

June 2023 Report

Agriculture Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator

Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator





Planning for development of factsheets/articles, longer publications, and videos on nutrition, genetics, & reproduction topics. The goal of this effort is to increase farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, and other agribusiness professionals' understanding of management of these topics to help improve farm sustainability and economic viability.

Dairy e-newsletter for farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, other agribusiness professionals, and other interested individuals to inform participants of new dairy management articles/factsheets, connect with dairy educators, and learn about upcoming programming to help them learn about new research and management techniques to improve their overall farm sustainability.

A newsletter for farmers and agribusiness professionals where they learned about upcoming programs and topics including potassium and nitrogen in pasture management, single gene inherited traits in dairy cattle, managing transition cows on small farms and pest management on vegetable farms. The purpose of this effort is to work collaboratively to provide timely education for improving agricultural production with multiple county farmers and stakeholders.

A research-based educational article for farmers, managers, employees, and agri-business professionals, where they will learn about utilizing a forage test to determine forage stability for dairy farms. The goal of the article is to help producers learn how reading a forage test can help determine how stable their stored forages are to increase business viability and environmental sustainability.

Dairy needs assessment for Chippewa, Dunn, & Eau Claire farms to learn what types of educational programs dairy farmers would be interested in to improve their dairy cattle management to ultimately lead to improved economic viability and farm sustainability.

Community Development

Addison Vang |Community Development Educator



A farmers market survey for Chippewa Valley to better understand market vendor and small farmer needs. The survey will be distributed during the peak summer farmers market months and is designed to inform market decisions as well as understand the market's impact on the community food system.

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Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter FoodWlse Coordinator



Jael M. Wolf FoodWlse Nutrition Educator



A 6-lesson series at River Heights Elementary with Boys and Girls Club of the Chippewa Valley-Menomonie in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide opportunities for youth to increase produce consumption.

FoodWIse Nutrition Educator

Jov Weisner

A 6-lesson series at the North River Fronts Kids' Garden with Boys and Girls Club of the Chippewa Valley-Eau Claire in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide opportunities for youth to increase produce consumption.

Participation and collaboration with local agencies to conduct a poverty simulation in Chippewa Falls. This effort helped those who have never experienced poverty to better understand the challenges faced by those who live it daily.

Participation in Eau Claire Health Alliance with 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 at Bridge to Hope which provides shelter and support for individuals and families effected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking where they learn about nutrition, meal planning, utilizing pantry foods, and food safety. The goal of this effort is to help participants make healthy choices on a limited budget.

A 5-week nutrition education series with Western Dairyland Fresh Start program for at-risk teens and young adults where they learn about nutrition, food preparation/cooking, food safety, and mindfulness. The goal of this effort is to empower teens/young adults to adopt healthier lifestyles by teaching them the knowledge and skills needed to prepare nutritious snacks and meals at home.

Multiple meetings and emails with local partners to support our local farmers markets by implementing a new Farmers Market in Chippewa and plan for Market Match programs in Menomonie and Eau Claire Farmers Markets. This effort will help to improve food security with the development and implementation of a program for SNAP/FoodShare recipients to use benefits for food purchases.

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A 4-lesson series for women in an addiction treatment program where they learn about nutrition and food resource management principles. The goal of this effort is to help limited resource participants make healthy food choices on a budget.

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.

Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



A gardening program for beginners where participants learn the basics of vegetable gardening in containers. The goal of this effort was to teach participants techniques to successfully grow vegetables in containers and to encourage people to grow vegetables even when space and/or time is limited.

A gardening program for beginners where participants learn the basics of vegetable gardening. The goal of this effort was to teach those new to vegetable gardening how to start a vegetable garden, understand soil health, learn about plant selection, planting, and

garden maintenance.

A garden presentation for AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program participants. The goal of this effort is to teach participants strategies to grow successful patio gardens and to encourage people of all ages to garden even when space is limited.

Planning a 6-week nature-based program for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley – Chippewa Falls. The goal of this effort is to build nature connectedness and promote environmental literacy.

An information table for the public at Chippewa County's Chippewa Strong Event where information on the positive impact plants have on various areas of our lives was offered. This effort is designed to increase awareness of the benefits of plants and how we can incorporate more plants in our lives.

A vegetable container garden program for the Spring Series StrongBodies Chat for participating seniors where they learned about the benefits and ease of growing vegetables in containers. This effort is designed to encourage people of all ages to garden for wellness and food, even if space, time and/or mobility is limited.

Human Development & Relationships

This position is currently vacant. Watch for the posting soon.

Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator

Planning for the Sample 4-H program in partnership with the Eau Claire Area School District where young people

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will sample different project areas in 4-H.

Planning for a residential college program for youth where they will explore career and higher education opportunities through hands-on-workshops. The goal of the program is for youth to gain a better understanding of the career pathways available to them and to see college as attainable.

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.

Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



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.