

Rachel Hart-Brinson | Positive Youth Development

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A training for the Leaders Association members on 4-H curriculum where attendees of the meeting learned about the best practices in finding curriculum and where to find 4-H curriculum to increase the quality of youth programming centered on youth sparks.

Planning for a Bilingual 4-H club where we decided topics and activities for the first meetings. This effort is to start a 4-H Club in the Spanish-speaking community that will bring youth development programming to an underserved audience.

Planning for the Area 6 4-H Performing Arts Festival where young people speak or perform a play or musical number in front of an audience and judge to build confidence and the life skill of public speaking.

Interviews for camp counselors for our Eau Claire, Dunn, Clark summer 4-H Camp where we provided a realistic job interview experience to youth to increase their interview skills and to select the best young people for the role of camp counselor for summer camp.

Planning for two 4-H camps for over 80 youth from Clark, Dunn, and Eau Claire counties, where youth will sleep overnight in cabins and tents. The goal is to bring youth together to try new activities, make new friends, and experience nature and time away from home in a safe setting.

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture

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A community of practice for horticulture educators where we explore strategies and resources to expand horticulture education and outreach to underrepresented audiences. The goal of participating in this group is to dig into ways we can locally continue to grow and enhance our horticulture programs to reach more diverse audiences.

Lyssa Seefeldt | Agriculture

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A live, on-line meeting series, for farmers and dairy industry professionals, where participants learned the latest research and applications regarding transition cow health, NSAID use at calving, and how genomic research can further improve dairy cattle fertility. The goal of this effort was to increase knowledge of the latest UW-Madison research on genomics, and how farmers can implement changes to management practices around calving time to set their dairy herd up for reproductive success.

Planning a survey for past participants of the hybrid course, Planning Emergency Livestock Transport Response (PELTR), to find ways to improve the course. Our goal is to have the content be as valuable and concise as possible for future participants.

A 3-part manure processing factsheet series for dairy owners/operators, managers, employees, consultants, and agribusiness professionals where they learned about struvite recovery from manure, systems approach to managing manure using coordinated markets, and treating manure to produce clean water. This effort is designed to help individuals learn and adopt manure processing practices and technologies to improve farm viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety.

Planning for bi-annual Midwest Manure Summit for farmers, managers, agronomists, engineers, nutrient management consultants, manure haulers, consultants, and other agri-business professionals. The goal of this effort is to teach individuals the latest, unbiased, university-based research on manure handling technologies, so that they can improve environmental sustainability and increase farm business viability.

Yia Lor | Human Development & Relationships

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A coaching and Money Matters program for qualifying individuals, where participants learn how to create financial goals and gain money management skills. The goal of this program is to increase meeting financial goals and increase financial capability for long term financial success.

A workshop for home visitors where participants learned how to build meaningful relationships with underserved communities. This effort is designed to support family stability and build community capacity.

Sandy Tarter | Joy Weisner | Jael Wolf | Health & Well-Being

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Participation in the transition meeting of Healthy Communities Coalition and Alliance Mental Health teams including active support for the local chronic disease prevention action team. This effort will help guide objectives and strategies that support initiatives to help improve the health of residents.

A 3-lesson series for 4K preschoolers at Altoona Head Start to learn about fruits, vegetables and keeping their bodies healthy. This effort helps children to learn to use their senses with colors, music, and tastes to explore foods and physical activity.

A 6-week nutrition education series to 5th graders at Flynn Elementary where they learn about healthy habits and how the nutrients in foods contribute to a healthy diet. This effort will help the students plan healthy meals and snacks using a variety of foods from the food groups.

A 6-week nutrition education series to 3rd graders at Longfellow Elementary (including students in the Spanish Dual Immersion Program) to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, healthy habits, and trying seasonal fruits and vegetables. This effort will encourage students to choose a goal to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.

A significant effort in time and leadership to onboarding our new nutrition educator and planning FoodWise programming with local partners. This effort will enhance relationship building with staff and reinstate in-person programming in Chippewa County.

A series of virtual statewide strength training sessions (StrongBodies) where older adults learn best practices along with nutrition and health education. Participants engage in regular strength training exercises to improve strength, balance, and flexibility so they can stay healthy and socially connected.

Addison Vang | Community Development

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An educational program for underserved Hmong and BIPOC Farmers where they learned about the importance of food safety and left with handwashing stations for use at their own farms, and also learned about the Wisconsin Local Food Purchase Assistance program. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers to support and/or expand underserved farm operations with good agricultural practices and economic growth.

Kristen Bruder | Area Extension Director - Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties

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The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:

Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.

Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.