation certificates to Juntos students at Nowlin Elementary in Independence, May, 2023
- ✦ MU Alternative Breaks Students clean up Jackson County 4-H storage in November, 2023

THE URBAN WEST DISTRICT OPTION

The Urban West, by way of their Extension Councils in Clay, Platte, and Jackson County, is beginning a campaign to seek the District Option. The District Option enables an Extension District to seek funding through a property tax levy. If said levy is passed, it would change the funding paradigm and continual funding deficit in Urban West Extension, stabilizing the revenue stream and thereby exponentially increasing what we do and how we do it in Urban West Extension. We have already drafted language and documents for the Extension Councils to understand what the District Option is, how they must motion to initiate the process, how they must motion to create the tri-county Extension District, and what to expect and do in the coming year. We will assist with the campaign to raise approximately \$25,000.00 for filing fees to get the measure on the 2024 ballot, and we'll assist with any help the Councils need in order to assure success for the District Option. The Mid-Continent Public Libraries levied a similar tax a few years ago, and that's why they've had a tremendous boon in library infrastructure, programs, and personnel; it's something we are hoping to replicate in Urban West Extension, and we will focus our earnest energies to help make it possible.

MU STUDENT UTILIZATION:

There's a lot of talent, education, and energy that is housed on campus at MU, and it has always been our belief that making use of that talent, education, and energy is one of the best ways to serve local Missouri communities, especially when so many students have community engagement and service baked into their educational journey. The MU Business Administration 3500 course in the Trulaske School of Business offers a cohort of students to work on a local project of our choosing; this is something we have successfully applied for, facilitated, and lead over the past two years, and I will do so again in 2024. We also made and will continue to make use of the Alternative Breaks service-learning project at MU. It offers a cohort of MU students to visit the KC Metro area and perform any local service project we task them with. We had the last Alternative Breaks cohort organize the 4-H storage in our new Jackson County Extension Office at Truman Habitat, and we will look to task a 2024 cohort with something the local office doesn't have the current capacity for, or something that will fulfill a local need, possibly with HENC or the KC Parks & Recreation. The more we can utilize youth from Missouri's system of higher education, the more we can make connections, facilitate service learning, and meet needs both in student-population and in the population-at-large.



COMMUNITY ARTS AND CREATIVE PLACEMAKING

We consult on various projects such as murals, arts related programming, and asset mapping.

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2023

- ✦ This past year we partnered with ArtsKC to expand the KC Metro regional asset mapping dashboard. We worked with the Arts Council of Johnson County to uncover the hidden gems of Johnson County and track the artists and arts organizations throughout the region.
- ✦ We began by mapping out our plan for programming at the Dorothy Day Cabin in Platte County. Programs we are looking to utilize there are 4-H Youth Development, an artist residency, painting classes, writing workshops and story circles, Tai Chi, concerts on the lawn and more!
- ✦ We partnered with downtown Parkville and the Mainstreet Parkville Association to plan and install murals in downtown Parkville. We also partnered with Englewood Arts, the WinC Inclusion Center, and UMKC on a mural project set to be complete Spring 2024.
- ✦ We are laying out plans to revitalize Kessler Park and North Terrace Lake in Northeast Kansas City. We will partner with UMKC graphic design students for an interactive scavenger hunt at North Terrace Lake, which will identify plant and wildlife species, as well as various sights and sounds.

PROGRAMMING

We serve Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties.

- ✦ **Englewood, Parkville, Northeast Kansas City, and more!**
- ✦ **These projects and programs serve area community members and neighbors**
- ✦ **We serve 5,000+**

Elena talking about
Asset Mapping



Field Specialist in Community Development
Elena Stephenson

Is based in Kansas City and well versed in performing, directing, and educating. While raising a fiery redhead, she is an arts education advocate and cultural community activist. She holds a BFA in Acting/Directing from ACU, as well as a MA in Applied Theatre for Colleges and Communities from NYU Steinhardt. She has worked as a teaching artist and curriculum consultant for 15+ years. Her essay "The Fundamentals of the Pedagogy of a Teaching Artist" was published in The Teaching Artist Journal, Vol 1 Issue 15. Before joining the team at The University of Missouri's Extension and Engagement Program, she worked as the Theatre and Performing Arts Coordinator for the award-winning recreation and culture facility, The Johnson County Arts and Heritage Center, located in Johnson County, Kansas.

As a Labor and Workforce Development Specialist, I partner with businesses, communities, students, and labor unions to address emerging workforce development priorities. The three core areas that I address are (1) workforce preparation by providing leadership training, (2) healthier workforce programming that addresses the mental wellness of workers and communities, (3) career pathway exploration and career readiness for secondary students and non-traditional learners.

A LOOK BACK AT 2023

Programs offered in the Urban West Region:

- ✦ Labor and Community Leadership
- ✦ Career Pathway Exploration
- ✦ Regional Workforce Presentations
- ✦ Interview Preparation
- ✦ Labor History
- ✦ Labor Law
- ✦ Solidarity Series

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- ✦ Extension Foundation Fellow, Creating the Next Generation of Mentors
- ✦ Co-developed National Mentorship Platform with the Extension Foundation
- ✦ Co-authored publication, Career and technical education programs in secondary education, and after, impact on workers' success in the construction industry.
- ✦ Relaunched the Labor Law Lunch Series
- ✦ Created new career pathway exploration curricula
- ✦ Created regional workforce presentations
- ✦ Created quarterly workforce newsletters

Labor Law Lunch Workforce Presentation at the
Sheetmetal Workers Training Center, Local 2,
Jackson County



Labor and Workforce Development Specialist — Jackson County
Matt Pezold

As a specialist, Matt promotes the adoption of inclusive and participatory leadership, best practices in mentorship, career pathway exploration, and healthy workplace initiatives. Matt works directly with local students in colleges and high schools, and directly with employers and labor unions to address their local workforce challenges. Local programs include the Labor Studies Certificate (Labor and Community Leadership, Globalization and Workers), Labor Law Lunch Series, Career Pathway Exploration, Labor History, Solidarity Series, regional workforce and economic outlook presentations, and healthy workplace programming.

PROGRAMS WERE HELD IN:

▼ Clay

- ✦ Metro Community College, Maplewood
- ✦ Kearney High School

▼ Jackson

- ✦ University of Missouri-Kansas City
- ✦ Mark One Electric
- ✦ Full Employment Council
- ✦ Van Horn High School
- ✦ Truman Habitat for Humanity
- ✦ Sheet Metal Workers Training Center, Local 2
- ✦ International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Training Center, Local 124

▼ Platte

- ✦ Operating Engineers Training Center Local 101

DIRECT CONTACTS 2023

- ✦ 2,351 total direct contacts

Labor and Community Leadership, UMKC/UMSL Online for-credit course – 15 weeks

- ✦ Urban West: 14 Students
- ✦ Urban East: 11 Students

Urban West Programming

- ✦ 46 Sessions
- ✦ 1,292 direct contacts

Clay County

- ✦ 78 direct contacts

Jackson County

- ✦ 887 direct contacts

Platte County

- ✦ 25 direct contacts

Urban West Unspecified

- ✦ 302 direct contacts

Workforce Navigator Newsletter

is a statewide quarterly newsletter that shares workforce resources, programming, data, and podcasts.

24,717 newsletters were sent
12,523 newsletters were opened
50.7% open rate



SUCCESS STORIES, PARTNERSHIPS AND CUSTOMER/CLIENT QUOTES.

Missouri Works Initiative has continued to grow its pre-apprenticeship program for veterans, women, and persons of color. As they expand the program across the state, MU Extension, and the Labor Ed instructors continue to jointly extend the programming that we deliver to the pre-apprentices. I currently teach labor history for the Kansas City participants, and I am looking to provide interview preparation training in 2024.

Course feedback on Labor and Community Leadership Course from enrolled college students. This is a UMKC/UMSL online for-credit course, that lasts 15 weeks.

“This course made me look at my workplace differently and realize that social activists and labor unions are run by ordinary people just like myself.”

“I think my practice of leadership has changed due to this course and to the variety of perspectives on leadership presented.”

“This class taught me about a broad range of topics: how to be an effective leader, the role of unions in the fight for labor rights.”

This course improved my knowledge of leadership and helped me realize the importance of treating employees like family and with respect no matter their title.

“I learned about the diverse qualities of becoming a leader. It gives me confidence in my abilities and to step up if necessary.”



Volunteer Day, Habitat for Humanity, Jackson County



Mentoring at Mizzou Training, Boone County, HHS Faculty



Labor History Course, Missouri Works Initiative at Full Employment Council, Jackson County

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



The University of Missouri Extension offers free tax preparation and financial education through the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs.

According to the IRS, 1 in 5 people don't take advantage of available tax credits. Claiming certain tax credits and deductions could lower the amount someone owes or result in a larger refund. These are incentives aimed at reducing poverty.

In addition to saving people money by providing free tax preparation, the VITA and TCE programs promote awareness and utilization of these important tax credits.

The target population for the VITA program is taxpayers with low to moderate income - \$60,000 or less in 2023. There is no income restriction for the TCE program. Taxpayers 60 years of age and up are eligible. We focus on taxpayers who would benefit the most from tax credits – families with children, seniors, and people with disabilities. The tax program covers six counties in the Kansas City area: Cass, Clay, Jackson, and Platte (MO) and Johnson & Wyandotte (KS).

Taxpayers are served by volunteers who are trained and certified through the IRS according to their role. Volunteers manage tax sites, prepare taxes, and answer taxpayer questions.

The University of Missouri Extension works with partners in the Kansas City Metro Tax Coalition (KCMTC) to operate the VITA and TCE programs. KCMTC is a group of educators, community service agencies and neighborhood groups. Members of the coalition provide space, staff support, volunteers, resources, promotion, and referrals.



OUR PARTNERS

- | | |
|--|---|
| ➤ Avenue of Life | ➤ Local Investment Commission (LINC) |
| ➤ Belton Senior Center | ➤ LTX Tax Services |
| ➤ Cass County Public Library | ➤ Metropolitan Community College |
| ➤ Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas | ➤ Operation Breakthrough |
| ➤ Community Services League | ➤ The Palmer Center |
| ➤ El Centro Inc. | ➤ PCs for People |
| ➤ Guadalupe Centers Inc. | ➤ Rockhurst University |
| ➤ Kansas City Kansas Community College | ➤ The Whole Person |
| ➤ KC Shepherd's Center | ➤ Truman Heartland Community Foundation |
| ➤ K-State Extension | ➤ UMB Financial Corporation Charitable Foundation |
| ➤ Lead Bank | ➤ University of Missouri Kansas City |
| ➤ Liberty Silver Center | ➤ United Way of Greater Kansas City |



Julie Riddle, Financial Specialist

Julie Riddle, MSW, has worked with free tax preparation in the Kansas City area for the past 20 years. Prior to joining MU Extension, she oversaw financial capability programming at United Way of Greater Kansas City. Ms. Riddle helped to form the KC Metro Tax Coalition and continues to serve in a leadership role.

Lindsay Tarasovic, Financial Specialist

Lindsay Tarasovic is an Extension and Engagement Specialist in the Urban West Region. She started working for the University of Missouri Extension in 2020 as a program coordinator for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance. Lindsay created a virtual process so people could participate during the pandemic. She continues to support the tax program as it grows throughout the Kansas City area.



ACHIEVEMENTS

The University of Missouri Extension and the KC Metro Tax Coalition helped about **4,500** people get their taxes done for *free* this year. Estimated total refunds close to \$4.5 million, plus \$1.5 million in tax credits. It was possible through the generosity and hard work of about 200 volunteers and 25 partners in the community.

MU EXTENSION GROWS VITA/TCE IN KANSAS CITY.

Program coordinators:

- **Renewed 15 partnerships and added 10 new ones in 2022-2023**
- **Recruitment efforts led to a 16% increase in the number of volunteers.**
- **Raised \$10,000 in addition to managing grants from the IRS and United Way**
- **Provided valuable training and support to partners and volunteers.**



TAXPAYER FEEDBACK

"Thank you so very much. You took so much stress off of me and filled me with confidence because my situation was unique, and you went above and beyond to help me."

"Every volunteer was extremely helpful and knowledgeable. This is such a valuable service, and all of my tax anxiety went away. I am beyond thankful."

"The whole process was great. From the person who greets you to the person who prepares the taxes. I can't find one thing I'd change."

"It is such a relief to know someone who knows how to do taxes well is doing them. As a Senior citizen, I appreciate that people are looking out for me. Thank you to the volunteers. Thank you for the partners for their support to make it possible."

VOLUNTEERS AT THEIR BEST



Belton Senior Center



K-State Extension



Tax Counseling for the Elderly Volunteers and Cheryl DeHann, The Palmer Center



Metropolitan Community College Maple Woods

FOOD & NUTRITION PROGRAMS 2023

CLAY, PLATTE, AND JACKSON COUNTIES

✦ Excelsior Springs Community Center	✦ Center for Developmentally Disabled	✦ LAMP – Linwood Area Ministry Place
✦ Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center	✦ Truman Habitat for Humanity	✦ Linwood YMCA
✦ Northland Shepherd's Center	✦ Pheonix Family Services	✦ Oak Grove Manor
✦ Mid-Continent Public Library	✦ Kensington Court Apartments	✦ Southeast Kansas City Library
✦ Kansas City Parks and Recreation	✦ Chaumiere Living Facility	✦ Swope Health
✦ Synergy	✦ Olde Oak Apartments	✦ Sterling Plaza
✦ Embrace Living Facility	✦ Columbus Park Apartments	✦ Ivanhoe
✦ Clay County Senior Services	✦ Tremont Place Apartments	✦ Regency Manor
✦ Care Connect	✦ Willow Estates	✦ Golden Hearts
✦ Dedicated Senior Medical Center	✦ Swope Ridge Gardens	✦ Vine Street Manor
✦ Clay County Health Department	✦ Red Bridge Estates	✦ Citadel
✦ Blue Valley Salvation Army	✦ Palmer Center	✦ Swope Estates
✦ YMCA Head Start	✦ Parkville Living	✦ John Calvin Manor
✦ Chouteau Square Towers	✦ Kearney Senior Center	✦ Fairmont Plaza
✦ Life Unlimited Inc.	✦ Independence Farmers Market	✦ Westport House
✦ St. Paul Community Garden	✦ St. Joseph Place	
	✦ Heritage House	

Direct Contacts: 2,999

Indirect Contacts: ~2,500

Sessions: 320

Events: 63

STAY STRONG STAY HEALTHY

When you support MU Extension's Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program, you help participants increase their ability to complete activities of daily living, physical activity, and improve strength, balance, and flexibility. Regular physical activity results in reduced risk for falls, better overall health, and greater independence. These health benefits decrease the likelihood of a participant losing independence and entering a care facility, which costs on average \$58,000 per year in Missouri. The money saved benefits a community by keeping more discretionary income in circulation locally. It also keeps people actively and independently contributing to society and their communities longer.

- ▼ **Through the on-going partnership with the Kansas City Veterans Administration Hospital's Whole Health Program for veterans, Melissa and Denise were awarded the 2023 MU Extension & Engagement Team Award for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.**

Melissa Cotton

Field Specialists Nutrition & Health

Denise Sullivan

Melissa Cotton is a Field Specialist in Nutrition and Health Education, serving Jackson and Clay Counties. She has worked for the University of Missouri Extension for seven years, providing educational opportunities focusing on nutrition, health, wellness, food safety, physical activity, and chronic disease prevention and self-management. Her local educational programs contribute to MU Extension's long-term goal of improving the national health ranking of Missouri from 40th to 25th.

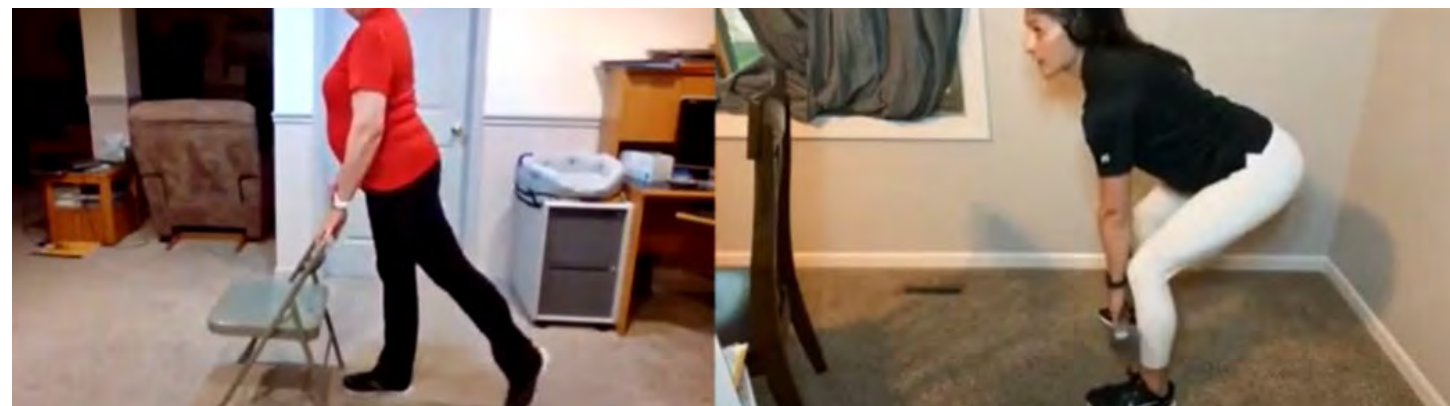
Denise Sullivan is a Nutrition and Health Education Specialist with MU Extension, serving Jackson and Platte counties. She has been an Extension professional for more than 30 years, previously working for K-State Research & Extension and Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Her programming topics include nutrition, health, wellness, food safety, physical activity, and chronic disease prevention and self-management. Her local educational efforts contribute to MU Extension's long-term goal of improving the national health ranking of Missouri from 40th to 25th.



PARTICIPANTS:

"I want to tell you that this class has done everything you advertised it would do. It sort of snuck up on me. All of a sudden, I feel ten years younger. I feel balanced and confident in my movements, and I did not feel that way at the start of this class."

"I notice that I can carry my groceries easier."



TAI CHI FOR ARTHRITIS AND FALL PREVENTION

When you support MU Extension's Tai Chi for Arthritis for Fall Prevention Program, you help participants improve their physical and mental health. This program improves balance, flexibility, pain, stiffness, muscular strength as well as confidence, mood, and energy and is a nationally recognized program supported by the Centers of Disease Control (CDC). With these improvements, participants reduce their risk of falls and fall related injuries. Prevention of a fall is much cheaper than treatment and programs like Tai Chi can keep people living independently and actively contributing to their communities longer.

LIVING A HEALTHY LIFE SELF-MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

When you support MU Extension's Self-Management program, you help participants with chronic pain and other ongoing health conditions learn proven, effective interventions. These interventions can reduce symptoms, give participants the confidence to manage their condition, improve their quality of life and reduce health care costs.

- ✦ **Chronic Disease Self-Management (overall chronic conditions)**
- ✦ **Chronic Disease Self-Management for the Workplace (same content, different time format)**
- ✦ **Chronic Pain Self-Management (focus on chronic pain)**
- ✦ **Diabetes Self-Management (focus on type 2 diabetes)**

PARTICIPANTS:

'The accountability in this class has made a huge, huge difference.'

'This class has unstuck me. I was stuck and this class helped get me going again.'



A MATTER OF BALANCE

When you support MU Extension's A Matter of Balance Program, you help participants reduce their fear of falling and increase engagement in social and physical activity. A Matter of Balance is a nationally recognized program supported by the National Council on Aging. Prevention of a fall is much cheaper than treatment. Programs like A Matter of Balance can decrease unplanned medical costs contributing to health care savings. Improved health allows adults to confidently contribute to the local community as they age.

PARTICIPANTS:

"During this program we talked about getting eyes checked regularly. I felt like something was off with my vision, so I got my eyes checked and found I needed bifocals."

"After completing the Home Safety Checklist, I've called my son to come help me with a few things I need to fix."

TAKING CARE OF YOU

When you support MU Extension's Taking Care of You program, you support the mental health of your community members. This evidence-based self-care and stress management program gives participants the tools they need to effectively deal with the stress of life. Managing life's challenges in a healthy way improves overall health and quality of life.

COOKING MATTERS

When you support MU Extension's Cooking Matters program, you help participants learn smart shopping strategies and healthy cooking skills to prepare nutritious, low-cost meals and snacks at home. Encouraging these healthy behaviors helps reduce health care costs by helping prevent chronic health conditions throughout a person's life span, as well as reducing food waste and cost for a family or individual's budget.

PARTICIPANTS:

"I loved cooking together and trying new recipes."

"New twist on old favorites that are healthier."



FOOD PRESERVATION

When you support MU Extension's Home Food Preservation program, you help participants learn safe, research-based practices and techniques, as well as enhance access to an adequate supply of safe, affordable food, while reducing food waste and food-borne illness from improper handling. This leads to a healthy population, which in turn helps keep healthcare costs in check and our communities viable.

PARTICIPANT

"I'm much more confident in my abilities and feel very capable of doing water bath canning."

"I'm excited to be able to use and save more of my garden goodies."

SENIOR FARMERS MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM

This seasonal program, in partnership with the Missouri Department of Agriculture, provides low-income seniors with vouchers to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from participating local growers.

SFMNP PARTICIPANT:

"I love fresh grown produce but am limited with what I'm able to grow! So it's nice to be able to get some of the things I don't grow!"

PLANTS ON YOUR PLATE NUTRITION COLUMN:

Monthly nutrition column in the Kansas City Gardener, Grain Valley News, Platte County Citizen and Weston Chronicle shares nutrition information, healthy recipe ideas, and encouragement for increased consumption of fruits and vegetables.

ESTIMATED MONTHLY READERSHIP OF 45,000

Articles can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/drivefolders/1UCZmcmOBuNZ2tPFWtUIFyW2IGun1fd32>

Recipe videos can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1Hi2XXKtyA7x1HdkvgLWWQ>

This column was recognized by the National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences as the 3rd place national recipient for Written Media.

- ✦ 535 participants received \$50 in vouchers, for a total of \$26,750 distributed.
- ✦ The collaborative work on this project was recognized by the National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences as the 2nd Place Central Region recipient of the Florence Hall Award.

EFNEP PUBLIC VALUE STATEMENT 2023

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) brought \$1,626,730 federal funds to Missouri. These funds were used to enroll 526 limited-resource families in nutrition education and meal preparation classes, representing 1,926 family members. Additionally, 1,980 youth were enrolled in EFNEP classes.

239 of these youth and adult participants reside in **Clay & Jackson** Counties

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

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

SNAP-ED PUBLIC VALUE STATEMENT 2022

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$10,874,798 in federal funds to Missouri. During FY2023, Missouri's SNAP-Ed program reached over 78,000 Missourians through direct classroom education. Each person participated in an average of 6 hours of education totaling over 15,000 hours. In addition, an additional 760,135 persons participated in indirect education. Direct and indirect education resulted in over 1.8 million total contacts with Missourians.

A total of **1,447** participants were from **Clay, Jackson & Platte** Counties

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.



Chris Cade, Program Manager

Chris graduated from Emporia State University.

Previously worked at Garmin International, and Vin Solutions. Came to MU Extension 5 years ago as an Administrative Support before becoming Program Manager in January of 2022.

FY 23 EFNEP YOUTH PARTICIPATION

COUNTY	SESSIONS	ENROLLED	GRADUATED
CLAY	1	10	10
JACKSON	5	131	113

FY 23 EFNEP ADULT PARTICIPATION

COUNTY	TOTAL
CLAY	1
JACKSON	89

FY 23 SNAP PARTICIPATION

COUNTY	TOTAL
CLAY	138
JACKSON	1199
PLATTE	110

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - CLAY COUNTY



COMMUNITY CLUBS:

Clay County community clubs are comprised of 210 outstanding members across 6 entities including: Smithville, Gladstone, North Kansas City, Excelsior Springs, and Kearney. Throughout our county 50 local businesses and generous donors have shown their support of the County Fair, where youth showcase what they've learned through demonstration. A notable achievement of 2023 for one of our youth members receiving the esteemed "Best in Show" at the Missouri State Fair for a cake decorating demonstration, surpassing submissions from 114 other Missouri counties. Our Clay County Shooting Sports program, which has 35 consistent youth enrollments, also received recognition and awards at regional and state levels in 2023.

Diversifying our global outreach, two Clay County youth actively participated in the 4-H Global Exchange program, fostering international connections and cultural understanding. Noteworthy is the fact that Clay County represented 25% of the entire state's participation in this program. One participant traveled to Costa Rica, while another ventured to Korea. Additionally, two outstanding Clay County representatives took part in the National 4-H Congress. Our members also participated in a service project dedicated to acknowledging first responders and emergency service personnel.

HOW WE DO IT

- 5 -Camps
- 7-School enrichment programming
- 4-Community centers
- 4-H Council & 4-H Extension Council
- 6- Community Clubs
- 2- Day of Service
- Recruitment



Shianna Burgett – Youth Development, Field Specialist — Clay County

• Started with MU Extension: October 2022

Experience/Professional Growths: Shianna has 10 years of experience working with students and families of at-risk populations in the non-profit sector, with 6 years in K-12 schools. Shianna holds a Master of Arts in Teaching, Secondary Education and places high priority on continued education and professional development. Shianna believes in the importance of educational opportunity and access to experiential learning for underrepresented youth.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - CLAY COUNTY

PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING:

Our dedication to community outreach continued through grant-funded SNAC (Student Nutrition Advisory Council) at Excelsior Springs Community Center and North Kansas City School District, where we taught in 4 elementary schools and 1 middle school. 4-H made a substantial impact on NKCS students learning through gardening, theatre arts, youth futures life skills, and pet care. Thanks to the generous support from North Kansas City Harrah's Charitable Fund and Hallmark Corporate in Liberty, MO, who's monetary donations fortified our ability to provide impactful programming in Clay County.

REGIONAL PROGRAM COLLABORATION:

Collaboration extended beyond county borders, as we partnered with neighboring counties, Jackson and Platte, to host a comprehensive summer day camp. Achieving a remarkable 97% returning participant rate, the camp featured project track learning sessions for hands on learning. A returning favorite, the Urban West Embryology project saw active participation from 52 school groups, 1100 students contributing to the region's educational initiatives. The Embryology program provides engaging, action-oriented, experiential curriculum for use in classrooms.

WHERE WE DO IT**Camps- 3-5 days each**

- Spring Break - Liberty
- Regional Day - Platte Co
- Adkins-Johnson Farm Mini Camps- Gladstone
- Friday Night Live - KCMO
- 4-H Explore Camps - Liberty

School Enrichment Programs

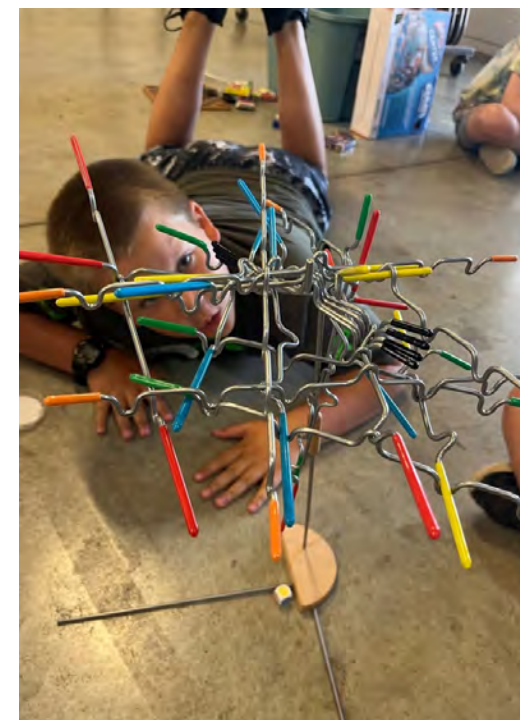
- 5- Elementary Schools K-5 Lakewood, Gashland, Linden West, Ravenwood, Maplewood,
- 1- 6th GradeCenter East Gate
- Maple Park Middle School AVID

Community Centers

- Excelsior Springs >Kids in the Kitchen
- KC Parks & Recreation >KC Parks & Rec Week- >STEM & Nature
- Smithville Park and Rec >Science in the Park >Kids in the Kitchen
- Kearney Firehouse Spark Studio
- 4-H Councils >Attended 90% meetings. >Created agendas and monthly newsletters
- 6 Community Clubs
- Day of service



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - CLAY COUNTY



Our programs are designed to be inclusive and welcoming to all youth, regardless of their background or experience level. We believe that everyone has something to learn and something to offer, and we strive to create a supportive and empowering environment for all participants. In addition to our youth programming, we also offer a variety of resources and support for parents, educators, and community members who are interested in promoting youth



development and education. This includes training and workshops, access to research and best practices, and opportunities for networking and collaboration. Being able to teach the teacher was such an amazing opportunity.

At the heart of our work is a commitment to helping young people develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence they need to succeed in life. By providing engaging and meaningful learning experiences, we hope to inspire a lifelong love of learning and a passion for making a positive difference in the world.



Inclusive & Welcoming to ALL Youth

Amy Kline - 4-H Youth Program Associate

• Started with MU Extension: June 2022

Amy has 15 years' experience volunteering in various youth development roles. She has a background focused on sports medicine and business management. Amy is currently attaining her Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing. Then she plans to continue to achieve her Master's degree in Human Resources. Her passion to empower youth has been taken to the next level thanks to her new role with MU Extension. She believes she can make a difference one child at a time.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - JACKSON COUNTY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

KC Parks and Rec Summer Program Series – reached 87 youth participants through a series of STEM programming during summer in partnership with KC Parks and Rec. Youth participants were exposed to a variety of team-oriented activities that helped spark their imagination and creativity while improving their problem-solving skills.

Programming in the Kansas City Public School District

– reached 59 youth through several Kids in the Kitchen (KIK) programs at George Washington Carver and Holliday Montessori schools. These students learned to prepare simple, healthy foods they can make for themselves and their family members through hands-on cooking experiences. 68 more students from Carver and Holliday Montessori participated STEM programming both afterschool and during summer 2023.

Eating from the Garden (EFTG) Program – Elsa Macedo co-taught a series of gardening lessons with Horticulture Instructor, Catherine Bylinowski at Youth Volunteer Corps of America. A total of 9 youth attended the gardening sessions, these youth also helped harvest over 40 pounds of potatoes and greens from the garden, these vegetables were donated to Nourish KC. Not only did the youth participants learn about healthier food choices, gardening knowledge and physical activity but they also helped impact their community in a positive way.

Soccer for Success (SfS) – Under the umbrella of the CYFAR grant and the U. S. Soccer Foundation is a sports-based youth development program that creates positive social change through a series of fun and engaging lessons that incorporate nutrition and social emotional components to promote healthy lifestyles for youth and their families. Participants learned about healthy eating and other ways to stay healthy and active through an integrated curriculum that is fun and engaging. In 2023, 17 youth participated in a Soccer for Success program in Jackson County.

Juntos 4-H Parent Workshop – Youth Program Associates, Liliana Sanchez, Elsa Macedo and Sha'Chunda Hampton helped serve 8 youth participants, along with their families, in a second cohort of Juntos 4-H Parent Workshops at Clifford H. Nowlin Middle School. Families participated in a five-week middle school workshop series. Presentations and other resources were provided to families and their youth to help them gain the knowledge and skills they need to bridge the gap between high school and higher education. The workshop series includes dinner for families.



PROGRAMS/CLUBS

- **KC Parks and Rec Summer Program Series**
- **STEM 4-H programming in partnership with KC Parks and Rec.**
- **Tony Aguirre - 25 participants**
- **Line Creek - 9 participants**
- **Hillcrest - 25 participants**
- **Southeast - 28 participants**

Elsa Macedo 4-H Youth Program Associate

- Started with MU Extension: July 2018

Experience/personal growth: Having worked over 8 years with youth in the Jackson County-Kansas City area. I have been with MU Extension 4-H for the last 4 years, started in the 49H Afterschool network in the Grandview school district, transitioned to 4-H SNAC and currently doing 4-H SNAC, Soccer for Success and Juntos 4-H Programs, a college and career readiness program for youth and their families, throughout the county. MU Extension and 4-H has allowed me to expose youth to new programs, learn new skills, find their passion, and encourage them to try something out of the ordinary to try their best, always.

- Specialty programming: Soccer for Success, Juntos 4-H, SNAC programs, STEM programs, camp



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - JACKSON COUNTY

Juntos 4-H After-school club – Youth program associates, Liliana Sanchez and Sha'Chunda Hampton established the first Juntos 4-H After-school club at Van Horn High school. 24 youth were served through this year-round club. Elsa Macedo assisted with tutoring some students and Matt Pezold, Labor, and Workforce Development Specialist, did a presentation during one of the sessions.

Missouri 4-H College & Career Pathways Conference (MO 4-H CCPC) – Juntos 4-H and Youth Futures participants from Jackson and from other counties were invited to attend the MO 4-H CCPC. Youth participants had the opportunity to live a campus experience with overnight stays on the University of Missouri-Columbia campus. In addition to the overnight stays, youth participants attended a series of workshops and social events. A total of 48 youth participants attended the Missouri 4-H College & Career Pathways Conference.

Urban West Embryology – The Urban West Region implemented two Embryology sessions. Educators throughout the region were provided with experiential activities relating to life science and were able to hatch chicks in their own classrooms. Their students were able to see the incubating, hatching process as well as being able to interact with the chicks after hatching. 366 youth were reached in the first embryology session in Jackson County and 658 youth were reached in the second embryology session in Jackson County. 46% of the total registrants on both sessions participated in the embryology program for their first time this year. According to the teacher evaluation for the

program, 96% of the teachers said they observed a positive change of attitude in their students during and after the program. 98% of the teachers said they'd recommend the embryology program to others.



TEACHER FEEDBACK

"Students were very excited, compassionate, engaged, and invested in the development of the chicken while inside and outside of the eggs. Word spread quickly and students from all grades and school staff were checking in and following the process. Always a wonderful experience"

"We love doing the chicks. Our kids don't get to experience anything like this outside of school so they love participating. It brings the class together and builds community. It teaches empathy and compassion"

Liliana Sánchez 4-H Youth Program Associate

- Started with MU Extension: January 2013

Experience/personal growth: I have been working with youth in the Kansas City area for about 14 years. I have been with MU Extension/4-H for the last 9 years, working in after school programs in Hickman Mills and Kansas City school districts teaching 4-H positive youth development in the after school programs. I am currently implementing Soccer for Success programs in the Independence School District. This year I will be implementing Youth Futures/Juntos which are college and career readiness programs. These programs are culturally relevant and bilingual educational programming for the community. I am a Kansas City native and am bilingual in Spanish and English.

- Specialty programming: Soccer for Success, Juntos 4-H, STEM programs, camps



4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - JACKSON COUNTY



JACKSON COUNTY TEAM

- Two Embryology Sessions
- College and Career Pathways Conference
- Parent Workshops at Clifford H Nowlin – 9 families
- Van Horn Youth Futures/Juntos 4-H Afterschool club



PROGRAMS/CLUBS

Eating from the Garden Club

with Catherine Bylinowski

- Youth Volunteer Corps 9 participants

Holliday Montessori summer programming

- Kids in the Kitchen 15 participants
- STEM 15 participants

George Washington Carver In-school and Afterschool Clubs

- Kids in the Kitchen 25 participants
- Kids in the Kitchen 19 participants
- STEM 36 participants
- STEM 17 participants

Red Bridge Elementary (23 – 24 4-H year)

- Soccer for Success 24 participants
- Kids in the Kitchen 33 participants

ShaChunda Hampton Youth Futures Mentor/4-H Youth Program Associate

- Started with MU Extension: January 2008

Experience/personal growth: I have been with MU Extension for 14 years, providing a diverse youth population with the skills to become productive citizens in their communities. Project-based learning keeps kids engaged in ways that typical classroom-based education often doesn't. With the hands-on approach, I'm helping to develop skills like collaboration, critical thinking, communication. I provide countless hours of mentorship with specialized 4-H programs to community service projects in the community to conversations in the hallway. I think it is essential for youth to learn things they may not necessarily be exposed to in their daily lives, which provides learning opportunities from me and the learning I received from them to mentor each other continually.

- Specialty programming: Healthy Habits, Teen Camp, Afterschool and Community Partner Programs SNAC Nutrition Programs



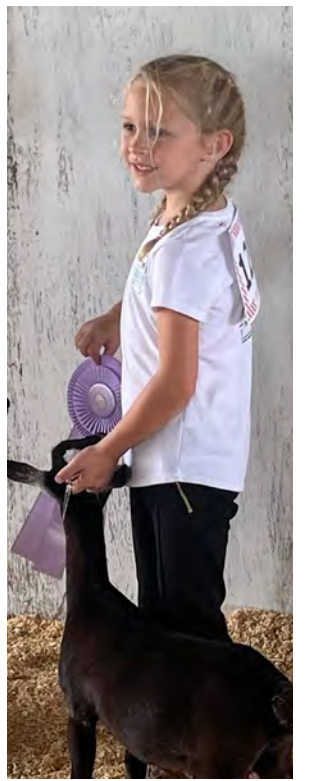
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - PLATTE COUNTY

4-H GROWS HERE:

PROGRAMS :

Embryology – This year Platte County participated in Embryology, a program designed to teach youth about the life cycle. They learn how to take care of baby chicks as unhatched eggs and incubators were distributed throughout the county. These brave youth were tasked with walking the unhatched chicks through the final stage of their incubation period. This partnership allows for Platte County 4-H to participate with several schools around the county and giving our teachers a wonderful hands-on opportunity to teach science to our youth.

Summer Day Camp – We co-hosted Clover Kids camp in June with Clay County 4-H at the Platte County Fairgrounds. This camp was all about the youth and teaching them skills. They were visited by a Pet Care Specialist who taught them about animals' shelters and how to take care of animals. They also learned how to do archery safely as safety instructor came out and showed them the correct way to shoot and how to hit the bull's eye. On the last day they went fishing and got to experience one of the many lovely parks in the Platte County area. Overall, thanks to the planning and execution of Amy Kline, Clay County YPA and some really great volunteers we were able to provide a truly enjoyable experience for our youth.



Justin Strickland – 4-H Field Specialist

Justin is a Kansas City native with ties to education in his blood. Growing up around a lifelong educator, his mother, he learned early on the power and importance of youth development. After graduating college at Culver-Stockton College with a degree in Sport Management he returned to the Kansas City area to serve the youth in various capacities. He went back to school at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary to receive a Masters of Theology in Leadership and used that to develop youth across the metro area. Justin has expertise in college readiness, leadership development, and program development that he brings to Platte County 4-H as he's excited to be a part of the growth in the area.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT - PLATTE COUNTY

SPIN CLUBS –

We had three clubs that met throughout the year.

Horsemanship – A great opportunity for youth to learn all about horses. They learned things like how horse keep their teeth healthy, how to ride, and much more. Their year culminated in them attending the horse show in Platte County where our youth performed excellently! Thanks to our great volunteer Karen Holland for leading this amazing club.

Shooting Sports – We had a great year in Shooting Sports having several youth participate in the state tournament. After training all year and being led by Scott Wilkerson and Jack Remboldt we had four of our youth earn five ribbons and four medals at the state tournament. Emma Marshall, James Marshall, Nathan Witham, and Lyla Porter definitely made Platte County 4-H proud!

Livestock Club – Livestock Club was a great opportunity for our youth to showcase their knowledge on livestock. We had youth raising goats, cattle, and more! They learned responsibility as they cared for their various animals throughout the year. Their year culminated in the Platte County fair where several of our youth earned medals for their animals. Thanks to Jennifer Dehn for leading this group and helping our young people achieve great projects.



SHOOTING SPORTS STATE TOURNAMENT

5 RIBBONS

4 MEDALS

HORTICULTURE

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

HOME HORTICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

Focused program that provides research-based horticulture information for gardeners and homeowners. Educational training is provided through courses, workshops, demonstration plantings, newsletters, and webinars. Trainings offered include ornamental, fruit and vegetable plantings, benefits of native plants, insects in the garden, honey bees, and pollinator stewardship. Additionally, two downtown, grant-funded pantry gardens were planted, maintained, and harvested by volunteers and led by Cathy Bylinowski, Horticulture Instructor, with produce donated to local food pantries.

EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS (EMG)

This program provides in-depth horticulture training for Missourians who wish to grow their knowledge of gardening. This program prepares volunteers to answer horticulture questions frequently asked by the community, based on unbiased, research-based gardening information. EMGs educate the public through various adult and children programs, 16 demonstration/partnership gardens, a speakers bureau, garden tours, and they offer a gardening hotline (816-833-TREE [8733]; mggkc.hotline@gmail.com).

MISSOURI MASTER NATURALISTS (MMN)

This program, in partnership with Missouri Department of Conservation, improves the understanding of natural resource ecology and management, and enhanced existing natural resource education. This program provides the framework for conducting volunteer educational programs towards management of natural resources.

EXTENSION GARDEN STEWARD (EGS)

This program is for those who want to learn gardening basics by promoting successful growing and a healthy environment. This 5-week series covers site assessment, 3-season veggie gardening & food safety, ornamentals, entomology and IPM, pollinator habitat & environmental stewardship.

MISSOURI MASTER POLLINATOR STEWARD (MPS)

This program is for those who desire to learn about the plight of pollinators and how to become environmental stewards to improve pollinator habitat. The curriculum covers five chapters of information on insects, pollination, honey bees, native pollinators and conservation, and includes several hands-on activities.



Tamra Reall, Ph.D. Field Specialist Horticulture – Jackson, Clay, and Platte

With degrees in horticulture, entomology, and teaching, she passionately engages the public in science outreach. She works closely with Cathy Bylinowski to lead the Extension Master Gardeners in Greater Kansas City and to manage volunteer gardens in Kansas City. Tamra co-advises the Osage Trails Master Naturalist Chapter, writes the “Kids ask Dr. Bug” column, and shares horticulture and entomology information.

Cathy Bylinowski, Horticulture Instructor

HORTICULTURE



MMN volunteers harvesting native plant seeds at Jerry Smith Farm Park organized by KC Wildlands.

PROGRAM IMPACTS

- Active* volunteers = 471 (* = volunteers reporting hours, Emeriti, and newly trained)
- Volunteer service = 24,174 hours for a value of \$768,733 (based on 2023 Independent Sector Volunteer Time Value of \$31.80/hr)
- Volunteer education = 3,738 hours of continuing education
- Pounds of food donated = 13,495 (6.7 tons) of fresh produce, or 40,485 servings of fresh fruits and vegetables from pantry gardens to those in need (1 lb = 3 servings)
- Events = 134
- People served directly = 9,501
- Indirect contacts = 6,647,000
- Gardening videos created = 26 publicly available, 72,535 views, 566 subscribers
- Community partners = 86 organizations in KC

PROGRAM RESULTS

- Extension Master Gardeners of Greater Kansas City volunteered 12,119 service hours and 1,813 education hours were performed by 290 active chapter members. Over 6,300 lives were touched by EMG programming including various public programs at gardens, 26 Speakers Bureau presentations, 500+ questions answered by the Hotline volunteers, children participated in the Garden 'n Grow program, and the Urban Green Dreams program for urban core schools. Additionally, there were over 72,535 views on the MUE Bug n' Garden YouTube channel, including 26 videos created by the EMGs with 14 #TuesdayTip gardening videos and 12 Kids Ask Dr. Bug videos.
- Food donations: EMGs and local business volunteers grew, harvested, and donated 13,495 pounds of produce and donated to local food pantries.
- Missouri Master Naturalists of the Osage Trails Chapter volunteered 11,994 service hours and 1,925 advanced training hours were performed by 147 active chapter members. A MMN training was held and 42 people participated. MMNs cared for native plant gardens, harvested native plant seeds, removed invasive species, hosted local stream cleanups, participated in bird counts, and much more with our partners in KC.
- The Extension Garden Steward program trained 41 participants in the program.
- 21 senior volunteers joined our Platte County AmeriCorps RSVP program for a total of 34 volunteers volunteering 61 hours in the community.
- The Missouri Master Pollinator Steward course was offered with 42 participants from Kansas City, throughout Missouri and the US, and South Africa.
- The Garden Hour with MU Extension weekly Wednesday webinars reached over 2,400 Missourians.
- The Kids Ask Dr. Bug column is published monthly in the Kansas City Gardener magazine (~1,00,000 readers/year) and the Garden Spade Newsletter (~19,250 readers/year).
- Social Media Engagements (@MUExtBugNGarden) are found on Facebook, Instagram, X, BlueSky, and YouTube.

EXTENSION MASTER GARDENERS

Extension Master Gardeners of Greater Kansas City volunteered 12,119 service hours and 1,813 education hours were performed by 290 active chapter members. Over 6,300 lives were touched by EMG programming including various public programs at gardens, 26 Speakers Bureau presentations, 500+ questions answered by the Hotline volunteers, children participated in the Garden 'n Grow program, and the Urban Green Dreams program for urban core schools. Additionally, there were over 72,535 views on the MUE Bug n' Garden YouTube channel, including 26 videos created by the EMGs with 14 #TuesdayTip gardening videos and 12 Kids Ask Dr. Bug videos. EMGs also worked with 53 community partners in 2023.

Harvest totals and where food was donated are found in the table below. Please note that the 5,921 pounds of food that the EMG grew is included in the overall horticulture total of 9,171 pounds grown and donated.

12,119
Service Hours

1,813
Education Hours

290
Active Members

6,300
Lives Touched



MMN trainees observing native plants. Photo by Tamra Reall.

Community Project Gardens	Where Produce is Donated	2023 Total (lbs)
18B	Harvesters; After the Harvest; Nourish KC	564
Atkins- Johnson Farm Heirloom Vegetable Garden	St. Charles Food Pantry Synergy Services Battered Women's Shelter	2271
Children's Mercy Hospital Garden	Kambe's Market	458
Green Garden at REAP	Raytown Emergency Assistance Program	706
Harvesters Demonstration Garden	Harvesters	1012
Kansas City Community Garden Demonstration Garden	Jewish Family Services	767
Platte County Community Garden	Local Food Pantry	118
Project Living Proof	Jewish Family Services	357
Silvia Bailey Demonstration Garden	Lee's Summit Service League Food Pantry	650
Watkins Mill Historic Garden	Good Samaritan Food Pantry Division of Youth Services	630
Wornall House	Raytown Emergency Assistance Program	45

MISSOURI MASTER NATURALIST

The Osage Trails chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalist volunteered 11,994 service hours and 1,925 advanced training hours were performed by 147 active chapter members. A MMN training was held and 42 people participated. MMNs cared for native plant gardens, harvested native plant seeds, removed invasive species, hosted local stream cleanups, participated in over 40 citizen science projects involving birds, bumblebees, butterflies, snails, fungi, soil, and more. MMNs worked with 22 community partners in 2023.



AGRONOMY - PLATTE COUNTY

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Category Report

Wayne Flanary
Field Specialist in Agronomy
Contact Phone
Contact Email

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Covering Buchanan, Platte, Clay, Atchison, Holt, Nodaway and Clinton Counties
Northwest Region

AG UPDATES AND PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

This training educated crop producers for safe handling and application of restricted use pesticides. Participants learned about pest identification, economic thresholds and injury levels, emergency planning procedure and the environmental ramification of improper pesticide application. More than 270 participants initiated or renewed a license, including 24 in Andrew County, 34 in Holt County, 23 in Atchison County, 46 in Nodaway County, 19 in Gentry County, 13 in Clinton County, 19 in Caldwell County, 11 in Worth County, 28 in Daviess County, 25 in Platte and Clay Counties. Ag staff then followed Private Applicator Training with "hot topics" in fields of ag in Horticulture, Ag Engineering, Agronomy, Livestock and Ag Business. Further regional Private pesticide applicator training was held monthly in Buchanan County reaching an additional 33 producers.



Private Pesticide Applicator Training
and Ag Update in Oregon, Methodist
Church Basement

Picture right, one high-school students learn by hands-on activities. They identified both corn and soybean traits and used a quiz of multiple-choice answers to learn. Before the session ended, Wayne provides the answers to each of the samples and answers any additional questions. More than 170 students attended this event.

GRAVES CHAPPLE STUDENT FIELD DAY



TAR SPOT IN CORN INQUIRIES

Estimated losses to this corn disease between 2018 and 202 are approximately 242.6 US million bushels, which is approximately \$900 million. Yield losses are due to reduced grain fill, kernel abortion and reduced test weight. MU requested field specialists in agronomy monitor Tar Spot spread and severity. It is now in my assigned counties and growers should be prepared for a plan of action next year. More than 65 producer phone calls and conversations were had regarding this new corn disease.



Above, tar spot infected corn leaf
spotted in Holt County.

Ag Category Update

NEW BUILDING FUNDED AT GRAVES CHAPPLE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER SOUTH OF ROCK PORT



BUILDING RIBBON CUTTING WITH MU PRESIDENT CHOI HOLDING RIBBON ON RIGHT



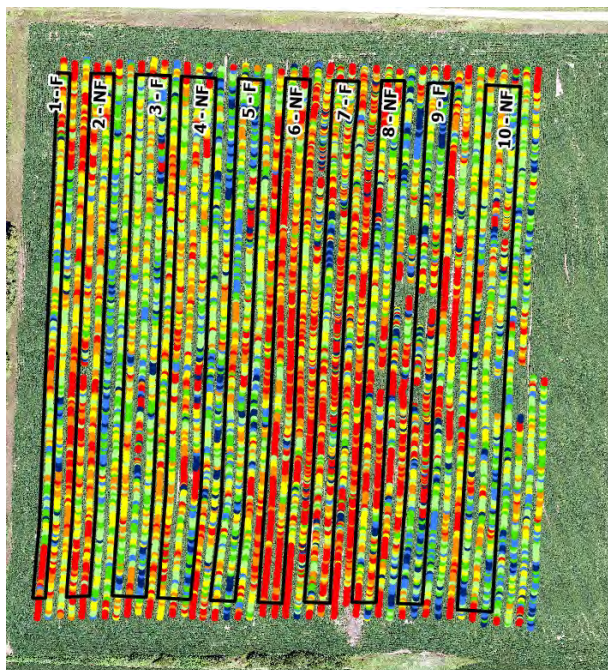
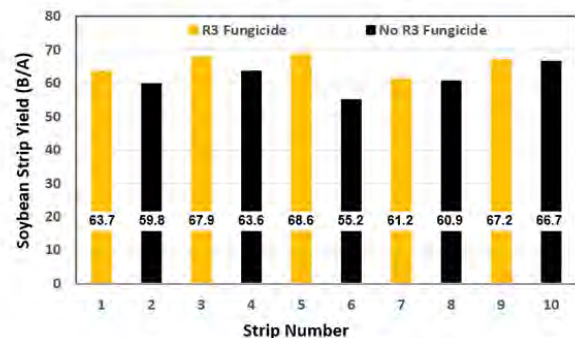
Wayne Flanary Field Specialist in Agronomy

Wayne has spent 41 years in working as an agronomist for University of Missouri Extension and with Industry. He is a Certified Professional Agronomist and Certified Crop Adviser with the Agronomy Society of America.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

Soybean R3 Fungicide Trial
Site 2303 **Andrew County**
There is a high probability that R3 fungicide application increased yield. There is an 85% probability it increased yield 1 B/A and a 50% probability it increased yield more than 4.5 B/A.

Treatments	Mean (SD)	Delta Control
<i>bushels/acre</i>		
All strips	63.5 (4.3)	---
Control (N)	61.2 (4.3)	---
R3 Fungicide (F)	65.7 (3.2)	+4.5



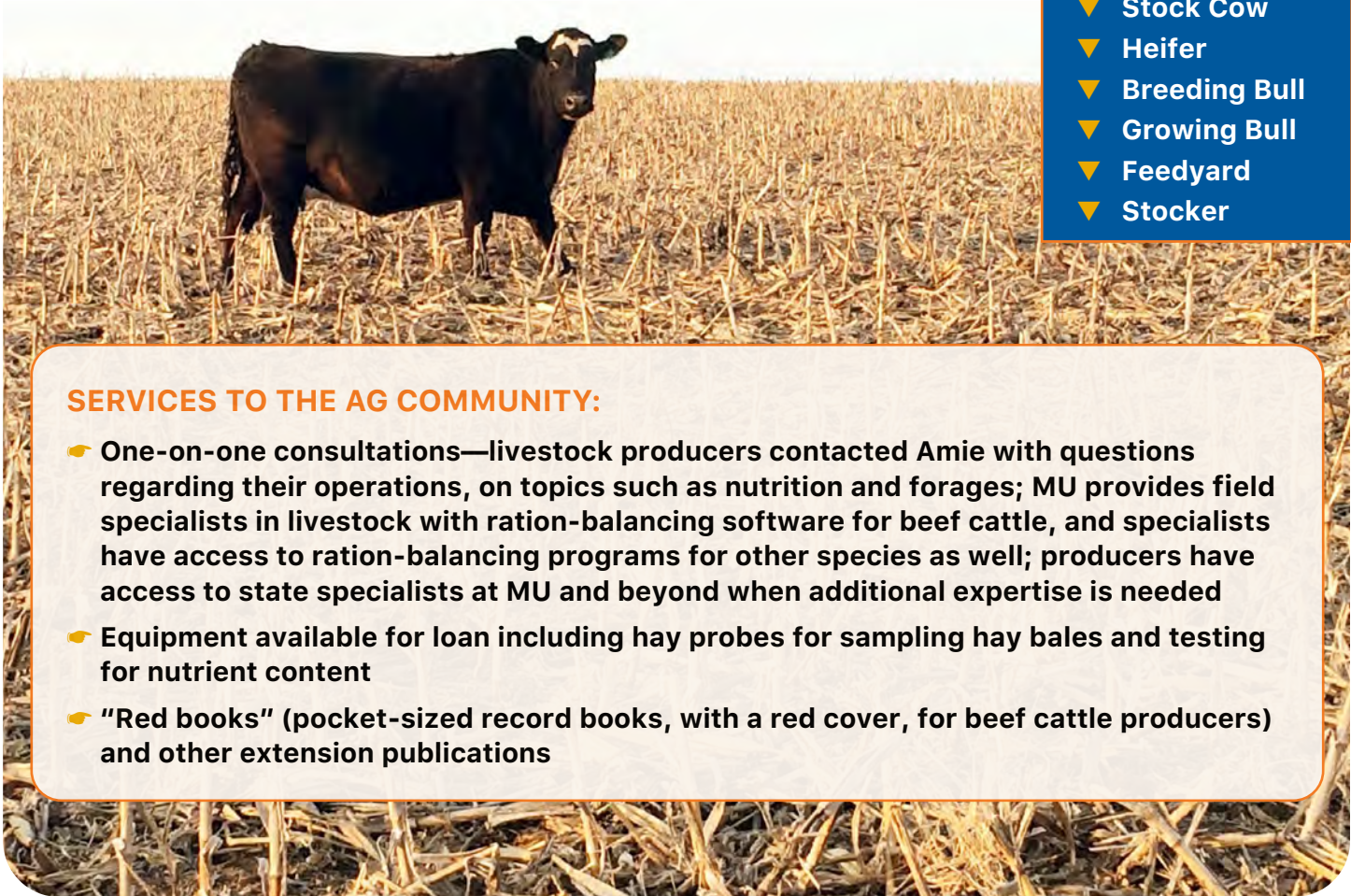
MU works with producers across the state with on-farm trials. Above, this example contains data of the 2023 results of a producer located in Andrew County.

FORAGE AND LIVESTOCK SERIES

Animal agriculture is an important part of the communities and economies in the counties in the urban west region. This area is home to numerous livestock operations, veterinary clinics, ag agencies, and farm product and service suppliers (feed, equipment, etc.).

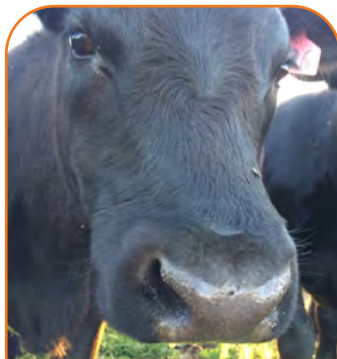
PROGRAMS THAT SERVE THE AG COMMUNITY:

- ▼ **Livestock update as part of the private pesticide applicator training—Amie Schleicher was one of a group of specialists who contributed updates to the ag update meeting after the private pesticide applicator training.**
- ▼ **Show-Me Quality Assurance (SMQA) training—Amie was a part of a team of specialists and staff who offered and delivered a Show-Me Quality Assurance (SMQA) training for 4-H members in multiple counties in the urban west and northwest**



SERVICES TO THE AG COMMUNITY:

- ▶ **One-on-one consultations—livestock producers contacted Amie with questions regarding their operations, on topics such as nutrition and forages; MU provides field specialists in livestock with ration-balancing software for beef cattle, and specialists have access to ration-balancing programs for other species as well; producers have access to state specialists at MU and beyond when additional expertise is needed**
- ▶ **Equipment available for loan including hay probes for sampling hay bales and testing for nutrient content**
- ▶ **"Red books" (pocket-sized record books, with a red cover, for beef cattle producers) and other extension publications**



Beef Rationing & Nutrition Decision Software Modules:

- ▼ Dairy Cow
- ▼ Stock Cow
- ▼ Heifer
- ▼ Breeding Bull
- ▼ Growing Bull
- ▼ Feedyard
- ▼ Stocker

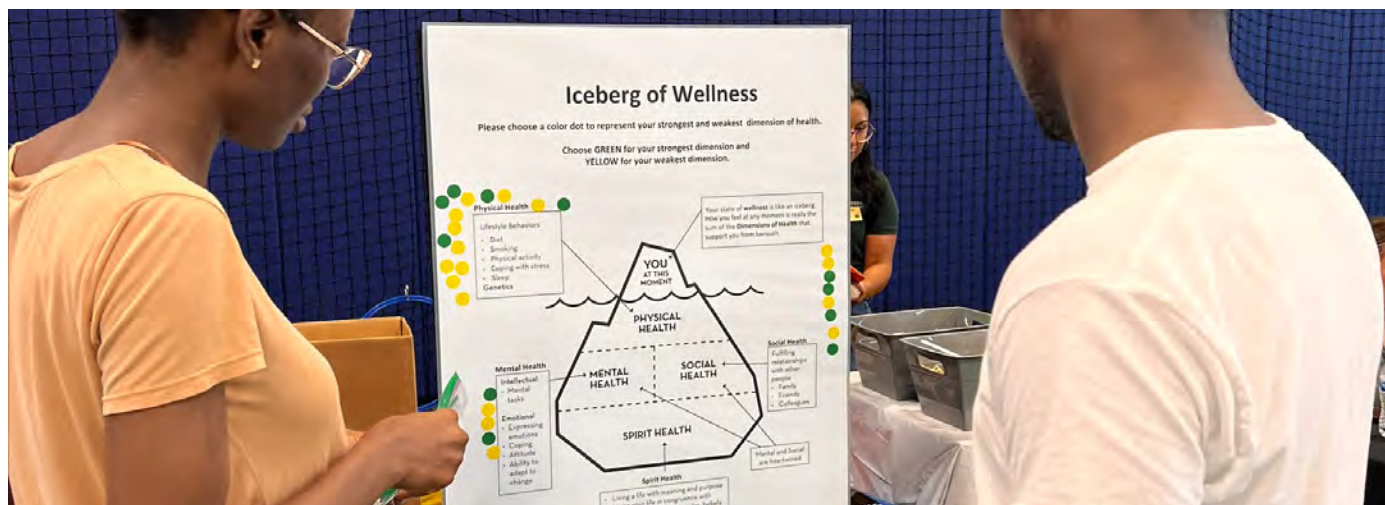
Amie Schleicher – Livestock Field Specialist Clay & Platte

Her educational background includes a BS in animal science from the University of Nebraska and a MS in ruminant nutrition from the University of Wyoming. Amie works with livestock producers in all aspects of livestock production, but especially enjoys working in the areas of livestock nutrition, forages, and youth livestock projects.



COMMUNITY HEALTH ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH – URBAN WEST

The Community Health Engagement & Outreach (CHEO) division of MU Extension prioritizes optimal health and well-being for every Missourian at every stage of life. To accomplish this aim, our regional Community Health Specialist (CHS) seeks and forms partnerships with local entities addressing the unique needs of their communities. In 2023, the Urban West CHS attended several local meetings and participated in community events to learn more about Clay, Jackson, and Platte counties, as well as address regional needs through innovative means and promotion of relevant MU programming.



CHEO programs offered throughout Missouri include WeCanPROSPER Resilience Training (WRT) and Recovery Friendly Workplace.



Resilience is the capacity to adapt when faced with adversity. **WeCanPROSPER Resilience Training** is a 2.5 hour training for participants to evaluate their personal resilience, tap into resources and create an action plan to enhance their resilience.

100% of participants indicate that the skills and techniques they learned will help them become MORE RESILIENT.

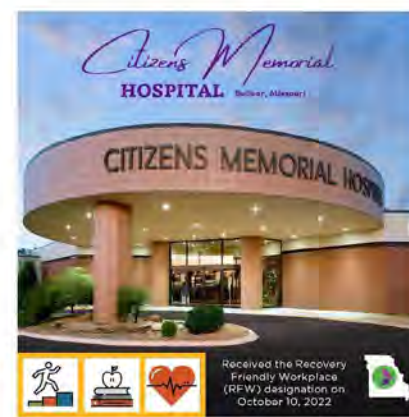
Bolupe Ogunyoye – Urban West Community Health Field Specialist

Bolupe obtained a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Texas at Arlington and graduated from Ross University School of Medicine in 2017. During her medical education, she participated in outreach events that provided health screening to high-risk, underserved communities and assistance to local health care teams. Bolupe's background also includes 5 years of field interviewing for quantitative and qualitative studies, informal teaching, administrative and clinical support in a family practice setting, patient education, and application of research data to generate objectives for potential studies.



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

About 60 Missourians, 5 from the Urban West region, attended a WRT session in 2023. The director of one local coalition indicated interest in building resilience within her community and has now been trained to facilitate WRT locally.



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

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

On December 13, 2023, Journey To New Life, a non-profit organization facilitating prison-to-society reentry process in the Kansas City area, was designated as a Recovery Friendly Workplace. 2 other organizations within the Urban West region have received similar designation.



Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

2023

URBAN WEST

ANNUAL REPORTS

CLAY
JACKSON
PLATTE



Extension
University of Missouri

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