



Agriculture

Jerry Clark

Agriculture Educator, Crops & Soils



Lyssa Seefeld

Agriculture Educator, Dairy



A field day for farmers and agency personnel, where participants learned about crop production practices and research updates to increase farm profitability.

On-farm research projects for farmers and agricultural professionals where data and observations will provide unbiased information to help farmers make informed decisions.

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.

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

A dairy e-newsletter for farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, 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.

Updating and adapting a risk and grain marketing curriculum into a more relevant format for use in-person, for stand-alone educational videos, and an on-line course. This curriculum will assist beginning, organic, and transitioning dairy farmers in identifying strengths and weaknesses of their business to assist them in making decisions that will improve their farm profitability.

A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals, where subscribers learned about dairy facilities and ventilation, reproduction, animal well-being, nutrition, and Extension dairy production and management resources. This effort was designed to provide a timely and reliable source of dairy management news and updates to help improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.



Community Development

Addison Vang | *Community Development Educator*



Educational programming as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth.

A video series for food and farm business entrepreneurs, where participants develop the framework needed for effective food and ag entrepreneurship and are connected with the resources they need to be successful. This effort was designed to help participants assess their skills, assets, personalities, and/or networks to help make a decision about a business opportunity or new enterprise.

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

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.

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.

A fruit container garden program for the Spring Series StrongBodies Chat for participating seniors where they learned about several fruits that can be successfully grown in a container. 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.



Planning an educational garden for the public in collaboration with facilities at the Dunn County Government Building. The goal of the effort is to incorporate native plants into the garden for both beautification and an opportunity to demonstrate plantings that, once established, support pollinators by increasing habitat, are lower in water needs and reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides helping to keep our waterways clean, and reduce chemical input to our environment.



Lanceleaf coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) blooming in the native plant educational garden in front of the Dunn County Government Center.

A 6-week garden program for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley Menomonie Center and FoodWise. The goal of this effort is to teach best practices in the garden through hands-on activities, promote life-long healthy eating habits and to foster connections to nature.

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.

Health and Well-Being

Sandy Tarter
FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner
FoodWise Educator



Jael Wolf
FoodWise Educator



Hillarie Roth
FoodWise Educator



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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 opportunity for youth to increase produce consumption.

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.



How do FoodWise staff and Boys and Girls Club Youth beat the summer heat? With "un-beet-able" smoothies!



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.

Human Development and Relationships

Luisa Gerasimo | *Human Development and Relationships Educator*



A series of Housing Action Team meetings with Dunn County residents interested in helping move the needle for safe and affordable housing in the region. The Housing Action Team is now co-chaired by Jennifer McDurmid of the Bridge to Hope and myself. We will begin regular meetings and will be working closely with the county board appointed Housing Study Implementation Work Group of which I am also a member.

A 3-hour online class for parents in a legal court case for divorce, placement change, child support or paternity, where they learn about the effects of family transitions on children and how parents can minimize problems for their children through cooperative co-parenting strategies. When divorced parents can cooperate or have a business-like approach to co-parenting, their children are far more likely to do better and not experience lasting negative effects of divorce.

A program for justice-involved families where parents in jail are recorded reading storybooks they select, which are then shared with their children at home. The goal is to reduce the trauma of separation, strengthen family relationships, and at the same time increase children's exposure to books and reading.

A monthly topic-specific class series (Resilient Co-Parenting) for co-parents raising children together while living apart, where they learn skills to improve communication and problem-solving, support children emotionally and keep kids out of the middle of conflict.

Programs open to Dunn County and offered by other Area 6 Human Development and Relationships Educators:

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.



Positive Youth Development

Zachary Rozmiarek | *4-H Program Educator*



A Cloverbud Project Day was held for all for Cloverbud members, where youth learned about animal adaptations, and made a hands-on project.

A 4-H Food Preservation Project Day was held for all for 4-H members, where youth were able to participate

in hands on learning to increase their knowledge of food preservation techniques.



Cloverbuds showing off their projects during the 2023 Cloverbud Project Day.



4-H members show off their cameras at the photography project day.

A 4-H Photography Project Day was held for all for 4-H members, where youth were able to participate in hands on learning to increase their knowledge of Photography techniques.

A 4-H foods and Nutrition Project Day was held for all for 4-H members, where youth were able to participate in hands-on learning to increase their knowledge of healthy food choices.

Area Extension Director

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



Please reach out with questions and ideas. The role of the AED is much like the department head in the county. 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.