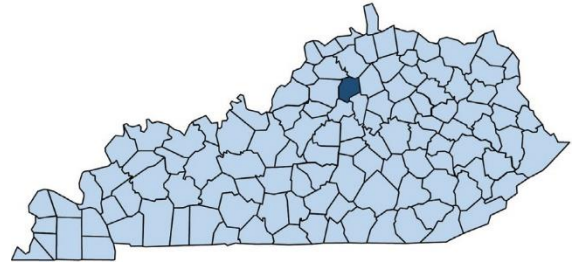


REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



Franklin County 2023



DID YOU KNOW... The dry-stone fences you see remaining in Franklin County are estimated to be less than 10% of what once existed in the 1800's when stone was the primary fence type here.

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Agriculture and Natural Resources



Winners from the Central Kentucky Hay Contest.

200 The number of farmers who increased their knowledge on farm business planning and financial management skills.

30 The number of producers who conducted hay testing.

Less than 2% of producers use Extension to analyze their hay and develop a ration. Hay testing provides data to producers and Cooperative Extension Agents to ensure the nutritional needs of the animal are being met. Without testing, under or over feeding leads to poor allocation of resources, inadequate animal needs and wasted money.

The Central Kentucky Hay Contest was created to provide education about forage test analysis and the economic impact. Eight Cooperative Extension Service Agents organized the contest and gathered samples from their counties to be analyzed by the UK Forage team. Eight local producers provided 21 samples. In total, over 130 samples were analyzed.

The results will help guide the supplement purchases in future years, price hay for sale based on quality and/or reallocation of feeding the different lots of hay.

The culmination was an Awards Banquet which also hosted an educational workshop and Round Table Discussion for producers. This will become an annual event with more producers to participate in as well as several other central Kentucky counties.

Family and Consumer Sciences



Group participates in the Healthy Aging Workshop.

2500 The number of hours KEHA members volunteered in community activities and events.

47 The number of participants who reported that they better understand the importance of caregiving preparation as a result of aging problems.

Findings from the 2022 Unity in the Community event indicated a need for diabetes prevention, healthy nutrition, and accessing healthcare. Various community resources collaborated to provide health education, demonstrations, informational

handouts, and occupation-based learning opportunities from the interdisciplinary lenses of behavioral science, neuroscience, dietetics, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Healthy Aging Workshop Series, a unique interdisciplinary, multi-modal and holistic community-based program was developed to provide needed resources to the community.

Workshops were provided monthly for approximately two hours and included healthy snacks, exercises, health education, estate planning, community resources and concluded with a celebration and pampering session for the participants at the faith-based institution. The initial workshop was set up with funding from the Engaged Aging Lab at Sanders-Brown Center on Aging. Franklin County Cooperative Extension collaborated with Kentucky State University and Fayette County Cooperative Extension Services to provide lessons weekly.

Establishing a pool of local health resources into an already trusted and often accessed faith-based community location allowed for holistic programming and evaluation that continues to adapt to the needs and desires of the given community. Program evaluation showed an increase in knowledge and confidence to carry out principles learned from the workshops at home.

Horticulture



Master Gardener Volunteers listening to a program at Kentucky State University.

207 The number of people who used Extension Diagnostic services to identify plant disease.

3001 The number of direct contacts made by Master Gardeners.

Current research indicates numerous pollinating insect species are threatened or in decline. The USDA states that about one third of global food supplies depend on pollinating insects. There are many simple steps homeowners can take to encourage pollinators in backyard gardens. To provide more education around the topic, horticulture agents from Fayette, Franklin, and Woodford counties planned the annual Extension Master

Gardener Conference to focus on pollinators. We selected and tapped speakers known for this subject and planned a two-day conference at Kentucky State University's Harold Benson Research farm in Frankfort, KY. For two days 160 Extension Master Gardener Volunteers from around the state attended lectures and tours that provided detailed information about pollinator preservation.

The programs featured University Specialists from Forestry, Horticulture and Entomology and a keynote address by TV personality, Patrick McMillan, of Juniper Level Botanic gardens. In a follow up survey of participants, 97% indicated they had increased their knowledge of pollinator preservation techniques and 96% indicated they would implement some of the strategies learned in their home gardens. In addition to the first-hand knowledge gained, the dedicated Extension volunteers will share the information with many others in their home communities.

4-H Youth Development



High school teens in the Wanda Joyce Robinson Foundation, working with 4-H to learn a new recipe.

729 The number of youth who are involved in 4-H through school programming.

428 The number of youth, teachers, and parents attended environmental education camp where youth gained hands on skills.

Recent statistics reveal that over 145,000 children in Kentucky have experienced having an incarcerated parent, constituting a staggering fifteen percent of the state's child population. This figure is double the national average, marking Kentucky with the highest percentage in the nation. In Franklin County alone, approximately 800 children are impacted by parental

incarceration. The Wanda Joyce Robinson Foundation has made it their mission to cultivate and invest in relationships that empower children, youth, and families impacted by incarceration.

In response to this pressing issue, Franklin County 4-H and the Wanda Joyce Robinson Foundation have joined forces to establish a high school teen outreach program which meets monthly.

This initiative provides a supportive environment for teenagers affected by parental incarceration to gather and learn under the guidance of trusted adults. Mentors, Wanda Joyce Robinson Foundation staff, school counselors, volunteers, and 4-H agents come together to assist teens in essential life skills such as budgeting for meals, grocery shopping, cooking recipes from the Kentucky Extension's Nutrition Education Program, and receiving educational lessons.

The program aims to provide teenagers with the necessary support and resources to navigate challenges associated with parental incarceration, fostering resilience and empowerment within the community.

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... just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky

- **78,332** Number of people impacted by Advisory Councils, community organizations, and other volunteers including County Ag Investment Program (CAIP), Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee, farm bureau, county fairs, festivals, etc.
- **28,603** The number of individuals who became involved in an existing local disaster preparedness program.
- **15,158** The number of youth who indicated they are interested in learning more about science, engineering or technology projects.
- **4,447** Number of participants reporting intention to make healthy beverage choices.
- **1,187** Number of people who used Extension resources for marketing, pricing, and/or advertising local foods.



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Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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