



K-STATE
Research and Extension
Johnson County

JOHNSON
COUNTY
KANSAS

In partnership together

**ANNUAL
REPORT 2017**

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Stakeholders,

Cooperative Extension has been serving Johnson County residents for over 100 years. Our dedication to a safe, sustainable and competitive food and fiber system still drives us today, just as it did when we first started in 1917.

Our dedication to this mission is apparent in the services we provide our county residents. Whether it's working with producers to help them increase crop yield or educating a home gardener on ways to fight off pests eating their tomatoes, we provide unbiased, science-backed resources.

The second part of our mission is our dedication to a strong healthy community, families and youth. Our work covers the spectrum from saving seniors money through Medicare counseling to our 4-H youth helping third graders understand the importance of water quality. We ensure that important conversations are happening in our community.

Our way of engaging citizens in meaningful volunteer experiences is bar none. We provide the technical and educational training to develop citizens into subject-matter experts that deliver educational outreach based around a variety of topics, including:

- Gardening — ornamentals and edibles,
- Natural Resources — pollinators, noxious weed removal, flora and fauna,
- Food and Nutrition — science behind the food we eat,
- 4-H Youth Development — youth-driven education through project work ranging from rabbits to robots, public speaking skills, citizenship and service-learning.

Extension staff work diligently with our volunteers to deliver quality programs that meet the many different needs of our diverse residents. We work to fulfill K-State Research and Extension's five grand challenges by determining what is important to all of our stakeholders and then provide programs which make a difference by addressing local needs. Agents partner with our volunteers to create programs and services that meet the challenges our citizens face on a daily basis. We are extremely thankful for our volunteers' talent, dedication and support of the Johnson County Extension mission. It is because of their devotion we are able to expand our educational outreach.



Larry Justice, Extension Council Chairperson; Tara Markely, County Extension Director; Ed Eilert, Chairman, Johnson County Board of County Commissioners

“ We ensure important conversations are happening in our community.”

Tara Markley, County Extension Director

Extension is an active community partner. We work with many county and municipal government departments, non-profits and corporations, businesses and social services. Their input guides our programming direction. In turn, Extension provides the innovation and scientific expertise. Our agents collaborate with these partners to produce important programs which impact local issues. From nutrition education at local food pantries to emergency preparedness and response, Johnson County Extension is there. We work hard to stay abreast of the county's needs. We involve our partners and citizens in program decisions so that we provide quality programs which are not offered anywhere else.

As we move forward into our next century of service to our county residents, it is an honor and a privilege to serve our Johnson County community.

Sincerely,



Tara Markley,
County Extension Director

Utilizing the Five Grand Challenges to Address Local Needs

K-State Research and Extension identified five “grand challenges” facing every Kansan:

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



Since then the university's efforts in research and extension focus on addressing these challenges.

Johnson County K-State Extension faculty educators (agents) work closely with faculty on the Manhattan campus to make sure programming is based on the best available research.

But Extension is not just about disseminating research results. Local agents help guide the research done through K-State Research and Extension by providing feedback on local peoples' needs. This is another reason Extension works closely with local stakeholders.

Local Extension agents and staff balance the mission of these five grand challenges with the strategic plans of Johnson County Government to deliver local programming targeted towards the citizens of Johnson County.

OUR COUNTY

OUR SERVICES

What is Extension

President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act in 1862, creating land grant universities like Kansas State University to make higher education available to all.

Local Funding

The Cooperative Extension System is a nation-wide system of cooperative funding for extension work, created in 1914 through the Smith-Lever Act.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture provides funds to land grant universities. States and county governments contribute additional funds for locally-based extension offices and support staff.

This county-based financial support ensures that extension programs are driven by local needs and priorities.

Local Service

Local extension faculty work with extension volunteer leadership, local stakeholders and partners to deliver programs that help meet local peoples' needs.

Practical, Hands-on Learning

Anyone can access information from the internet. But is it valid? Does the person know how to apply that information to their local issues?

Extension programs empower residents through practical, hands-on learning to help participants solve problems and improve their lives.

The information residents receive is scientific-backed, research-based, unbiased, delivered by agents that help the residents apply the information and achieve the best solution to their needs.

Helping Johnson County Seniors Stay Strong and Independent

Before I found this class I had tried many exercise options. I basically failed at all of them. Most were designed for younger people so I couldn't keep up or they were impersonal. I knew that if I didn't keep my strength up I would lose my ability to take care of myself and that was the last thing I wanted to happen. Then I found this class and I feel much stronger just after 1.5 sessions and I really enjoy doing our workouts. The social time spent with the class always puts me in a good mood. If I didn't have this class to go to, I'm afraid I would go back to no exercise. It's just not fun to do alone!

Thank you for providing this program for Senior citizens.

Dana Cooper, Olathe



Saved \$8,000 Annually in Medicare Costs

We were happy to find that there was assistance via the county extension service! We both had changes in the formulary that created confusion in which program to select. One of my cholesterol-lowering prescription drugs was not going to be in the 2018 plan that I had been enrolled in 2017. After a review of the 2018 plans we were able to select alternative providers from plans at a marked reduction in costs. An important outcome was that we also felt much more comfortable with the new providers that we selected. Thanks again for this service and assistance!

David and Dorothy Stalling, Lenexa



Three Generations of 4-H Youth Development: Teaching Family Values

4-H has given our family the opportunity to learn life skills together that are very valuable. We have watched our children grow and learn how to do things like cooking, rocketry, leadership skills and public speaking. We have been a part of a community that provides lots of friendships. We have a common bond of teaching our kids not only projects but deeper values like kindness and respect. Our family is grateful for the memories.

Brian, Nancy, Kylie (10 year member), and Charlie (8 year member) Bergdall, Olathe



CHRONIC DISEASE

PREVENT AND MANAGE

We define health as a person's physical, mental and emotional well-being.

What We're Doing

Johnson County Extension delivers university research-based programs not offered by other agencies in the county. These programs educate residents, helping them adopt behaviors that improve their health, financial stability and quality of life.



Stay Strong Stay Healthy

This evidenced-based eight-week program for older adults meets the recommendation for healthy muscle strength. The program's goal is to improve health and quality of life. Nearly 100 residents participated in 2017. Instructors are trained K-State Extension faculty and supported by an agreement with the University of Missouri Extension.



Dining with Diabetes

This national cooperative extension program is designed to boost the health and wellness of those with Type 2 diabetes or who are pre-diabetic, and help educate their family members, caregivers and others who support them. Participants learn healthy cooking techniques to help manage their blood glucose. The program includes sampling healthy foods and discussion with a dietitian or certified diabetes educator.

KEY FIGURES

Johnson County Community Health Assessment

- The number of people in poverty rose to over 30,000
- Fifteen percent of individuals reported they were always/usually worried about paying their monthly bills
- Six in 10 Johnson County residents are overweight or obese
- Cancer surpassed heart disease as the leading cause of death



Medicare Open Enrollment Counseling

Every day, 10,000 Americans become Medicare eligible, but many do not understand health insurance or Medicare. Insufficient or inaccurate information can lead to late enrollment penalties, gaps in coverage, strained finances and delayed health-care treatment.

In 2017, Extension provided Medicare Part D counseling and saved Medicare participants \$218,403.



\$218,403
SAVED

Grand Challenges Served



Operation Red File Provides First Responders Critical Health Information



Operation Red File is a partnership with the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services. Donations provided free red plastic files to residents for attachment to the home refrigerator. The files contain important emergency medical and contact information, including prescription drug lists, advance directives and a current photo in case of a silver alert.

When introduced in October, more than 1,000 files were handed out. An additional 500 files were distributed to residents in the next ten days. The files provide emergency personnel with crucial information they need to provide the best treatment that they can during a critical time in a patient's health.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

PREPARING YOUTH FOR THE GLOBAL MARKET

Johnson County 4-H Youth Development promotes STEM education through Agri-sciences

What We're Doing **science | technology | engineering | math**

Extension partners with industry and business to create real-world learning experiences.

Our youth learn by doing, teaching them to become self-directed, productive problem solvers valued by employers in a competitive economy.

4-H and Bayer Demonstrate Why #ScienceMatters

National 4-H and Bayer U.S. awarded Johnson County Extension a \$25,000 grant for their Science Matters program. This program addresses the need for enhanced STEM education and growing a STEM workforce by fostering a love of scientific exploration in students across urban and rural areas around the country.

Johnson County was one of five regions selected in the country. Fifteen 4-H and non-4-H youth ages 13 – 17 participated in a National Youth Summit on Agri-Science held in Washington D.C. Local youth met with the other selected high school students and engaged in hands-on educational experiences to develop the skills and knowledge needed for the challenges facing agriculture, food security and sustainability. Our youth are working with Bayer volunteers to identify 3 science-based local issues in the county and to develop solutions that address each issue.



Enhancing School Curriculum Throughout the County

Extension works with teachers to provide programming that reinforces and expands on the designated curriculum set by the Kansas State Department of Education to meet the state's academic standards.

- The Junior Master Gardener program is facilitated by the Extension Master Gardener's (EMGs) in six local schools in three districts. Science, math, social studies, art, language, and many other subjects are taught using nature as the learning laboratory, making these concepts more meaningful.
- Blue Valley Wilderness Science Center (WSC) is an educational facility created with the primary goal of providing authentic learning opportunities for students. EMGs help students study four ecosystems at the WSC: prairie, forest, river and wetland.
- The Slice of Agriculture program for fourth-graders uses the ingredients of a pizza as the basis for learning agriculture, conservation, environmental science, safety, health and nutrition.

IMPROVING COUNTY WATER QUALITY

Clean water is crucial for attracting new businesses and families

What Were Doing

Stormwater runoff is a leading contributor to contaminants in our county's streams and lakes. Johnson County Extension works with Johnson County Government, and local cities and businesses to educate the public through a strategic marketing campaign on ways residents can help reduce nonpoint sources of contaminants during stormwater runoff.



Johnson County Healthy Yards Expo

Johnson County Extension teams with Johnson County Stormwater Management and the cities of Lenexa, Overland Park and Shawnee to present this educational event.

Local experts help homeowners make better choices on environmentally conscious lawn and garden care techniques.

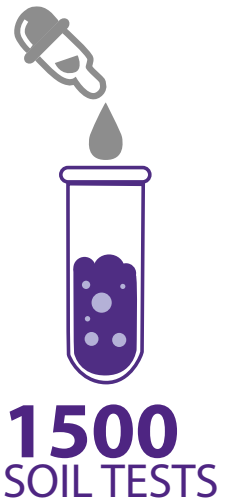
In 2017, more than 1,000 visitors attended the Expo.

Record Number of Soil Tests

If it's on the ground it's in the water.

When it rains healthy lawns reduce rain runoff. The key to a healthy lawn is a soil test. Soil testing tells the client the base fertility levels. Extension then provides personalized recommendations for the correct nutrient rates, analysis and application times for success. Soil testing reduces nutrients in our local waterways.

Last year, Extension analyzed and provided fertility recommendation for 1,500 soil samples — the highest number ever performed in one year.



Grand Challenges Served



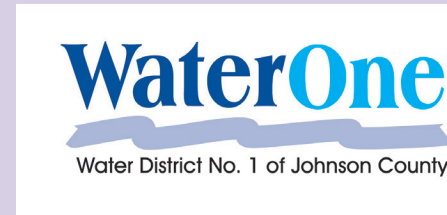
OUR PARTNERS

PROGRAMS DRIVEN BY LOCAL NEEDS

Local Extension faculty work with Extension volunteer leadership, local stakeholders and partners to deliver programs that meet local needs

What We're Doing

With input from individuals, county departments, agencies, non-profits and corporations, Extension develops non-credited educational outreach that help residents improve their businesses, families and lives.



ADM Cares
Alliance for Economic Inclusion
Arcare
Bayer United States
Bloom Living Senior Apartments
Blue Valley School District
Catholic Charities
Catholic Diocese Schools
Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead
Desoto Career and Technical Education Advisory
El Centro Inc.
Evergreen Living Innovations, Inc.
City of Fairway
Financial Professionals Inc.
The Goddard School
The Good Samaritan Society
Growing Futures Early Education, Inc.
Hen House Market

Hindu Temple and Cultural Center
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Hospice House – Olathe Health
HyVee
Johnson County Commission on Aging
Johnson County Conservation District
Johnson County Continuum of Care on Homelessness
Johnson County Emergency Management
Johnson County Extension Education Foundation
Johnson County Fair Board
Johnson County Farm Bureau
Johnson County Food Policy Council
Johnson County Health and Environment (WIC)
Johnson County Library
Johnson County Manager's Office

Johnson County Noxious Weed
Johnson County Parks and Recreation
Johnson County Public Works
Johnson County Sheriff's Department
Johnson County Stormwater Management Advisory Council
Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services
Kansas State University – Olathe
K-State Research and Extension Horticulture Center – Olathe
City of Lenexa
Mid-America Regional Council MARC
My Resource Connection
City of Olathe
Olathe Church of Jesus Christ of latter Day Saints
Olathe Communities that Care
Olathe Unit – The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kansas City

Olathe Head Start
Olathe Latino Coalition
Olathe Public Library
Olathe School District
Olathe Towers and College Way Village
City of Overland Park
Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Garden
Overland Park Convention Center
Ridgeview Village
Santa Fe Waystation Food Pantry – St. Mark's United Methodist Church
City of Shawnee
Shawnee Mission School District
Southwest Dairy Farmers
Spring Hill FFA
WaterOne
Whole Foods Market



Healthy Yards Expo

The City of Shawnee has had the privilege of partnering with Johnson County K-State Research and Extension for the past 7 years on the Healthy Yards Expo. During that time, we have seen exponential interest, participation, and education throughout our community in water quality as it relates to the health of

our yards. Dennis Patton has provided exceptional leadership for the committee and has proved himself, time after time, to be a wellspring of knowledge! This event is an excellent way to meet the requirements of our State of Kansas Water Quality Permits, as well as bring to light good stewardship for our communities' resources. Our citizens are more knowledgeable about their contribution to their watersheds, local businesses are more interested in providing products and services to help encourage good water quality and reduce stormwater runoff, and the City of Shawnee is provided with another intangible tool to ensure that Clean Water Starts Here!

Jonathan Wiles, CET, CFM, CSM | Stormwater Program Specialist/NFIP CRS Coordinator | City of Shawnee

Emergency Management

Johnson County Emergency Management works routinely with the Johnson County Extension to help coordinate the activities of the local FEMA ESF-11 (emergency support function 11).

The mission of the ESF-11 Agriculture, Animal Welfare, and Natural Resources Team is to ensure the provision and coordination of Food Safety and Security, Natural, Cultural, and Historical sites, Animal Welfare, Animal, Plant and Pest Disease response required to meet the needs generated by disaster affecting Johnson County. Johnson County Extension orchestrates the county-wide coordination required to fulfill this mission.

Johnson County Extension has long supported the efforts of Johnson County Emergency Management and the county emergency operations center through a variety of planning, training, and exercise activities as well as providing coordination with many external partners who also share in the ESF-11 roles and responsibilities."

Cary Gerst, Assistant Director – Planning | Johnson County Emergency Management



Overland Park Farmer's Market

Crystal Futrell at the Extension office is one of our favorite partners at the Overland Park Farmers' Market. She consistently helps consumers try new seasonal items that may be unfamiliar. Her part is two-fold — to educate and to help farmers' sell produce that isn't as popular as other well known items. We will always ask Johnson County Extension back and Crystal especially!

Ellie Haire, Events and Marketing Manager | City of Overland Park

OUR VOLUNTEERS

PASSION TO SERVE AND LEARN

We couldn't do what we do without our volunteers. Extension volunteers are unique. They are selected from a number of qualified applicants. Our selection process takes into account subject experience, volunteer experience, overall enthusiasm for public service, and the mission of Extension and the desire to serve Johnson County.

Depending on the program, most volunteers must undergo hours of basic training, instructed by university and industry experts. They then are required to serve a minimum number of hours

during their first year of training in order to become certified. Once a volunteer is certified they are required to continue with a minimum number of hours of advanced training and service to retain their certification. All volunteers working with youth undergo background checks and rigorous screening.

As residents of the county, our volunteers help guide our programming so that our outreach meets local needs.



Our Volunteer Programs — 2017

Extension Master Gardeners

Number of volunteers: 433

Volunteers hours: 51,223

Extension Master Food Volunteers

Number of volunteers: 77

Volunteers hours: 8,501

Extension Master Naturalists

Number of volunteers: 74

Volunteers hours: 3,084

4-H Youth Development

Number of volunteers: 316 (adult and youth)

Volunteers hours: 5,842

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

Number of volunteers: 28

Volunteers hours: 1,310

Family and Community Education

Number of volunteers: 90

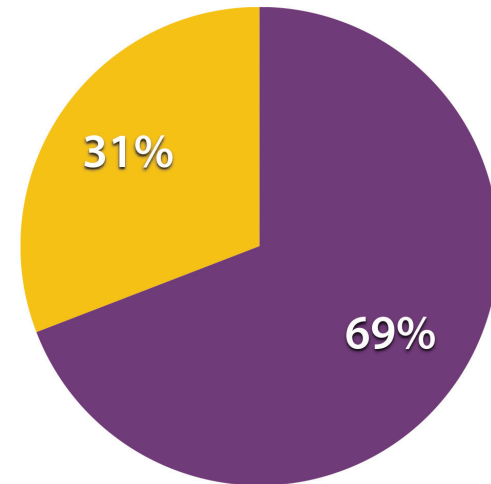


Total Number of Volunteers: 1018 | Total Volunteer Hours: 69,960

THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERS

Dollar Value of Extension Volunteer Service

SOURCE	2017 CONTRIBUTION
Extension Volunteers	\$1,727,312.00
Johnson County Gov.	\$770,745.00



- Extension Volunteers — 69,960 service hours
- Johnson County Government

EQUIVALENT TO **33.63** FULL TIME EMPLOYEES



2017 PAID EXTENSION STAFF
(9 FTE and 9 PTE)



2017 VOLUNTEER FTE EQUIVALENCE



KEY FIGURES

Dollar Value of Extension Volunteer Service to Johnson County

$$\begin{array}{r}
 69,960 \text{ hours} \\
 \times \$24.69 \text{ per hour}^* \\
 \hline
 \$1,727,312.00
 \end{array}$$

** Source: Independent Sector*



FUNDING

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

What We're Doing

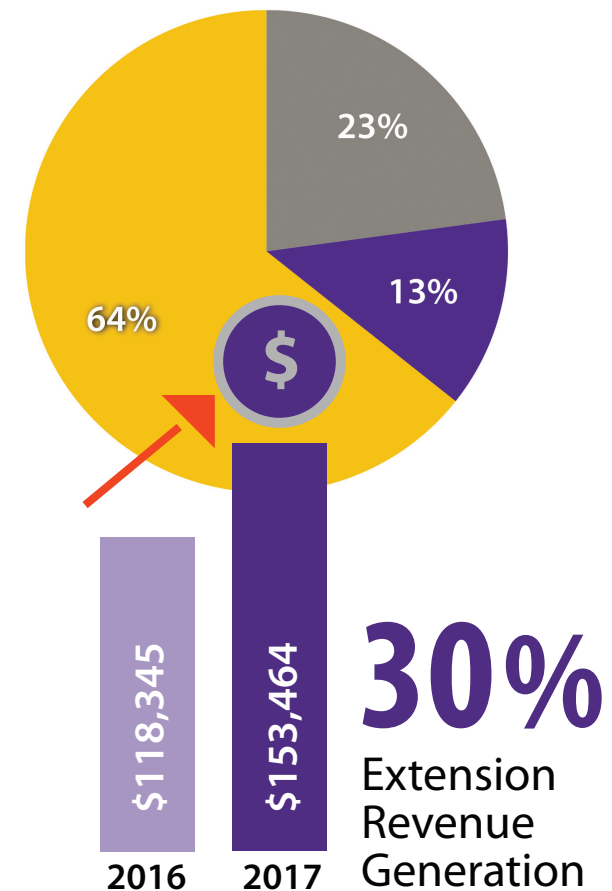
We get it. Money's tight. Nothing's free.

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

In return, Extension looks for opportunities to give back to the county.

2017 Sources of Support

SOURCE	2017 CONTRIBUTION
Kansas State University and Federal Money	\$273,957.00
JoCo Extension Revenue Generation	\$153,464.00
Johnson County Government	\$770,745.00



Saving Johnson County \$500K

In 2017, Extension's phone system was outdated and no longer supported by Cisco.

New phones were donated courtesy of Mr. Greg Gdanski, husband of former Extension staff member Nicia Gdanski, and his employer, General Services Administration (GSA).

Not only did Extension receive new phones but more than 1,700 phones were donated to Johnson County Government.

Johnson County's Department of Technology and Innovation (DTI) estimated the value of the donation at \$500,000.



MEET

OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Kansas State University Research *and* Extension

Richard B. Myers
President

April C. Mason
Provost and Senior Vice President

John Floros
Dean, College of Agriculture,
Director, K-State Research and Extension

Greg Hadley
Associate Director,
Extension and Applied Research

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Johnson County Board of County Commissioners

Ed Eilert
Chairman

Ron Shaffer
First District Commissioner

James (Jim) P. Allen
Second District Commissioner

Steven C. Klika
Third District Commissioner

Jason Osterhaus
Fourth District Commissioner

Michael Ashcraft
Fifth District Commissioner

Mike Brown
Sixth District Commissioner

Johnson County Managers

Hannes Zacharias
County Manager

Penny Postoak Ferguson
Deputy County Manager

Maury Thompson
Assistant County Manager

Joe Waters
Assistant County Manager

Johnson County Extension Council

Larry Justice
Chair

Angela Parks
Vice Chair

Kim Romary
Secretary

Earl C. "Bud" Smith
Treasurer

Jim Brashears
Pete Goetzmann
Michele Janson
Susie Mize
Jean Porter

Extension Program Development Committees (PDCs)

Agriculture and Natural Resources
James L. Brashears
Mike Epler
Ted Guetterman
Pete Goetzmann
Larry Justice
Jim Walton

Community Development
Michele Janson
Pam McConnell
Michael McDermott
Deb Settle
Rick Sheahan
Earle C. "Bud" Smith

Family and Consumer Sciences
Maggie Baker
Renee Bryant
Susie Mize
Jean Porter
John Peine
Rhonda Retting

4-H/Youth Development
Michael Lemon
Whitney Livengood
Stephanie Marks
Meredith Mense
Angela Parks
Kim Romary



Serving Johnson County, Kansas since 1917

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JOHNSON
COUNTY
KANSAS

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.

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Cover photo: Mark Stuecheli, Extension Master Gardener | Monet Garden, Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens