

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



K-STATE
Research and Extension

Johnson County

JOHNSON
COUNTY
KANSAS

In partnership together

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Grand Challenges and Guiding Principles

Working with stakeholders across the state, K-State Research and Extension identified five Grand Challenges facing every Kansan. The university's research and extension services are focused on addressing these five challenges:

- global food systems
- water
- health
- community vitality
- developing tomorrow's leaders

Local Johnson County Extension faculty (called "agents") balance these Grand Challenges with Johnson County Government's Guiding Principles, providing educational outreach that serves the county, municipalities, businesses and citizens.

Johnson County Extension agents take complex research-based information from universities across the country and government at all levels and localize it. Agents deliver this information without bias; their mission is to provide the most accurate, science-based research, not to sell products.

Agents help citizens understand and apply this information so that it addresses their individualized need. Once presented with the facts, it is left to the resident to ultimately determine the best solution.

Our agents work closely with faculty in Manhattan so that university researchers and specialists are aware of local issues. Agents work closely with stakeholders in the county to make sure the university continues to develop programming that benefits the citizens of Johnson County.



A Message from the Director

2019 was an exciting year for our continued educational services to Johnson County residents. How do you meet the needs of an urban, suburban and rural county which sits on a state line and is part of a metropolitan area? The dynamics of our work is quite daunting when you take a look at the bigger picture. However, our small but mighty office has once again created an incredible impact in our local community.

The work we do can only be done by forging strong partnerships and working with valuable collaborators. How we facilitate impact in the community is displayed in the pages which follow. In the true educational form, here are a few questions I challenge you to find the answers to within our highlights of 2019:

- Why are pollinators important and where can you view the educational opportunities of our Extension Master Naturalist program?
- What new program was created by the Extension Master Food Volunteers for food-insecure audiences in the county?
- As the aging population of Johnson County increases daily, what Extension programs are provided to help citizens prepare for health care costs or provide a free option for completing income taxes?
- Why should we consider specialty crops as an important food system component, along with a potential economic driver for our county?
- What National 4-H opportunities related to computer science and supporting careers in creating a strong global food system did our local 4-H'ers experience this year?
- Which two cities have partnered with the Extension Master Gardeners to create new demonstration gardens to highlight educational opportunities in the county?
- What Community Vitality program educates community members on how to become an effective board member?
- What were the results of the community survey of county residents on their usage and awareness of Johnson County Extension programs?

Addressing critical issues impacting our community and how we are working to address them is at the heart of the work we do and have been doing for the last 102 years. Please enjoy our efforts in helping to maintain and support a strong and vibrant Johnson County.

Sincerely,



Tara Markley,
County Extension Director



Larry Justice received the 2019 Individual Appreciation Award from the Johnson County Extension Council.

Extension Master Naturalist

The Extension Master Naturalist program continues to grow and expand. Educational outreach and ecological service were our two focal points for the year.

Volunteers attended and staffed educational displays at events such as the Healthy Yards Expo, K-State Olathe Open House, and the Shawnee Indian Mission Fall Festival to help Johnson County residents learn about their native plant species, wildlife and pollinators. Volunteers have also worked to help educate the public while working on projects such as the Shawnee Mission Park Ogg Prairie. Engaging with the public while working on projects has led to many conversations around our several natural resources here in Johnson County.

Large portions of our volunteer hours were with partners such as Johnson County Parks and Recreation District, KC Wildlands, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism and Ernie Miller Nature Center. With our partners, work was done to help combat invasive plant species in our public spaces. We also helped to manage native prairie areas, remnant and restored, across the county.



Slice of Ag

By Jessica Barnett

Nearly 1,100 4th graders attended the 2019 Slice of Ag event held at the Overland Park Convention Center. Students were able to learn about different types of agriculture that go into making a slice of pizza. Their field trip experience was finished with a pizza lunch before heading back to their classrooms.

The Overland Park Convention Center is a great partner for this program, and it wouldn't be as successful as it is without them. Partners such as Johnson County Farm Bureau, Johnson County Conservation District, Spring Hill High School FFA students, Olathe North High School students, and the Extension Master Gardeners staffed stations and helped escort 4th graders through the full rotation of activities and presentations. Students learned about the importance of soil to all of agriculture, production of pork, beef, grain, vegetables, and dairy, and the agricultural machinery that is used on a farm here in Johnson County. Students were able to see live cows, a milking demonstration by the Southwest Mobile Dairy Classroom and climb into a functioning combine to see what a farmer sees. The goal of this experience is to help expose our youth to agriculture. This is the first time that many of these students have seen a cow or a combine harvester. Students learn that agriculture encompasses a wide variety of topics and that agriculture is supported by many careers such as computer programming.



Students watching the Southwest Dairy cow milking demonstration during Slice of Ag.

Pollinator Prairie

What do an EPA Superfund Site and a pollinator educational green space have in common? At the Pollinator Prairie, they are the same location. An old chemical dumping ground has been reclaimed through extensive remediation and returned to community use for multiple purposes. It is a green space open to the public, but it is also a unique educational opportunity.

Four pollinator-themed gardens and four native grass beds are featured on the site and are an illustration of how native vegetation can be used in a landscape. Each themed garden focuses on a different pollinator – bees, birds, butterflies in general, and one specifically for the Monarch butterfly. Plants were carefully chosen to cater to each pollinator.

Our Extension Master Naturalist are the caretakers of these gardens and grass beds. They work to maintain healthy plant populations so that visitors have the best chance of seeing nature at work. Two educational events, Wonders of Discovery and Hasta Luego Monarchs, are hosted yearly, in June and September, to bring neighbors and county residents outside and into nature. In 2019, our volunteers worked around thunderstorms at both events to bring pollinator and outdoor education to several hundred children, families and neighbors.



Family and Consumer Sciences | Home and Family



Denise Dias instructs residents on Medicare plans for 2020 and what may be the best options for them.

Medicare Basics

Medicare Basics educates older adults on the four parts of Medicare. Participants gain understanding of what steps they need to take and how to sign up for Medicare. Residents can also request one on one counseling sessions for help on finding plan options and having specific questions answered.

Medicare Beneficiary Success Story

In December, there was a call late in the day asking for assistance from a mental health social worker needing help for her client in finding a Medicare drug plan that would cover their bipolar - tardive dyskinesia medicine. This individual could not afford their medicine on their current drug plan because the estimated cost prescriptions were \$97,693.68. Looking through available options, a new plan was found that would cover all prescriptions for \$6,129.61 a year, saving this individual \$91,564.07.

Johnson County Employee Success Story

After attending the December 3rd class, one employee who was retiring on December 18th came up and said they were not aware of all the things they needed to do before their retirement. The first step was to sign up for Part A and B with Social Security. This individual scheduled an appointment to explore prescription drug coverage and a Medigap plan. Within 2 weeks, everything was in place and they were ready to enjoy retirement. By working closely with them, they will not have a lapse in healthcare coverage and found plans that they can easily afford.



Radon Awareness Program

By Denise Dias

Radon gas is the second leading cause of lung cancer after cigarette smoking. The average Johnson County home measures 5.3 pi/ltr which is above the recommended action level of 4 pi/ltr.

In 2019, a robust effort was made to alert residents of higher than average levels of radon gas in Johnson County homes. Extension participated in the signing of proclamations by the Lt. Governor of Kansas and the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners. Chairman Ed Eilert, declared January as Radon Awareness month.

A special ad was placed in the Johnson County Magazine encouraging residents to test their home for radon. Social media blasts on Facebook and Next Door helped to engage homeowners to test their homes with a DIY radon test kit.

From January 1 until December 31, 2019, our office sold radon kits just above cost for homeowners to find out if radon gas is a concern in their homes.

2,872
Homes Tested

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) is a national program to help Americans who make



Extension VITA Volunteer, Henry Janke works with his client preparing a tax return.

less than \$66,000 per year to file their income taxes. VITA volunteers are trained to help seniors, disabled, or bilingual taxpayers understand the income tax process. VITA volunteers must complete online training, pass an exam and background check to become certified volunteers for the IRS.

Volunteers like to help others save money on tax

preparation, find deductions that they may have overlooked or catch up on previous years' unfiled tax returns. For most people, the volunteers take the confusion out of filling out tax forms. Many volunteers are retired adults who may have worked in accounting, teaching, math or just like to crunch numbers.

KEY FIGURES

- Volunteers prepared 1,458 returns: 23% increase from the previous year.
- The average adjusted gross income is \$35,531.83
- Federal refunds totaled: \$1,991,500
- State refunds totaled: \$265,562
- Savings in tax preparation fees were \$358,750
- Residents who claimed the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit saved \$411,338
- Taxpayers who were able to claim the Kansas Earned Income tax credit saved \$69,927

\$1,425,171
TOTAL TAXPAYER SAVINGS

\$2,685,739
RETURNED TO CITIZENS



Family and Consumer Sciences | Health and Nutrition



We all need to eat, but not all of us eat healthfully—for different reasons. Healthy foods can be expensive, and healthy recipes can be complicated to make. Also, to be honest, healthy doesn't always taste good, either. But Johnson County Extension wants to change all of that.

Extension Master Food Volunteers layout ingredients for JoCo E.A.T.S. recipe testing.

Jo Co E.A.T.S. Makes Healthy Eating Easier for All

By Crystal Futrell



In December 2018, our office was awarded a grant from K-State Research and Extension to create a Culture of Health in Johnson

County. After creating and conferring with a local steering committee, it was decided that the best way to use this grant was to create a project that would find and showcase recipes that were healthy, delicious, affordable and very easy to make. We called our project Jo Co E.A.T.S. (Easy Affordable Tasty Solutions).

Work on this project began in January 2019. Family & Consumer Sciences agents, Crystal Futrell and Denise Dias, hosted a poverty simulation workshop led by Dr. Elaine Johannes, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist for Family Studies and Human Services at Kansas State University. The simulation was attended by 50 community members, many of whom were Johnson County Extension volunteers, to gain an understanding of the challenges one faces when

managing limited resources and food insecurities. At Johnson County Extension, we create and deliver programs to encourage Johnson County residents to plan for and prepare nutritious meals.



Extension Master Food Volunteer Pam Henry participates in poverty simulation workshop with two community members.

After experiencing the poverty simulation, a deeper empathy developed as our staff and volunteers realized the importance of making things easier for those struggling with daily necessities. This experience solidified our mission with Jo Co E.A.T.S. to make healthy eating easier for all.

We started developing original recipes with minimal and pantry-friendly ingredients. Each recipe was nutritionally analyzed and modified to

verify they were all healthy. And to make sure they tasted good, we had our Extension Master Food Volunteers prepare a collection of these recipes once a month at our Extension Office and invited the public to taste-test them for free in exchange for their honest opinions. The recipe development and testing have been a huge success for our program as we were able to identify some very easy, healthy and tasty recipes that were all affordable, too.

To share the recipes, we created a website (jocoeats.com) where the “winning” recipes from the monthly testings are uploaded and available for sharing, posting and printing. We plan to continue testing and uploading recipes to this site in addition to other resources like meal planning charts, food-budget and grocery shopping guidelines, seasonal produce calendars, and food safety information. We hope that this website will be the resource for all Johnson County residents looking for easy, healthy and affordable recipes.

At Extension, we are already using this resource to support our nutrition education programs at our county food pantries. Recipes from the website are demonstrated at the pantries where the clients can sample and ask questions about them. At one pantry, meal prep kits are prepared by our Extension Master Food Volunteers so clients don't have to search for the ingredients; they're already packaged and ready to go.





Johnson County 4-H Shooting Sports

Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports came in 5th place in the nation at the National Championship Sweepstakes with three Johnson County 4-H'ers placing in the top 10 in their disciplines. The 4-H Shooting Sports program offers youth an opportunity to learn the basics of shooting in a fun, safe environment, taught by Kansas Certified 4-H Shooting Sports Instructors. With opportunities to participate in ten disciplines, the 4-H'ers work toward mastery of their discipline while developing responsibility, confidence, and more.

A new discipline was introduced in 2019 in Johnson County 4-H Shooting Sports, Western Heritage. In Western Heritage, 4-H'ers learn the history of the Frontier West from 1860 to 1900 through shooting, history lessons, and researching and adopting a persona. It's a great way to combine youth's interest in history with shooting sports for a new experience.



4-H'er Ben Burling (14) and 4-H Volunteer David Birk at the Western Heritage Shooting Sports practice.



4-H Computer Science Programming

by Ami Lin

In June 2019, National 4-H Council announced a new \$6 million collaboration with Google to bring computer

science (CS) education to underserved youth across the country. As one of the recipients of the grant, Johnson County 4-H is piloting a 4-H Computer Science Program. Since the initiative was introduced, the Johnson County 4-H team and Kansas 4-H specialist provided professional development for over 60 adults and have reached over 3,500 youth with its program. During the 2019-20 school year, Johnson County 4-H worked with six Olathe elementary school teachers to offer a six-session CS program focusing on coding and robotics. As we train more volunteers, we look forward to the impact we can make in 2020.

4-H Science Matters Project

The Science Matters project empowered teen leaders to make a true difference in the community. Fifteen youth leaders were challenged with identifying and addressing a community issue in January. Thanks to a grant provided from National 4-H Council and Bayer, these youth leaders traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend the 4-H Agriscience Summit, where they heard from industry professionals and used the knowledge gained to put projects into action in their own community. There are three interest groups: the Water Quality, Food Waste, and Animal Nutrition. All three went out into the community to address issues they identi-

fied. They hosted a river clean-up event, improved a culvert for maximum drainage, taught lessons in middle school classrooms, and proclaimed May 23, 2019 as Food Waste Prevention Day. The teams worked with community organizations and professionals from Bayer, Johnson County Health and Environment, Missouri Organic, USD 231, Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, Johnson County Parks



Jonathan Staten (15) and Daniel Gonzalez (14) work on improving drainage on the culvert at Deanna Rose Farmstead for their Science Matters project.

and Recreation District and more. Science Matters is a true youth leadership opportunity that encourages youth engagement with the community and empowers them to make a difference.

“7 billion to 9 billion people to feed in my lifetime is really scary. Then it gave me hope and inspiration. I learned how to set goals and teach others while developing solutions to our community's problems.”

Kristen, 10th Grade

4-H Grows Leaders

The 4-H program provides skill-building through long-term relationships with caring adults and opportunities for meaningful leadership. As a result, 4-H'ers are nearly four times more likely to make good contributions to their communities and about twice as likely to be civically active. (Tuft, 2013)

What makes these 4-H'ers more likely to be engaged with the community? The 4-H'ers involved in the 19 clubs in Johnson County engage with the community through volunteerism, touring organizations, inviting guest speakers to their meetings, and working together to collect donations for those in need. Here are some examples of their work in 2019:

Learning about the community:

- Frontier Family 4-H Club toured Corbion to learn about food science and sustainability.
- Morning Glory 4-H club toured the US Army Reserve Training Center in New Century, KS.
- Visit from Amanda Grosserode, former Kansas State Representative, to learn about parliamentary procedure
- Pioneer 4-H club toured the Johnson County Public Health Office to learn how people in different professions support public health.

Giving and volunteering:

- Happy Helpers 4-H club made and donated fleece blankets to Cornerstones of Care and made donations to the Ronald McDonald House.
- Blue River Wranglers 4-H club went caroling at the local senior center and donated winter attire for the homeless.
- Oxford Hustlers 4-H club adopted a family through Operation Breakthrough in KC.
- Morning Glory 4-H club rang bells for the Salvation Army and adopted a family in need.



Extension Presence Throughout the County Grows

After being approached by the City of Prairie Village, Extension Master Gardeners (EMGs) agreed to work in partnership with Prairie Village to design, plant and maintain a pocket garden located at the new Wassmer Park. EMGs continued a partnership with the City of Shawnee, this time at West Flanders Park. This new demonstration garden will feature a diverse planting for this popular setting. These gardens will join our partnerships with:

- Johnson County Government, Sunset Building

- City of Overland Park, Arboretum, Botanical Gardens, Monet Garden and Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead
- Blue Valley School District, Wilderness Science Center
- City of Fairway, Kansas Historical Society, Shawnee Indian Mission
- K-State Horticulture Research Center
- City of Shawnee, Shawnee Town 1929

Demonstration gardens are an effective method of reaching residents in their own

communities. Utilizing the talents of Extension Master Gardeners, there is a network of educational gardens in Johnson County. Demonstration gardens are a living classroom providing recommended plant selections, best management practices, design ideas, environmentally-friendly pest management methods and community beautification.

Concluded this year our 20-year partnership with Wonderscope Children's Museum, due to their relocation to Missouri. We took this opportunity to look for new ways of promoting Extension in Johnson County.



Johnson County Awarded 2023 International Extension Master Gardener Conference

By Dennis Patton

For the first time ever, a county Extension Master Gardener (EMG) program won the bid for this bi-annual conference. The Overland Park Convention Center will host 800 plus volunteers from all 50 states as well as international gardeners June 18-22, 2023.

Highlights of the conference include keynote speakers, classroom presentations and tours showcasing local businesses, gardening projects and private gardens. The goal of the conference is to enrich the skills of EMG volunteers, preparing them for Extension's mission of providing research-based horticulture information in the area where they live. The theme for the conference is Celebrate Today, Educate for Tomorrow, Grow the Future.

In 2018, there were 86,076 trained EMG volunteers in the United States donating 5.6 million hours of service back to the community.



Healthy Yards Expo – Collaborating for Clean Water

Extension serves as the lead organization to bring together the resources of Johnson County Government and the cities of Lenexa, Shawnee, Overland Park and Olathe, all to work on the common goal of improving water quality. It was out of this collaboration that the Johnson County Healthy Yards Expo was born.

The Expo celebrated its 10th year in 2019 with a record number 1,700+ residents attending the one-day event held at the Shawnee Civic Centre. Attendees visited with vendors providing earth-friendly services, learned about cost-share programs helping to implement water quality projects, and listened to informative presentations. A native plant sale provided eco-friendly plants that serve to clean water and attract beneficial pollinators.

Collaborations leverage resources to develop more impactful programs. Extension is poised to provide this leadership role. We can do so much more when we work together!



Tom Good, Horticulture Assistant, and EMGs Pat and Larry VanSickle discuss ways to reduce runoff to keep our water supply clean at the 10th annual Healthy Yards Expo.

Stopping the Spread of Plant Disease

Plants infected with the disease *Phytophthora ramorum* (Sudden Oak Death or SOD) were accidentally shipped to stores throughout Kansas. Johnson County Extension was the local lead agency to work with the Kansas Department of Agriculture to quarantine and recall these plants. Extension worked closely with local media to get

the word out on which plants were affected and how to properly dispose of the plants.

SOD has the potential to affect several species, including oak, predominate in native forests. If this disease becomes established, it could have a devastating effect on the oak trees growing in our

area. This issue serves as a reminder of Extension's role in our communities.

Horticulture | Fruit and Vegetable Production



In 2014, the Kansas Rural Center conducted a statewide food assessment that culminated in the Feeding Kansas report. The report concluded that while Kansas is an important agricultural state, we import a vast majority of the food we eat. This is especially true for specialty crops (i.e. fruits and vegetables) which accounted for only 0.03% of the state's farmland in 2012.

Garringer Family Farms and Johnson County Extension received a grant for specialty crop research.



Specialty Crop Production in Kansas



By Zac Hoppenstedt

In 2017, recommendations from the Local Food and Farm Task Force, appointed by the Kansas Legislature, stressed the importance of Kansas fruit and vegetable

farms and underscored the social, environmental and economic impact that a fresh produce industry could have in the state.

According to the 2017 Ag Census, there are approximately 130 acres in vegetable and orchard production in Johnson County. Orchard and vineyard acreage has increased slightly from 43 to 65 acres since 2012. At the same time, there is a national shift taking place in our food system which is consumer-driven. Over the last decade, organic and local production for direct-market sales has become one of the fastest-growing segments of U.S. agriculture, with fresh produce being among the most popular organic categories. According to two separate food hub feasibility studies conducted for the Kansas City metro area and Northeast Kansas, the demand for locally-grown fresh produce exceeds the supply nearby producers can provide (Flaccavento et al., 2014; Greater Kansas City Food Hub Working Group, 2015). In the Kansas City regional study, the value of unmet demand for local fruits and vegetables was determined to be more than \$150 million.

This unmet demand underscores the challenge of providing consistent quantity, quality, and product diversity to local buyers. This is especially daunting for small producers who make up the vast amount

of direct-to-consumer farms. There is a great need for technical expertise and education. The addition of small-acreage produce growers to the U.S. production system involves in many cases first-generation growers who are resource-limited. Data from the 2014 Great Plains Growers Conference, a regional growers conference held near Kansas City, indicates that 83.9% of vegetable growers



Students from California Trail Middle School plant trees around the WIC Garden at the Johnson County Extension office.

farm 1-10 acres and 53.9% have been growing for less than 5 years. New community, school and home gardeners need to know best practices for gardening, pest control, fertility, food safety, cooking, and more.

A 2017 Kansas Department of Agriculture survey, showed that 80% of farms growing specialty crops are under 6 acres in size, and only 11% exceed 20 acres. Data from the Agriculture

Resource Management Survey (ARMS) analyzed by Jablonski et. al. (2018) shows that profitability increases with scale and risk decreases with scale. So, given this information, our specialty crop farms are high risk, low profit, and yet there is an unmet demand for local food.

The fruit and vegetable horticulture program at Johnson County Extension includes regular workshops for gardeners and commercial growers on best-growing practices, produce safety, and business planning. The KSRE farm training initiatives like the Growing Growers Program, Kansas Specialty Crop Growers Association, and Great Plains Growers Conference include nearly 1,000 participants each year.

Our ongoing collaboration with the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment and the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program was demonstrated in the sixth year of the WIC Community Garden. Our team of horticulture specialists, WIC staff, and community volunteers grew over 4,000 lbs. of produce for donation to families receiving nutrition assistance, in addition to teaching youth and WIC families gardening skills.

Beyond technical assistance, Johnson County Extension's local food system issues focused on adaptive challenges relating to wider community concerns. This work involves support of citizen science applied research with county farms, local farmers markets and food hubs; supply chain linkages; volunteer programs for local farms and gardens; the Johnson County Food Policy Council, and much more.

Community Development

Engaging our Communities

Community vitality is at the heart of Johnson County Extension's Community Development program. And while that engagement takes on several different forms and involves many partners, the goal is always the same — help people and communities to be more successful. Take a glimpse at some of our engagement projects from 2019.

Community Conversations Facilitation:

This past year we have actively supported community partners in helping to facilitate group discussions ranging from strategic planning to group dynamics. The end goal is to help the organization meet a need which an outside facilitator can help with by bringing a new perspective to the conversation. We worked with the Friends of Johnson County Development Supports Board to revitalize their mission and vision statements along with goal setting.

“It is always a great experience to go through a Strategic Planning process where the facilitators are able to keep everyone engaged. That is exactly what we got. We were able to work through rewriting our mission and vision and leave with concrete goals for the future. This was all done in a manner that was efficient and engaging. From the board to the staff, we were all part of the process and all pleased with the work.”

Janel Bowers,
Chief Development & Operations
Officer for Friends of JCDS organization

Leadership Training:

Johnson County Extension has facilitated the Board Leadership training session for several years. Designed to provide basic training for members of community-based boards, the four-part series was hosted by local Extension professionals at locations across the state. These are results from our 2019 program:

- 21% of participants had little or no knowledge of how to help their organization move forward with a strategic planning process. After the training, 100% believed they could help with strategic planning.
- 50% of the participants understood the importance of organizational goals to help their board move into the future. By the end of the program, understanding increased to 96%.
- 4.55% of program participants were confident in knowing parliamentary procedure and its importance before the program. After the program, that increased to 54.55%.



These participants are excited to learn how to build and implement a strategic plan for their organizations.



Extension Survey Results

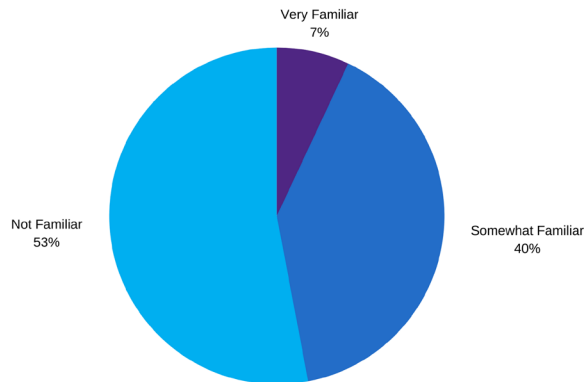
By Tara Markley

For the first time in Extension's 102 year history of providing services in Johnson County, a community-wide survey was conducted to create a baseline around awareness and usage of those services. The Johnson County Extension Education Foundation helped fund the survey, which was conducted by ETC Institute.

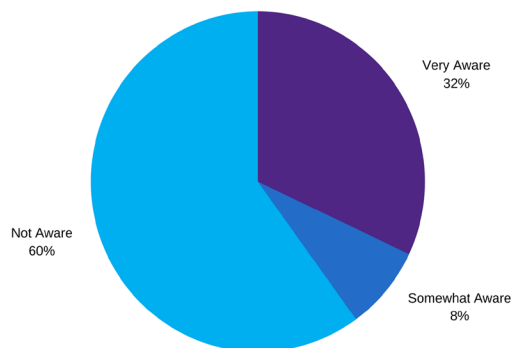
The survey was administered by mail and online to a random sample of 502 residents in the county. The results have a 95% level of confidence with a precision of at least +/- 4.4%.

The survey was administered by mail and online to a random sample of 502 residents in the county. The results have a 95% level of confidence with a precision of at least +/- 4.4%.

Familiarity with Extension



Familiarity with Extension's Low Cost to No Cost Services



24% of residents surveyed have used Extension services or classes.

24% of the residents who had used Extension services or classes involving volunteers:

- 44% interacted with Extension Master Gardeners
- 13% interacted with 4-H volunteers
- 5% interacted with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistant (VITA) program

24% of residents have participated in 4-H as a youth member or an adult volunteer.

Being a source of information is part of Johnson County Extension's mission, which begged the question on how residents prefer to receive information? We found that **53% like to search on the internet, 48% like to learn from the local news, 37% like social media, and 31% like to have an electronic newsletter.**

With these things in mind, we wanted to know what type of information they generally wanted or needed. **34% indicated they generally want or need "Skill Development."** This means they want to increase their knowledge and skills on a topic or interest, which Extension offers with classes and events. **The remaining 66% want their information as needed.** They want to access the information the very moment they need it, which Extension provides through the website, articles and media.

Although these are just a few points of information, this survey provided Extension with information that will help supply relevant and timely information to Johnson County residents.

Collaborations and Partnerships

Our agents work with extension volunteer leadership, county officials and departments, local business leaders, agencies, non-profits and other area stakeholders to create partnerships that guide the development of Johnson County Extension programming.

These critical collaborations extend extension's educational outreach further into the community and insure that 1) county residents are best served, 2) their growing needs are addressed, and 3) extension funding is expended responsibly on local issues.

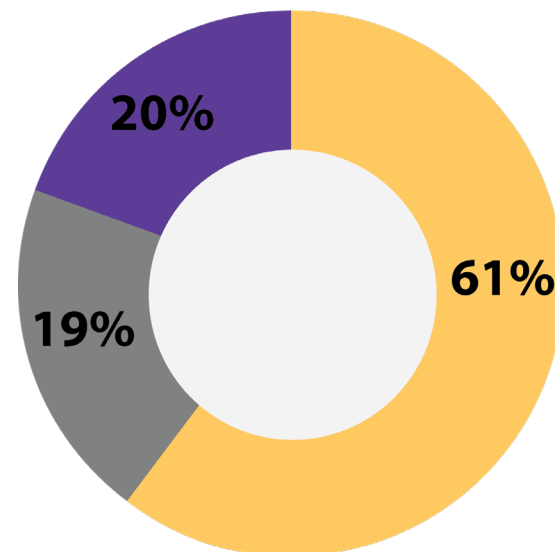
Alliance for Economic Inclusion	City of Roeland Park	Farm Service Agency	Johnson County Commission on Aging
Alzheimer's Association	City of Shawnee	Financial Professionals Inc.	Johnson County Continuum of Care on Homelessness
American Academy of Family Physicians	City of Westwood Hills	Foster/Adopt Connect	Johnson County Department of Health & Environment
Arcare	Connecting for Good	Fox 4 News	Johnson County Extension Education Foundation
Blue Valley Parks & Recreation	Cover Kansas	Gardner Edgerton School District	Johnson County Fair Board
Blue Valley School District	Cultivate KC	Gardner Farmers Market	Johnson County Health & Environment (WIC)
Boys and Girls Club, Olathe	Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead	Goddard Preschools in Olathe & Overland Park	Johnson County Libraries
Catholic Charities of Overland Park	Deep Roots KC	Growing Futures of Shawnee Mission	Johnson County Manager's Office
City of Fairway	Delta Kappa Gamma	Growing Growers	Johnson County Noxious Weed Division
City of Lenexa	De Soto Career and Technical Education Advisory	Hindu Indian and Cultural Center	
City of Olathe	De Soto School District	Horizon Academy	
City of Overland Park	El Centro Inc.	Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City	
City of Prairie Village	Evergreen Living Innovations, Inc.		

Funding Educational Outreach

Our federal appropriation makes up 5.2 million dollars (9%) of the 61 million dollar K-State Research and Extension Cooperative Extension system budget. The vast majority of this federal appropriation for Cooperative Extension is from the Smith-Lever Act funding and its related offshoots.

Johnson County Extension augments its core funding from county, state and federal governments through grants, participation fees, product sales and private contributions.

Johnson County Government	\$818,602
Kansas State University and Federal Government	\$273,957
Johnson County Extension Revenue Generation	\$261,943



Johnson County Parks & Recreation
 Johnson County Stormwater
 Johnson County TFM Office
 Kansas Association for Conservation
 and Environmental Education
 Kansas Department of Aging and
 Disability Services
 Kansas Department of Health and
 Environment
 Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks,
 and Tourism
 Kansas Pollution Prevention Program
 Kansas State University, Olathe Cam-
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 Kansas Radon Program
 KCTV 5

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 Lenexa T.O.P.S and K.O.P.S.
 Life Centers
 Mazuma Credit Union
 Mid-America Green Industry Council
 Mid-America Regional Council
 My Resource Connection
 Olathe Chamber of Commerce
 Olathe Communities that Care
 Olathe Health
 Olathe Hospice House
 Olathe Public Library

Olathe School District
 Olathe Towers and College Way
 Village
 Overland Park Arboretum and Botani-
 cal Gardens
 Overland Park Farmers Market
 Parents as Teachers of Olathe
 Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home
 Phoenix Family
 Poplar Court Senior Living
 Renewed Hope Food Pantry
 Ridgeview Village
 Rock Springs 4-H Center
 Roeland Park Community Center
 Rolling Hills Presbyterian Church

Shawnee Indian Mission
 Shawnee Mission School District
 Southwest Dairy Farmers
 Spring Hill School District
 St. Agnes Catholic School
 St. Mark's United Methodist Waysta-
 tion
 The Good Samaritan Society
 Tomahawk Elementary
 Unified Government of Wyandotte
 County
 University of Missouri Extension
 Village Church Food Pantry
 Wonderscope Children's Museum



2019 Extension Council from left to right. Top row: Dave Rock, Julie Dowd, Earle C. "Bud" Smith, Arn Eccles, Micheal McDermott. Bottom Row: Nancy Champman, Susie Mize, Stephanie Marksz, Jean Porter.

Key Stakeholders

Kansas State University Research and Extension

Richard B. Myers

President

Charles S. Taber

Provost and Executive Vice President

Dr. Ernie Minton

Dean of the College of Agriculture and
Director of K-State Research and Extension

Dr. Gregg Hadley

Associate Director,
Extension and Applied Research

Headquarters

K-State Research and Extension

123 Umberger Hall
Manhattan, KS 66506
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Johnson County

K-State Research and Extension

11811 S. Sunset Drive
Suite 1500
Olathe, KS 66061
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Johnson County Board of County Commissioners

Ed Eilert

Chairman

Becky Fast

First District Commissioner

James (Jim) P. Allen

Second District Commissioner

Steven C. Klika

Third District Commissioner

Janeé Hanzlick

Fourth District Commissioner

Michael Ashcraft

Fifth District Commissioner

Mike Brown

Sixth District Commissioner

Johnson County Managers

Penny Postoak Ferguson

County Manager

Maury Thompson

Deputy County Manager

Joe Waters

Assistant County Manager

Joseph M. Connor

Assistant County Manager

Johnson County Extension Council

Stephanie Marks

Chair

Micheal McDermott

Vice Chair

Jean Porter

Secretary

Susie Mize

Treasurer

Nancy Chapman

Julie Dowd

Arn Eccles

Dave Rock

Earle C. "Bud" Smith

Extension Program Development Committees (PDCs)

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Julie Dowd

Ted Guetterman

Jim Walton

Ray Antes

Dave Rock

Earle C. "Bud" Smith

Family and Consumer Sciences

Heather Schaller

Jean Porter

Susie Mize

Cindy Nice

Cindi Day

Angela Parks

4-H/Youth Development

Stephanie Marks

Meredith Mense

Trisha Smith

Megan Clark

Arn Eccles

Kerry Johnson

Community Development

Nancy Chapman

Chris Flores

Susan Hayden

Michael McDermott

Elisa Waldman

Judith Sharp

Volunteers

We could not provide our high level of service without the dedication from our volunteers. They all are passionate and hardworking, for their community. Johnson County volunteers give back to their community by facilitating research-based, accurate, unbiased Extension educational programming.

Volunteers in our three Masters programs are interested in health and nutrition, horticulture, and/or natural resources and the environment. Expert training from university and industry experts increases their knowledge and skill. Once trained and certified, these volunteers are required to serve a minimum number of hours annually.



K-State Master programs:

Extension Master Food Volunteers

- Volunteers: 88
- Hours: 10,418

Extension Master Gardeners

- Volunteers: 468
- Hours: 48,582

Extension Master Naturalist

- Volunteers: 93
- Hours: 6,696

Additional programs:

4-H Youth Development (adult & youth)

- Volunteers: 199
- Hours: 11,408

Family and Community Education

- Volunteers: 387
- Hours: 1,545

Home and Family Volunteers

(Volunteer Income Tax Assistance [VITA]; SCHICK/Medicare; & others)

- Volunteers: 42
- Hours: 1,263

TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS:
1,277

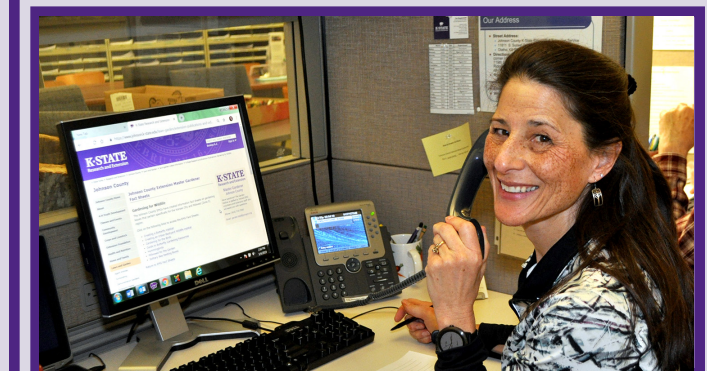
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS:
79,912

Dollar Value of Extension Volunteer Service to Johnson County

$$\begin{array}{r}
 79,912 \text{ hours} \\
 \times \quad \$23.35 \text{ per hour*} \\
 \hline
 \$1,865,945.20
 \end{array}$$

* Source: Independent Sector 2018 for Kansas wages

Volunteers in Action







The Future of Johnson County Extension

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Our Mission

We are dedicated to a safe, sustainable, competitive food and fiber system and to strong healthy communities, families, and youth through integrated research, analysis, and education. Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service. K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.


 Johnson County
 

In partnership together