



Agriculture

Jerry Clark

Agriculture Educator, Crops & Soils



Lyssa Seefeld

Agriculture Educator, Dairy



Updating and adapting a risk and grain marketing curriculum into a more relevant format for use in-person, 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 cover crop walk where farmers and agency professionals engaged in hands-on learning and discussion about cover crop management to learn strategies and methods to implement cover crops and improve soil health and farm profitability.

A webinar for sheep and goat producers to learn about techniques of grilling and cooking lamb. This effort was designed to help producers prepare lamb products to ensure an enjoyable eating experience and to promote eating lamb to consumers to increase lamb consumption.

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 them improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.



Community Development

Addison Vang | *Community Development Educator*



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.

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.

Planning for a series of webinars for food entrepreneurs in collaboration with county educators, statewide specialists, and local experts. This effort is designed to equip food entrepreneurs with increased skills and knowledge for operating successful food business enterprises.

Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | *Horticulture Educator*



Planning 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.

Planning a series of horticulture-based activities for people living with dementia and their care partners, offered in partnership with the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County Dementia Care Specialist. The goal of this effort is to offer hands-on, nature-inspired experiences that provide opportunities to stimulate participant's senses, enjoy social interactions, and provide physical activity while imparting a sense of purpose.

Planning a gardening series for beginners in collaboration with the Cardinal Community Learning Center where participants learn the basics of vegetable gardening, starting seeds indoors and growing vegetables in containers when space is limited. The goal of this effort is to teach those new to vegetable gardening how to get started and encourage people to try vegetable gardening.

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.



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.

Health and Well-Being

Sandy Tarter

FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner

FoodWise Educator



Jael Wolf

FoodWise Educator



Hillarie Roth

FoodWise Educator



A 5-week nutrition education series for 5th graders at Downsville 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 5-week nutrition education series for 3rd graders at Downsville Elementary to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, healthy habits, and try seasonal fruits and vegetables. This effort will encourage students to choose a goal to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.

A 5-week nutrition education series for 1st graders in Downsville Elementary. The goal of this effort is for students to learn about eating healthy, being active, exploring fruits and vegetables, and the importance of hand-washing.

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.

Planning with Lakeshore Elementary, River Heights Elementary, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Master Gardeners in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide an opportunity for youth to increase produce consumption.

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 health and wellness community fair sponsored by a local university where local agencies and nonprofits staffed booths and handed out information to families. The purpose of this activity was to raise awareness of Extension programming and educational efforts while making connections to community partners in order to expand local Extension programming to broader audiences.

Significant planning for Youth Forward Wisconsin (universal childhood savings accounts) via a series of in person meetings, Zoom meetings, emails and phone conversations with key community partners as we begin to plan for a universal childhood savings account in Dunn County and across the state. The goal is to address educational disparities by providing families with tools and seed money to save for their children's post-secondary education.

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 workshop where justice-involved parents learn the importance of reading aloud to children and ways to engage their child through books. The goal of this program is to help parents strengthen the parent-child bond and build children's early literacy skills, which are an important foundation for success in school and life.



A child enjoys looking at her own book as her father reads her the same book in a video clip on screen.

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.



Natural Resources

Facilitation of bi-monthly meetings of the Red Cedar River Water Quality Partnership, with the goal to implement a ten-year watershed plan aimed at improving the water quality and soil health of the Red Cedar River Watershed.

Positive Youth Development

Zachary Rozmiarek | *4-H Program Educator*



Art U, which is a virtual art instruction program in partnership with UW-Stout, in order to provide project learning in the spark of Art.

Planning for camp counselor training where 19 young people will build community and learn leadership skills that they will use as counselors for the Eau Claire-Dunn-Clark summer 4-H camp in order to be prepared to lead a high quality camp program.

Planning for a hands-on project learning day for middle school and high school youth in collaboration with 4-H volunteers. The goal of this effort is to broaden participants' experiences, increase project skills, and encourage youth and adult partnerships.

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 | *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.