

2017 spotlight

“Over the years, I can see enormous changes in the members of our club. 4-H gives the opportunity to grow at your own pace, with support and guidance. One boy was quite disruptive when he first joined, and now when given responsibility, he is a vital part of planning for many of our activities. Another youth could barely tell us her name, and has now served as the president of the club, leading our meetings.”

A 4-H Community Club Leader



UW-Extension educates parents in play-based early learning activities using blocks

Waukesha County UW-Extension Makes County-Wide Impact in 2017

Here are some Highlights:

- ◆ **UW-Extension** partnered with the Village of Butler to conduct a Small Business Retention and Expansion Strategies Program. Thirty-three small businesses participated in surveys/visits. Business operators learned about available resources, and the community learned about local business issues. As a result, four priority projects were designed to build stronger connections between local businesses and the community.
- ◆ **Bilingual FoodWise Nutrition Educator**, Tahnee Aguirre helped Waukesha County UW-Extension reach more Spanish-speaking individuals. Tahnee taught lessons in Spanish at schools, neighborhood garden programs, Head Start, La Casa de Esperanza, and the Women’s Center. As a result, the number of Hispanic/Latino adults enrolled in the Eating Smart & Being Active program increased from 16% to 35% of total participants during 2017.
- ◆ **UW-Extension Educators** collaborated to provide a weekly short course to green industry professionals in February. The annual Landscape and Grounds Maintenance Short Course consisted of four half-day sessions which provided timely information and continuing education credits to help landscape companies, municipalities, and individuals learn best management practices using science-based research relevant to Wisconsin. Through a regional collaboration, this program is offered in three Wisconsin counties, including Waukesha, which had up to 150 participants each week.
- ◆ **UW-Extension Waukesha County 4-H** provided hands-on STEM activities for youth during the 2017 Waukesha County Fair. Youth experimented with fun, educational tools including snap circuits, microscopes, and catapults. On Wednesday of the Fair, US Cellular employees partnered with 4-H to assist more than 200 youth in exploring how levers and pulleys work using K’Nex building sets.
- ◆ This past summer, **UW-Extension** partnered with ARCh (Association for the Rights of Citizens with handicaps) to support health and nutrition initiatives at ARCh Camp Pow Wow at Menomonee Park. Camp staff received training on supporting physical activity and healthy food choices, interactive nutrition classes were offered at camp, and a new, healthier camp menu was developed using input from campers and their families.



Educators teach indoor and outdoor horticulture programs to children and adults



Waukesha County

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4-H partnered with Herzing University in Brookfield to offer healthcare career exploration to area high school students

“Working with Jen Whitty on several committees and events, along with other professional staff from UW-Extension, I have had the occasion to see the high quality of programs and the professional delivery of service provided. I have witnessed first-hand the positive change these programs have had in the lives of families.”

Kathy D., Parents Place
 Community Education Coordinator



Nutrition Educators teach nutrition, food budgeting, and food safety lessons to youth and adults in all stages of life

“The information, templates, and relevant feedback provided to us at your ‘Strategic Planning for Non-Profits’ workshop was extremely valuable to us as we plan for the future.”

Joe M., Addiction Resource
 Council, Inc. Waukesha



Educators provide opportunities for neighborhood leadership development

“UW-Extension provided me with the technical knowledge to support my favorite leisure pastime of gardening. Now I am able to share my knowledge with others.”

Kevin L., UW-Extension Master
 Gardener Volunteer

“Our church in Waukesha started a Kick-Start program aimed at teaching upper elementary students some of the very themes taught by the UW-Extension program, i.e., kitchen safety, food preparation, taste-testing new and unfamiliar foods, and selecting nutritious foods. How rewarding for me to think that the UW-Extension themes are being passed on in a new setting with new instructors! Your lessons are being continued in the community and to a new generation.”

Former Waukesha Teacher

UW-Extension staff build strong communities by engaging adults & youth in life-long learning, developing economic opportunity, and extending leadership capacity through Extension-trained volunteers.

UW-Extension Programs

- 4-H Youth Development
- Horticulture
- Family Living
- Nutrition Education
- Community Development



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