



Historic Y-Bridge in Stone County, Galena MO

The bridge was completed and dedicated in 1927. It was in service for 59 years until 1986 when it was closed to vehicular traffic.

Added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1991.



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Stone County

2023

Annual Report

108 E 4th Street
PO Box 345
Galena, MO 65656
417-357-6812

**SERVE
MISSOURI.**

**DELIVER
MIZZOU.**



Extension
University of Missouri

an equal opportunity/ADA institution



Office of Extension
and Engagement
University of Missouri

**OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR
FOR EXTENSION AND ENGAGEMENT**

108 Whitten Hall
Columbia, MO 65211
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December 2023

Dear county commissioners and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

Thank you for your important partnership with the University of Missouri Extension this past year.

I want to highlight three areas that address needs you helped us identify.

You may recall that the FY 23 state budget provided a one-time \$5 million infusion to MU Extension for growth. Of that, we allocated about \$3 million for field faculty in the areas of agriculture, 4-H, health/human development and business and community development.

Through a dedicated hiring effort, and thanks to that allocation, we have hired 168 new employees since November 2022. That includes 72 academic/faculty members, most of whom are field specialists in a priority area noted above, and 96 staff members (e.g., office administrators, youth and food and nutrition associates, etc.).

We also returned more faculty to local program delivery that best serves your county's needs, while preserving the partnership and relationship building work you value. Our extension and engagement specialists focus full-time on that work as they serve their assigned multi-county groups. Currently, 19 have been hired, with two more in the pipeline.

Finally, we are prioritizing our work with county extension councils. In the new role of partnership and council development director, Lorin Fahrmeier focuses on strengthening council representation and governance. This role will build stronger links with regional, educational and campus leadership to better identify and address local priorities.

At the UM System level, our engagement work across four universities and with leaders across the state makes a difference in areas of greatest need: broadband, workforce development, health access, food security and healthy futures for our youth.

Your county annual report shows what we are accomplishing together as we Serve Missouri and Deliver Mizzou. We look forward to strengthening that partnership with county commissioners and community stakeholders in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Chad Higgins, PhD
Interim Vice Chancellor, MU Extension and Engagement
Chief Engagement Officer, UM System

P.O. Box 345
 Courthouse, Second Floor
 108 E. Fourth St.
 Galena, MO 65656

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The Stone County Extension Council and Staff would like to thank the Commissioners for their continued support and funding, for the programs we provide to the residents of our county. We are committed to improving people’s live by helping them meet the challenges they face with research-based education and information.

We are constantly looking at the present and future needs to develop and continue to improve our programs. Program efforts include agriculture profitability and vitality, business and economic development, health and nutrition and youth development to help build family and individual strengths, and efforts to protecting the environment. Efforts to provide this programming includes series of lessons, short courses, on-sire farm visits, newsletters, phone consultations and one on one as well as growing choices for internet interaction.

As we address the challenges of the future, we appreciate the continued support of the Stone County Commissioners. In addition, we salute the many volunteers, community leaders, organizations and businesses, our Extension Council members and our staff who have given of their time and talents to help the residents of Stone County.

Here are some of the most noteworthy impacts for the year.

7,738 County Residents Reached in 2023

January 1st - December 31st 2023 by Stone County Specialist

Direct Program Contacts in Stone County	TOTALS	Indirect Program Contacts by County Specialists	TOTALS
Contacts in County	1334	Contact in County	10
Contacts From Other County	700	Contacts From Other County	18627
Direct Contacts in Other Counties		Direct Individual Contacts by Specialists	
Contact in County	2996	Contact in County	3001
Contacts From Other County	39528	Contacts From Other County	48255
Total Direct County Contacts	7331	Report based on the "County Contact Summary" produced from our MyExtension. Full demographic and affirmative action reports are available at the county office.	
Total Direct Contacts	95814		
Total all contacts in county	7341		
Total of all Contacts	121782		

Submitted by Brad McCain – Stone County MU Extension Council Chair

University of Missouri, Lincoln University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Local Extension Councils Cooperating

Who we are

Faculty and staff



Tim Schnakenberg
Agronomy



Amanda McCormick
Nutrition Program
Associate



JoEtta Bowling
Office Manager



Kyle Whitaker
Extension
Engagement
Specialist

Council members

Brad McCain, Chairman
Seth Fortner, Vice-chairman
Ali McCain, Secretary, Farm Bureau
Michael Kaup, Treasurer
Wayne Blades, Commissioner
Aubree Chisam
Ashley Copley
Cassie Cunningham
Jerad Finch
Tim Hejlek
Mark Hyde
Monica Mueller
Jim Sleper
Pam Sleper

Youth Members

Olivia Finch
Reese Hejlek



County commissioners

Mark Maples Presiding Commissioner
Wayne Blades Northern Commissioner
Hank Smythe Southern Commissioner

WHO WE ARE

MU EXTENSION: Using university research and science-based knowledge, University of Missouri Extension works with people to understand change, solve problems and make informed decisions. MU Extension addresses a wide range of needs that fall into three grand challenges for the state of Missouri; Economic Opportunity, Educational Access and Excellence, Health and Well -being. We offer in-person and online programming, publications and information in these major interest areas: Agriculture and Environment, Business and Community, Health and Safety, Youth and Family.

MU Extension is a partnership of the University of Missouri campuses, Lincoln University, the people of Missouri through county extension councils, and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

MU is a land-grant university, meaning it is a part of a federally mandated mission to carry the benefits of university research beyond campus. Federal legislation in the 1800s provided for the donation of public land to individual states. Missourians chose to apply their land grants to the existing Columbia campus. This created two universities in one — a land-grant institution leading in research for all citizens of the state, across the nation and around the world, and an intellectual center to advance liberal arts scholarship. Today, through statewide offices, publications and web-based services, extension faculty in every county of Missouri continue to carry the benefits of MU research throughout the entire state.

Every Missouri county, by Missouri State Statutes, has a University of Missouri Extension Council comprised of elected and appointed citizens. State law confers the right for councils to work with MU Extension faculty to act as educational brokers, putting the interests and concerns of local people



together with the resources of our land -grant University so people can obtain their goals. The MU Extension Council strives to support our three impact areas of Economy, Education, and Health, and represent the diverse sectors of Stone County by its membership.

Through a network of county offices, the University of Missouri solves problems and engages with communities across all 114 counties and the City of St. Louis.

MU faculty, staff and elected council members, who live in your community, work with you to identify local interests and issues and then offer relevant programming and resources to meet the unique needs of you and your community. Our job is to partner with communities to find solutions with credible, science-based information that will help you:

- Grow safe and healthy food
- Build and grow profitable businesses
- Improve your health and relationships
- Increase agricultural production
- Update professional training in business, health and safety
- Engage youth as valued, contributing citizens



Contact Us

Email: StoneCo@Missouri.edu

Website: <https://extension2.Missouri.edu/stone>

Social Media:
<https://www.facebook.com/MUExtStoneCounty>

Phone: 417-357-6812

Stop By: 108 East 4th Street, Galena, MO 65656

We are located on the 2nd floor of the Stone County Courthouse.

Budget and more

Appropriations budget

Income

County Appropriations	58,000
Total Income	58,000

Expenses

Salaries/Benefits	43,068
Travel	2,628
Postage	297
Telephone	2,793
Office Supplies/Service	1,666
Lease Equipment	2,150
Insurance	921
Election Expense	75
Youth Appropriations	1789
Total Expenses	55387

Stone County partners

Stone County Commissioners
Stone County Farm Bureau
Table Rock Community Bank
Simmons Bank
Stockman's Bank
Old Missouri Bank
Four State Stockyards
Rocking W Farm & Home
Stone County Soil & Water Conservation District
Southwest Cattlemen's Association
Shelter Insurance
White River Valley Electric
Crane First Baptist Church
Faith Lutheran Church, Branson
New Testament Christian Church

Return on investment

University System	174,388
Donations	2,300

MU Extension is a unique funding partnership.

Extension funding is a three-way partnership of federal, state and county government. Federal and state money, through the University of Missouri system, pay professional staff salaries, training costs, computers and communication equipment. County funds support the local office, secretarial and youth assistant salaries, staff mileage and council expenses.

The *Stone* County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Stone County Commissioners for their continued support of extension programs.



Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to *Stone* County Extension with a gift to be used immediately or as an endowment contribution for long term efforts. Monies put into the endowment are left forever to earn interest with the county office benefiting each year. You can also direct your donation to a specific program such as 4-H or Master Gardeners.

Delivering Mizzou to Stone County

2023 University Provided Resources to Stone County

Faculty & Staff Salaries and Benefits

The following Specialist & Associates serve and program in Stone County

- Tim Schnakenberg– Agronomy Specialist @ Stone County
- Kyle Whittaker– Extension Engagement Specialist
- Jenni Nevatt– Health & Nutrition Specialist
- Amber Allen– Human Development Field Specialist
- Chloe Collin– Dairy Specialist
- Jennifer Lutes– Agricultural Business Specialist
- Kelly McGowen– Horticulture Specialist
- Amy Patillo– Workforce Development Specialist
- Allen Waldo– Missouri APEX Accelerator
- Amy Jackson– Missouri SBDC
- Megan Crane – Cooperative Feral Hog Outreach
- Amanda McCormick – Nutrition Program Associate

Total 12 specialist/associates salaries & benefits provided by MU = \$168,800

- This is a total of their compensation divided by the counties they serve. It only reflects 90% of their time as each is 90% programming efforts.

Faculty & Staff Travel - \$1188

- University pays 30% of specialist travel at \$1188 and 100% of NPA travel at \$1800 per year

**Network & Equipment - \$2,000 per year for computers and \$600 for
internet services**

**Total University Contributions for 2023
\$174,388**



2023 Century Farm Recipients David Gold and Dwight Gold

Gold Family recognized by Century Farms Program

Galena, Mo. – The Stone County University of Missouri Extension recognized the 2023 Missouri Century Farms program inductee from Stone County, the Gold family, on Sept. 7th at the MU Extension Annual Picnic. The event was hosted by the Stone County MU Extension Council and was held at the Crane City Park. The evening included a meal served by the council members and special recognitions for the Century Farm family.

Family members David and Dwight Gold accepted the award. The Gold family originally acquired the farm in the fall of 1923 located in Hurley Missouri. Dwight was born and raised on the farm and was in the dairy business with his parents until their death. The Gold family operated a dairy on the farm until 2012. The farm is currently a beef operation. Dwight's son David Gold and his wife Traci currently live on the farm and operate the beef business. Dwight is still active in the day to day operations of the farm helping put up hay and other tasks as needed. Dwight worked his entire adult life on the farm, never having an off farm job. At the event Dwight talked about the struggles he and his family faced on the farm and how they met those challenges and were stronger for going through those difficult times. He stated he saw value in the hard work a farm operation requires and is proud to have raised his family on the same farm he grew up on.

The Centennial Farm project was initiated in Missouri in 1976, it awarded certificates to those individuals owning farms that had been in the same family for 100 years or more. In 1986, the University of Missouri Extension and the MU College of Agriculture created the annual Century Farm program and recognition. Missouri Farm Bureau became a co-sponsor in 2008. Since the program started in 1976, more than 8,000 Missouri farms have received the Century Farm designation.



Jerad Finch Family

**Pictured are:
Olivia, Lasche, Jerad,
Ellie**

Finch family chosen as Missouri Farm Family for Stone County

Galena, Mo. — Jerad & Lasche Finch and family of Shell Knob were among the families honored during the 66th annual Missouri Farm Family Day, Aug. 14 at the Missouri State Fair.

The Finch family was selected as the Stone County Missouri Farm Family by University of Missouri Extension in Stone County and the local Farm Bureau. The family includes daughters Olivia and Ellie.

Each year, the fair sets aside a day to recognize farm families from across the state that are active in their communities, involved in agriculture, and/or participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H or FFA.

The Finch family operates a 230-acre beef operation. The entire family is involved in the day to day operations of the farm.

The annual event is sponsored by five partner agencies: the Missouri Farm Bureau; the Missouri Department of Agriculture; the Missouri State Fair Commissioners; the MU College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources; and MU Extension.

The event showcases the impact that Missouri farm families have on the economy and heritage of the state, said Missouri State Fair Director Mark Wolfe. “These families are involved in agriculture activities in their communities and are active participants in local outreach and extension. As the premier showcase for Missouri agriculture, the Missouri State Fair is most certainly the appropriate place to celebrate these families.”

The Finch family was also honored at the Stone County MU Extension Annual Picnic on Sept. 7th. The event was held at the city park in Crane, a meal was served by the extension council members. The event was sponsored by Table Rock Community Bank

Leaders Honor Roll



Luanna LaVielle-Fullerton
- She has served as the VITA Tax program coordinator for several years. Her efforts have helped many Stone County residents with tax filing and tax advice. Her and a team volunteers provide many benefits to Stone County residents.



Joanne Anderson
- She has served on the Stone County council for many years. She is also very involved in the Master Gardener group. She volunteers at the Kimberly Area Library with the children's sensory garden.

The Leaders Honor Roll program is intended to honor outstanding community leaders and volunteers who have excelled in supporting, educating, and advancing MU Extension and/or 4-H in their communities and counties

Stone County



UM System Footprint in the county in 2023



FY23 county students

69 students

- 63 Undergraduates
- 6 Graduate and professional students
- 57 Full-time students
- 12 Part-time students
- 21 Pell grant recipients (aid year 2023)



County employees and retirees

17 people employed by UM

- 13 Campuses
- 4 MU Health Care

22 UM retirees and beneficiaries

UM salary and retirement income: \$1.1 million

UM state tax revenue: \$31,226

UM federal tax revenue: \$138,964



County alumni

Selected school alumni

- 10 Medicine
- 30 Nursing
- 23 Health Professions
- 12 Dentistry
- 9 Pharmacy
- 2 Optometry
- 7 Veterinary Medicine
- 46 Agriculture
- 80 Engineering
- 15 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- 8 teachers
- 2.6% of all district teachers
- 1 principal or administrator
- 5.3% of all district principals and administrators



County breakdown

MU

- 42 students
- 280 alumni
- 9 employees

UMKC

- 5 students
- 82 alumni
- 2 employees

Missouri S&T

- 19 students
- 74 alumni
- 2 employees

UMSL

- 3 students
- 47 alumni
- 0 employees



County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Stone County



County population: 31,018



County services provided

Health care (FY23)

- 111 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$27,110 of uncompensated care
- 6 in-state patients seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$43.61 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 237 visits to 106 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

Extension (2022)

- 853 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
- 384 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
- 469 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development

Stone County



University of Missouri System
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

UM System Statewide Footprint

Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In 2022, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 81,645 jobs.

\$3.1
billion

For every dollar invested from 2019 to 2021, the MU Extension Business Development Program has returned \$133 in economic impact for its clients by increasing sales more than \$1.6 billion. For a total impact of \$3.1 billion, the program has generated more than 37,000 jobs and attracted nearly \$451 million in capital investments and \$1.5 billion in government contracts.

- Between FY17 and FY22, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.46 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



In FY23, UM System was issued 33 patents and filed 61 new U.S. patent applications.

- In FY23, the UM System awarded 805 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$279.2 million in the state.



In FY23, to improve access to medical and health related services, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network's Show-Me ECHO program provided 18,381 hrs of case-based instruction to 2,938 learners located in 112 of 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.

Education and Training Provided



41,992 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2022)



Agriculture and natural resource programs served 174,692 farmers and related businesses (2022)



311,749 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2022)

Education Highlights

FY23 Financial Aid Awards

In FY23, 67.3% of the UM System's 80,702 students received financial aid totaling \$973.7 million

MU		UMKC	
27,256	\$536.0M	11,859	\$217.3M
students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded	students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded

Missouri S&T		UMSL	
6,748	\$117.7M	8,489	\$102.8M
students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded	students receiving financial aid	financial aid awarded



UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 58 higher education institutions (230,000 students), 485 K-12 school districts (832,000 students) and 132 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2022.

- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 32,098 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by Missouri four-year public institutions in 2022-23.
- UM System awarded 36.6% of the 1,935 research doctorates and 26.9% of the 3,593 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2022-23.
- In FY23, UM System's \$37.9 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 88.3% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.
- In 2023, over 10,900 Missourians accessed mobroadband.org, part of the UM System Broadband Initiative which helped the statewide build-out of high-speed internet infrastructure. MU Extension also supported residents in making individual challenges to the FCC that resulted in \$810,000 in additional funding for the state of Missouri.

Supporting the University of Missouri is an investment in the future of Missouri.

The university advances Missouri citizens and communities through its mission of teaching, research, public service, and economic development across our four campuses and University of Missouri Extension.

Prepared in December 2023, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration • UM IR • MU Institute for Public Policy • Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) • MU • UMKC • Missouri S&T • UMSL • UM System • UM Health Care • MU Extension • US Census Bureau • US Dept. of Health and Human Services • National Science Foundation



Missouri Grand Challenges: Local Solutions



STONE COUNTY

Knowing Missouri's Needs

MU Extension asked Missourians to share the greatest challenges they and their communities face.

We heard that feedback and made big changes in the way we work with council and local partners to improve lives. Locally, a network of county engagement and subject matter specialists now share MU's knowledge, research and engagement, targeting programs, information and assistance in:

- agriculture and environment
- youth and family
- business and community
- health and safety

For each grand challenge, MU Extension and Engagement targets a specific gain by 2023:



Economic opportunity

Increase MU Extension and Engagement's economic impact to the State of Missouri from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion overall, and from \$88 billion to \$100 billion in agriculture, the top economic sector



Educational access and excellence

Increase participation in postsecondary education from 66% to 70%



Health and well-being

Improve Missouri's health ranking from 40th to 35th in the nation

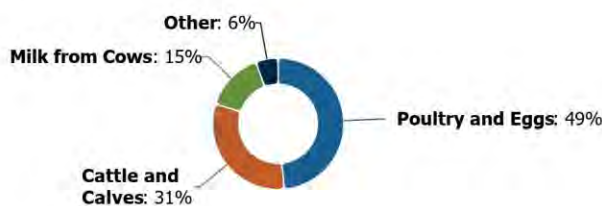
Knowing Local Challenges



CHALLENGE 1: Economic Opportunity: Agricultural Economics

Leading Agricultural Products

Total Commodity Sales: \$35,161,000



Net Farm Income

Net farm income (total sales, government payments, and other farm-related income minus total farm expenses) reflects the strength of the local agricultural community and can be an important measure for lenders and policy makers. The report area had a combined net farm income of \$7,974,000 in 2017, an average of \$12,698 per farm. This is below the statewide average farm income of \$29,485.

Report Area	Total Farms	Average Farm Income
Stone	628	\$12,698
Missouri	95,320	\$29,485

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, [Census of Agriculture](#), 2017.

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CHALLENGE 2: Educational Access and Excellence: *Early Childhood Education*

Access to Early Childhood Education

Head Start is an early childhood education program for at-risk children through age 5. Families utilizing Head Start have better success meeting developmental goals and achieving economic stability. In 2018, there were 1 Head Start programs in the report area, or 7.06 per 10,000 population. Access to head start is lower in this area than in the state.

Head Start Programs, Rate (Per 10,000 Children Under Age 5)

7.06

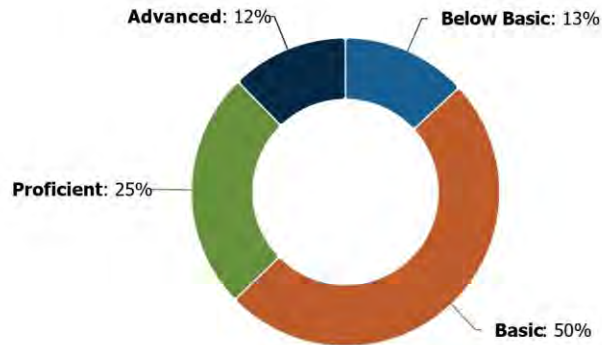
Missouri 11.76

Stone

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA - Administration for Children and Families. 2022.

English Language Arts Proficiency

Starting in the 4th grade, public schools emphasize proficiency in reading and reading comprehension. The ability to comprehend becomes the foundation to find and process information in later years and it is important to prevent children from falling behind. Of the 233.00 fourth graders tested in 2018, the known total number of students who had a basic level of English Language Arts was 109.00. The number tested as below basic was 29.00, basic was 109.00, proficient was 55.00, and advanced was 27.00.



Data Source: Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education. 2022.



CHALLENGE 3: Healthy Futures: *Healthy Weight*

Obesity (Adult)

This indicator reports the number and percentage of adults aged 20 and older self-report having a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30.0 (obese). Respondents were considered obese if their Body Mass Index (BMI) was 30 or greater. Body mass index (weight [kg]/height [m]²) was derived from self-report of height and weight. Excess weight may indicate an unhealthy lifestyle and puts individuals at risk for further health issues.

Note: In 2021, the CDC updated the methodology used to produce estimates for this indicator. Estimated values for prior years (2004 - 2017) have been updated in this platform to allow comparison across years. Use caution when comparing with saved assessments generated prior to November 10, 2021.

Percentage of Adults Obese, 2016

30.9%

Missouri 33%

Stone



Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2021.

Physical Inactivity

Within the report area, 5,603 or 18.6% of adults aged 20 and older self-report no active leisure time, based on the question: "During the past month, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercises such as running, calisthenics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise?" This indicator is relevant because current behaviors are determinants of future health and this indicator may illustrate a cause of significant health issues, such as obesity and poor cardiovascular health.

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Adults Age 20+ with No Leisure Time Physical Activity, Percent

18.6%

Missouri 21.4%

Stone

Data Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. 2021.



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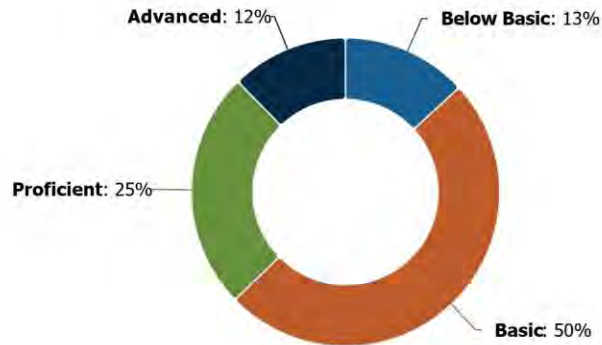
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MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs

Missouri 4-H for ages 8 – 18



4-H In-school clubs meet during the school day. Members participate in projects that supplement their existing lessons. Clubs may meet for short periods or span the full 4-H program year. Members can elect officers and plan learning activities with options of public speaking, community service and links to career readiness.



Missouri 4-H Agriculture and STEM programs

employ hands-on activities that foster problem-solving, creativity, critical thinking and exploration in engineering and technology. Agriculture programming emphasizes biology, environmental science, agri-science, veterinary science and engaging activities such as animal care and agronomy. STEM programs delve into computer science, robotics, aerospace, physics, chemistry and veterinary science.



4-H Natural Resources programs employ hands-on activities in climate science, environmental sustainability, renewable energy, sportfishing and wildlife conservation. The **Shooting Sports program**, which teaches marksmanship, safe firearm use, hunting and archery principles, is a prime illustration of how 4-H programs promote holistic youth development and responsible citizenship. Supported by caring adult leaders, these programs offer opportunities to cultivate life skills, self-worth and conservation ethics.



Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Stone County

Missouri 4-H

Local Impact



MISSOURI 4-H STATEWIDE IMPACT

MISSOURI 4-H STATEWIDE EVALUATION



4-H members ages 8-18, participated in our Missouri annual evaluation.
The evaluation used the National 4-H Common Measures.

N = 432

92.1% Keep trying to reach their goals.

99.8% Show respect for other's ideas.

97.5% Willing to work hard on something difficult.

95.8% Think about other people's feelings, before saying something

94.2% Help others reach their goals.

65.3% Comfortable speaking up in a group.

93.5% Stop to think about their choices, when making a decision.

88.9% Can work with someone, who made them upset.

99.1% Learn from their mistakes.

76.7% Comfortable being a leader.

87.5% Set personal goals.

97.2% Looks for ways to involve all members of a group.

98.6% Like to learn new things.

95.8% Like to learn about people who are different from them.

99.3% Treat others the way they want to be treated.

92.3% Willing to try something they might get wrong.

GROWING TRUE LEADERS OF TODAY AND TOMMOROW

Local Profiles and Stories

COMPARED TO THEIR PEERS, 4-H'ERS ARE:

4X more likely to make a positive contribution to their communities.

2X more likely to participate in out-of-school-time science programs

2X more likely to make healthier choices

2X more likely to report feeling competent

2X more likely to feel positive about their wellbeing

4-H alumni are:

3X more likely to participate in community service

2X more likely to report living life with intentionality and purpose

2X more likely to have the goal of being a leader



MAKE A POSITIVE CHOICE - JOIN 4-H



Stone County currently has two 4-H clubs. The Colts Club meets in Cape Fair and a new 4-H club was chartered in 2023 that meets at Reeds Springs High School. The Stone County Council is looking to add a Youth Program Associate in 2024. 4-H is always looking for volunteers, if you are interested in working with youth in Stone County please contact the extension office in Galena.



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU**
 through credible statewide programs
Agriculture and Environment



The Missouri Master Gardener program

enables people of all ages to get in-depth horticultural training and then apply what they've learned to improve their communities and educate others about gardening.



In 2022, almost 4,000 Missouri Master Gardeners completed over 133,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS throughout the state.



Management-intensive grazing

involves dividing large fields into smaller paddocks and systematically rotating livestock among them. Producers who attend grazing schools learn how to reduce costs through improved livestock, grazing and pasture management while getting insights into fencing, watering systems and grazing system design.

The annual impact of management-intensive grazing is estimated to be \$125 MILLION per year in Missouri.



The Missouri Integrated Pest Management Program,

funded by USDA grants, has been an important extension program for 30-plus years. Mizzou IPM distributes articles, pest monitoring data and publications on how to improve the application of integrated pest management strategies and systems.

The MU Soil Testing Program delivers research-based nutrient and lime recommendations to more than 32,500 customers annually.

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



There were 120 participants who attended the 92nd **Stone County Livestock and Forage Conference** in February. Topics covered included becoming a drought-resilient farm using warm season grasses, maintaining the cow and calf during calving time and hay feeding strategies. At the end of the meeting, 100 percent of the participants ranked the program as either meeting or exceeding their expectations. Stone County farm producers are an economic generator for the local economy. When they suffer economically, their farm product suppliers (feed and fertilizer dealers, hardware stores, fuel suppliers, seed dealers, etc) also suffer. Their economic situation can tie directly to food costs in grocery stores. This program addressed ways this sector in the county economy can remain viable.



A free **Pesticide Waste Pick Up** was offered by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in conjunction with MU Extension. This was the only regional opportunity to dispose of waste pesticides offered in Southwest Missouri in 2023. It was held in May in Crane. This was an outstanding effort toward environmental protection since the products gathered were legally incinerated without harm to the environment and will never be found in groundwater or create a human health risk in the future.



Farm Visits with Farm Producers is a hallmark of MU Extension. These personalized visits are invaluable to producers and help MU to be involved first-hand with the issues facing today's ag industry. Here, a cattle producer gets a visit from livestock field specialist, Patrick Davis, to evaluate what may be causing a lameness issue. Pest issues, nutrient management, animal health and nutrition, crop management and economics are just a few of the topics that are discussed. Other specialist who regularly did farm visits in the county included Reagan Bluel, Tim Schnakenberg, Micah Doubledee, Patrick Byers and Kelly McGowan.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



There were four farm families who attended the **Stone County Century Farm Celebration** in July. This event in Galena was hosted by the Stone County Historical Society. The society worked with the extension center to locate and invite farms in the Missouri century farm program since it began in 1976. There are 41 farms in Stone County enrolled. This program gave each family an opportunity to tell their farm stories. Pictured were representatives from the Flood Farm (1887), Mease Farm (1903), Crumpley Farm (1887) and the Johnson Farm (1919). Tim Schnakenberg shared a historical perspective of what agriculture in Stone County may have been like in the last 150 years. The oldest Century farm in the county is the Weatherman (Anderson) farm of 1844.



Crane Broiler Festival has been a tradition since 1952 and in the last twenty or more years, extension has been present during the weekend to offer free educational advice and resources to participants. Extension council members, master gardeners and staff keep the booth open stay busy interacting with the public.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



There were 341 participants who attended the **Private Pesticide Applicator Trainings** offered by Tim Schnakenberg. Trainings occurred in Cassville, Springfield, Galena, Clever, Mt. Vernon, Fair View, Taneyville and Point Lookout. Pesticide applicators also benefited from a 1.5-hour prerecorded Zoom session that was used for training statewide. Several other classes were offered virtually across the state. This training has direct impact on environmental safety, human safety and the safety of the American food supply. Farmers are retrained every five years in order to maintain a private pesticide license to purchase and use Restricted-Use pesticides.

“Very informative program that is great for gaining knowledge about pesticides.” “I think the program was well thought out and interactive.” “I like the examples and stories you share to relate info to the real world.”



Regional Drought Assessments were conducted by Tim Schnakenberg, Micha Doubledee and Hunter Lovewell for Farm Service Agencies in thirteen counties. These extensive reviews of the 2023 drought helped the state FSA office and county committees to determine financial assistance for landowners who had signed up for drought insurance programs.



Thirty-five local farm producers participated in the **Novel Tall Fescue Renovation Workshop** in Mt. Vernon in March. Other events were offered in Virginia and Georgia this year. This program is sponsored by the Alliance for Grassland Renewal program that involves many extension specialists. In addition, Tim Schnakenberg assisted in a nationwide Zoom training for farm government employees and extension employees. There were 105 participants across the Eastern US, including many from Missouri.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



Missouri Grazing Schools provide the most in-depth training on how to be successful with Management-intensive Grazing (MiG) practices. These three-day schools are unique to Missouri and have set a standard for teaching and demonstrating the newest grazing concepts. Schools were offered in 2023 in Christian, Greene, Newton, Dade and Lawrence counties. The schools allowed farmers to think differently about how they manage their pastures and have become a very effective tool. There were 131 livestock producers who attended the sessions from many counties. Numerous presentations were offered along with on-farm field trips to evaluate pasture grazing systems.



This year's **Ozark Empire Fair Hay Show** had outstanding participation with 39 entries submitted from eight counties. Several ag specialists traveled to 23 farms to collect samples of the entries. This was a great opportunity to help producers better educate themselves on hay quality. Counties represented this year included Greene, Vernon, Lawrence, Christian, Webster, Stone, Pettis and Barry counties. The highest-testing entry and champion dry hay came from Charles Kruger of Verona. It was a third cutting alfalfa hay entry that was harvested on June 27. It produced a 277 Relative Forage Quality (RFQ). The champion haylage was entered by Groves-McDonald of Billings, Missouri. It's cutting date was June 21 and the RFQ was 223. The show has occurred since 1985. Tim Schnakenberg and Reagan Bluel served as Superintendents for this show.



Farm Fest at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds in Springfield is the largest gathering of the farm community in Southwest Missouri. MU Extension ag specialists staff a booth at this event throughout the entire weekend in October. This year there was an emphasis on native warm season grasses. Thousands of visitors streamed by the booth and hundreds stopped in to visit with regional specialists.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



There were 370 farmers and ranchers from across Southwest Missouri who attended the 39th annual **Spring Forage Conference** this year in Springfield. This is the largest conference and trade show offered to the livestock community in the region. There were sixteen concurrent sessions were held throughout the day on a variety of topics of interest to most grass producers. This event is a partnership between University of Missouri Extension, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Missouri Department of Conservation and Missouri State University.



Career Exploration Field Day is a large gathering of high school agriculture students from sixty-one communities in Southwest Missouri. The picture shows about a half-mile of school buses in the parking lot. Most MU Extension regional ag specialists were involved in this effort at the Southwest Research, Extension and Education Center at Mt. Vernon in September. Each provided a booth and an agricultural topic to discuss in multiple 20-minute segments. They also took time to discuss career options for these youth to consider in agriculture. Over 1,600 students along with volunteers, extension and MU faculty and businesses made the Career Exploration Field Day successful!



Building Resilience in the Beef Industry events were offered in Mt. Vernon and Clever in August to assist livestock producers who were directly affected by the drought. There were 56 participants from nine counties who attended. There were six field and state specialists who provided presentations on topics such as assessing the price of stored forages, market outlook, culling tips, early weaning, forage renovation and irrigation options.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



Women in Dairy:

Few careers available are as isolating as dairy farming. The twice a day milking often limits travel and creates a scenero few can understand. MU Extension Women in Dairy is a program designed to bring ladies together, off the farm, to build community. In 2023, programming was focused around Value added agriculture. Ladies toured a variety of options to add value to their operation and therefore increase cash flow. Annually, the group celebrates June Dairy Month through community outreach – Hosting “Meet your Farm-HER” in Springfield where consumes interface with cows and farmers to better understand where their milk comes from. The program was featured in a Southwest magazine “Connections” -

https://issuu.com/connectiononline/docs/cn_06jun23_finalproof/8



Missouri Dairy Expo:

The Missouri Dairy Expo is the largest producer education event offered in the state. MU Extension provides support through speakers and planning of this robust, multi-day event.

Pictured – Dairy farm families value research based information, as observed by the crowd listening in to the keynote speaker there to inform how to successfully transition their close cows into lactation.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Profiles and Stories

Artificial Insemination School

Partnership between MU Extension, Select Sires, American Foods Group and Joplin Regional Stockyards expands knowledge for cattle producers in Missouri

Artificial Insemination school is a collaborative effort between Elizabeth Picking, Chloe Collins and Reagan Bluel. We partner with Joplin Regional Stockyards and MU's SW-REEC to provide HANDS ON learning. Due to the intensive hands-on nature of this certificate program, we are only able to take on 12 students per session – however the impact of learning this skill forever changes the trajectory of your cow herd. A recent graduate reported a **95% conception rate**. In addition to improved genetics through the sire side, the tightening calving window, earlier in the season will wean a heavier calf crop and make the herd easier to manage nutritionally and therefore will more-likely set the herd up for another great breeding season the following year.



Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



Cow Camp

Reagan Bluel created a tasty presentation titled, “Human TMR: Comparing and contrasting dietary requirements of cattle vs humans” to help nearly 50 dairy youth from across the state understand how to successfully feed a total mixed ration to their dairy herd.

Ration formulation

Confinement herds who feed a Total Mixed Ration (TMR) tend to average ~ 60% of the total cost to production in feed costs. This presents an opportunity for formulating an exacting ration to provide just what the herd needs, and therefore limiting the per cow costs.

When high quality homegrown forages are available, it is common to reduce total feed costs by \$2500-5000.00 / month on a 150-cow herd. This is the most impactful service I provide.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact

Show Me Select Heifer Program

This program gives cattle producers an opportunity to market high quality replacement heifers through 12 sales a year. This also offers producers a source of bred replacement heifers which have gone through a reproductive tract score and pelvic measurement as well as being bred to low birth weight bulls to reduce the risk of calving difficulties. MU Extension livestock specialists work with producers enrolling heifers to collect data and run sales. In fall of 2023, 928 Show-Me-Select logo heifers were marketed through six sanctioned sale locations with gross sales of \$2,544,825.



Pearls of Production – Women in Ag Conference

The Pearls of Production-Women in Agriculture conference is a program designed to provide a leadership and hands-on training opportunity for women involved in livestock production. Several field and state specialists come together to plan this conference annually. The women producers get hands-on training and a supportive community of women livestock producers.



Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



The impact of the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks based in Stone and Taney Counties was significant. For 2023, the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks fulfilled their commitment to take on high-impact and ambitious projects. **A total of 4,062 hours were reported** in 2023 by fifty-seven master gardeners who served the entire year and reported. The first-year Master Gardeners are expected to provide 30 hours of service and seasoned master gardeners are only expected to provide 20 hours. This year the master gardeners who submitted hours each averaged 69 hours of service! According to the latest figures from the Independent Sector organization, the hourly wage value for Missouri volunteer hours currently is \$28.66. If you put a value on the education and service hours provided to the community, the amount totals over \$145,000 worth of volunteer time! Continuing education is an important part of volunteer service. The master gardeners reported 1,008 hours of continued education this year. This averages to 17 hours per person. They are expected to submit a minimum of 6 hours of continuing education each year.



As of year-end, **there were 103 master gardeners in the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks chapter**. Of these, there are 57 who reside in Stone County, 37 in Taney County, three in Christian County, four in Barry County and two who reside in Boone County, Arkansas. The master gardeners were led this year by Wanda Nicol, president, Tonya Lewis, vice-president, Ann Symington, secretary, and Stacey Fracol, treasurer. Tim Schnakenberg served as advisor for the master gardener activities in the Stone and Taney County area. The chapter met monthly, alternating between locations in Stone and Taney County and the executive committee met monthly between meetings. The chapter is very proud to report 46 Emeritus members who have served at least ten years in the program. Six of these members have at least twenty years of service. Four members were honored this year for ten years of service.



Seven new master gardeners were trained through the statewide on-line master gardener courses. A graduation ceremony was conducted at a Master Gardener meeting in December.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



The **Spring Garden Workshop in Branson brought in 216 participants** in March from 15 counties. “Spring Forward” was the theme. Ninety-seven percent of participants reported that they plan to make changes in their gardening as a result of attending. A raffle, fundraiser and plant sale fetched \$3,520, providing funds for grant projects and scholarships. Mary O'Brien served as chair.

***“Learned a lot today. Great information”
“Your program was enjoyable and fun! Thank you all”
“Very well organized. Great speakers”***



The **Fall Gardening Workshop attracted 140 Participants** in September from 13 counties. The gardening public enjoys participating in the fall workshop for reliable advice on gardening in the Ozarks. “Hello Fall” was the theme. \$2,600 was raised for grant and scholarship projects through the plant sale, raffle and sales. Joanne Anderson served as chair of this project.

***“It was a great workshop this year” “This is the best group of people to spend time with. Very positive and friendly”
“Spring and fall workshops are always great. Well organized in every way. Good speakers, lunches, snacks and coffee. Thank you everyone!”***



The **internal grant program funded nine special projects**. The grant committee in 2023 allocated \$4,547.50 for Ozark Lake Country Senior Center, Kimberling Area Library Children's Garden, Bonniebrook, Pregnancy Life Line, Faith Lutheran Church, Forsyth Demonstration Garden, Taneyhills Library Gardens, Veterans Memorial Garden and Cape Fair Community Center. The committee was chaired by Sharon Nance. Funds for projects originated from local educational program activities and fundraisers.

Stone County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact



Twenty-one garden programs were offered on a regular basis during the growing season in Stone and Taney Counties. These were offered in at Kimberling Area Library in Kimberling City (Kathryn Kufahl – Chair), Taneyhills Library in Branson (Mary O'Brien – Chair), and at the Taney County Extension Center Demonstration Garden in Forsyth (Marie Ewing – Chair). Master gardeners were the presenters at each of these events. We have a lot of talent in our membership. At the Kimberling Area Library, there were 189 participants. Some of the topics covered this year included vermicomposting, seed starting, perennials for fall planting, vertical gardens, Japanese maples, attracting butterflies in your garden, salsa gardening, container gardening, berries in the Ozarks, garden structures, tropical plants and nighttime pollinators and xeriscaping.



Education and improved landscape emphasis in our communities is at the core of the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks. There are many ongoing projects that made a significant impact in local communities included the Speaker's Bureau, Bonniebrook Homestead landscaping, Forsyth Demonstration Garden, Corps of Engineers Project Office Landscaping, Central Crossing Senior Center landscaping, Cape Fair Community Center landscaping, Ozarks Lake Country Senior Center garden, Kimberling Area Library Children's Garden, Harvest Community Garden in Shell Knob, Broiler Festival booth and the Stone County courthouse landscaping. There were many more smaller projects that are too innumerable to cover, but combined they make a startling impact throughout our region.



Five Master Gardener Scholarships were given to high school students in 2023. Education is the primary function of master gardeners and many proceeds from educational events go toward scholarships for college students majoring in horticulture or a similar field. For 2023, there were five recipients who received between \$500 and \$1000 each toward their college education. A total of \$3,500 was allocated. Recipients were Tiffany Criner of Merriam Woods, Avery Fulkerson of Kirbyville, Aaron Gross of Forsyth, Madison Sieg of Galena and Charley Smith of Galena. Tonya Lewis coordinated this effort.



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Business and Community**



DEMOGRAPHIC, ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DATA TRAINING

MU Exceed offers customized data training. Participants learn how to use public data through hands-on exercises and demonstrations.

**In 2022, Exceed provided data training to
MORE THAN 200 MISSOURIANS.
95% of the attendees said that the information
they learned was useful to their work.**



Missourians from all walks of life celebrated the **2023 Missouri Good Neighbor Week**, Sept. 28 to Oct. 4, by completing and reporting neighboring acts and nominating others as the most engaged neighbors in their counties.

In 2023, the goal was to document 15,000 acts of neighboring. That goal was surpassed with 19,752 Missourians being positively affected during MISSOURI GOOD NEIGHBOR WEEK.



CLIENT HIGHLIGHT



**LOGS
- OF -
GLORY**

The **Missouri Small Business Development Centers** (SBDC) provide professional training and customized one-on-one counseling to small businesses across the state. Working with the Missouri SBDC helps business owners make confident decisions.

FY2020-2022, Missouri SBDC ASSISTED 878 STARTUPS and helped Missouri small businesses earn more than \$440 MILLION.

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

VITA REPORT FOR TAX YEAR 2022

Luanna Fullerton, Stone Site Mgr.

August 7, 2023

The following are the statistics:

- Average age 1924-2004 Tax filers.
- Filed for 2022 tax year – Federal - 438 electronically, 3 paper.
- Filed for 2022 tax year – State - 453 electronically, 4 paper.
- Asking for Direct Deposit – 167 taxes.
- 286 – Single, 135 – Married filed Joint, 17 – Head of Household, 3 – Married filed Separate.
- 3 Amended taxes.
- Total Federal Refund amt. - \$250,790. avg. refund \$568.68.
- Total State Refund amt. - \$123,087. avg. refund \$356.32.
- Total Adjusted Gross Income - \$7,133,515. avg. \$16155.79.
- Total Earned Income Credit – 38 filers total: \$53,723. avg. \$1413.76.
- Total Child Tax Credit – 15 filers total: \$23,064.
- Total Additional Child Tax Credit – 12 filers total: \$20,795.
- Total Education Tax Credit – 2 filers total: \$5,000.
- Total Advance Payment - \$11,885. avg. \$699.12.
- Total Property Tax Credit – 6788. avg. \$485.
- Federal total balance due – \$57,978.
- State total balance due - \$11,208.
- Different states that we saw this year: MO., AR., KS., OK., NE., CO., CT., AND PA.



Pictured is our team of VITA volunteers.

Labor and Workforce Development

Amy Patillo, Ed.D.
Labor and Workforce
Development Specialist
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LOCAL IMPACT FOR ANNUAL REPORT

GREENE COUNTY

MU Extension Labor and Workforce Development is dedicated to advancing the skilled workforce of Missouri through a comprehensive approach to applied research and teaching. Through our commitment to research-based solutions, we are able to provide cutting-edge strategies that are tailored to the specific needs of the workforce actors we partner with across the state. By working together, we can build a skilled and sustainable workforce that will drive Missouri's economic growth and prosperity.

Building Workforce Capacity

AgriProspects a national collaboration with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Extension Foundation to form a robust network of public and private entities across every U.S. region and 112 Land Grant Universities to build the nation's capacity to respond to the changing needs in the food and agriculture sector.

A preliminary Workforce Development Assessment identified 113 Workforce Development programs in Cooperative Extension and identified ongoing workforce challenges.



Heroes to Hives, Workforce Development for Veterans and their Allies



Heroes to Hives seeks to address the financial and personal wellness of veterans through professional training and community development centered around beekeeping. This project is funded by United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Enhancing Agriculture Opportunities for Military Veterans grant.

24 year military veteran reports, "MU Extension programs are a godsend. I benefit from the amazing, high-quality learning opportunities that University of Missouri Extension continually provides, not only to veterans but many other diverse groups that are interested in learning and potentially pursuing new careers."

Missouri Farm and Ranch Stress



The Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance program provides mental health assistance and suicide prevention services. The program served 3,173 farm community members in 114 of 114 Missouri counties and the City of St. Louis. In 2023, the total value of mental and behavioral health services totals \$411,976. Through MU Extension's Farm and Ranch Stress programs and five different field-tested workshops, rural participants are equipped with tools to improve their mental health, are connected to useful mental health resources, and participants gain access to free one-on-one telepsychology sessions.

2023 FARM STRESS ANNUAL REPORT

Amber Allen & Amy Patillo, team members



An equal opportunity/access/affirmative action/
pro-disabled and veteran employer

PROJECT GOALS

- Increase access and utilization of free teletherapy coaching sessions.
- Prioritize providing mental and behavioral support services and training in urban counties.
- Provide training for community members who work with the youth.
- Provide mental health training in 100% of counties.

Missouri's mental health crisis is more challenging for the agricultural community, fueled by growing economic and mental health challenges that are severely affecting the health, safety, and well-being of farm families. These stressors have contributed to substantial and critical mental health issues among rural Missourians, especially farmers and ranchers.

To address Missouri's mental health crisis, the University of Missouri Extension provides free mental health classes, prevention of suicide programs, and stress/depression awareness resources and collaboratively partners with the University of Missouri College of Arts & Sciences Psychological Services Clinic offers free teletherapy counseling services.

In 2022 MU Extension was awarded a gift of \$500,000 from the MFA Foundation which covers the cost of free coaching sessions from a trained therapist. In 2023, 42 clients participated in 203 hours of responsive teletherapy counseling. The services are provided at no-cost to farmers, ranchers, and farm families and are valued at \$54,303.



PROTECTING OUR FARMERS

Agriculture remains the backbone of Missouri's strong economy, supporting both rural and urban communities. It is critical to help Missouri farmers, ranchers, and their families remain safe, healthy, and productive.

2023 ANNUAL IMPACTS

1,391

MP2

FARMERS AND ALLIES
SERVED

100%

COUNTIES SERVED

\$247,413

TOTAL VALUE OF
SERVICES

74

Workshops

996

People
Completed
Mental Health
First Aid
Training

46

People
Completed
Question
Persuade
Refer
Training

307

People
Completed
Weathering the
Storm Training

Client Quotes

- "Use 988 for myself when no one is available to talk with [me] about my family member."
- "I'm capable of helping our students. I feel more confident to help our students."
- "I learned that some of the feelings/emotions [that] I've experienced when helping others are valid."
- "I learned 988 isn't just for suicide. Anyone can call."
- "I learned the importance of self-care."
- "I will work with other staff members to review our policies and procedures to see where we need to make updates and then retrain staff on policies."
- **"I plan to speak with a family member regarding concerns about feeling sad or anxious. I now have better tools to open the conversation"**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Show-Me Strong Farm Families is supported by funds from the North Central Farm and Ranch Stress Alliance Center (NCFRSAC),
USDA NIFA grant number 2020-70028-3272
USDA NIFA MO FR SAN Grant Award #: 2021-70035-35436

MP1

2023

2501

ANNUAL REPORT



Extension

University of Missouri

An equal opportunity/access/affirmative action/pro-disabled and veteran employer

Amber Allen & Amy Patillo, team members

PROJECT GOALS

- Assist socially disadvantaged/veteran farmers and ranchers in owning and operating successful farms and ranches.
- Increase participation among socially disadvantaged or veteran farmers and ranchers in USDA programs.
- Build relationships between beginning farmers and USDA's local, state, regional, and national offices.
- Provide innovative training and technical assistance techniques.

USDA's 2501 Program supports the development of socially disadvantaged and veterans (SDV) who want to start or grow their own farm or ranch.

MU Extension's multidisciplinary team collaborated by utilizing a culturally appropriate experiential learning model of formal education. Activities include Farm Walk Abouts, Value-Added Product Classes, Value-Producer Accredited Program, (North Sarah) and Team-to-One Coaching.



The project team identified an interest in food security and self-sufficiency among urban farmers, with an interest in poultry production.

"Empowering Missourians is the goal of poultry processing education. Teaching the process of safely preparing chickens for consumption empowers participants to take control of their personal food supply."

~Jennifer Lutes



GROWING THE NEXT GENERATION OF FARMERS

USDA's 2501 Program supports the development of socially disadvantaged and veterans (SDV) who want to start or grow their farm or ranch.

2023 Annual Impacts

768 BEGINNING FARMERS	35	36	11	5
505 VETERAN FARMERS	Farmers Started an USDA Grant Application	Team-to-One Farmers Who Were Coached	Team-to-One Individual Farmer Coaching Sessions	1 Farmer Workshops & Classes
236 SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS				

SUCCESS STORIES

- Team-to-One Farmer Client in Jackson County, Missouri, was funded for equipment valued at \$29,084.99 by Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation through Missouri AgrAbility.
- \$11,274 awarded to an urban farmer for "scaling up production to meet low-income/low-access food needs."
- \$14,995 (SARE) was awarded to a beginning farmer to increase production of morel mushrooms.

"I will do a better job of keeping track of my sales and costs"
`Beginning Farmer Client



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Outreach & Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers & Ranchers and Veteran Farmers & Ranchers (2501 Program)
Grant ID # AO212501X443G004





MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU**
 through credible statewide programs
Community and Professional Health Education



Strengthening Families Program: for Parents and Youth 10-14, is a seven-session series for parents or caregivers and their young teens to attend together to improve family communication, resolve conflict and improve parental skills.

A research study conducted by the Partnerships in Prevention Science Institute found a RETURN OF \$9.60 for every dollar spent implementing the Strengthening Families Program.



The **Diabetes Prevention Program** is a CDC-recognized program provided by licensed lifestyle coaches to prevent type 2 diabetes. Through lifestyle coaching participants can achieve sustainable weight loss, increase in physical activity and learn coping skills to manage stress.

More than 1 IN 3 PARTICIPANTS have reached the 5 - 7% WEIGHT LOSS GOAL.



Resilience is the capacity to adapt when faced with adversity. **WeCanPROSPER Resilience Training** is a 2.5 hour training for participants to evaluate their personal resilience, tap into resources and create an action plan to enhance their resilience.

100% of participants indicate that the skills and techniques they learned will help them become **MORE RESILIENT.**

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



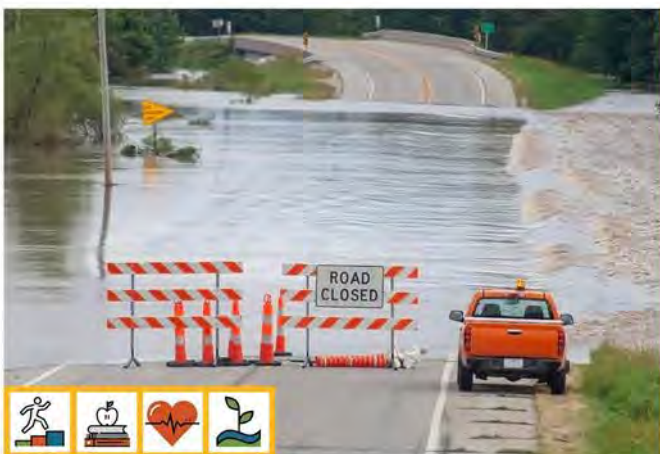
MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU**
 through credible statewide programs
First Responder Education



The programming from the **MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute** (FRTI) is available to all qualified fire and emergency first responders. Seventy percent of courses are held at the local departments or agencies. With most of the state's fire service personnel considered volunteer or part-time, this local access and flexibility assures training opportunities for all firefighters and emergency responders.



The LETI **School Protection Officer Program** provides basic training for school faculty and administrators to become school protection officers. The three-week academy typically runs during June and exceeds the hourly requirements for state recognition and certification.



The **Missouri Extension Disaster Education Network** provides education and technical assistance to individuals and families, local governments, schools and organizations so they can prepare for and respond to natural and man-made disasters. Because of the unique relationship it maintains with each community, MU Extension is a key resource for the public, emergency services and public officials.



Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



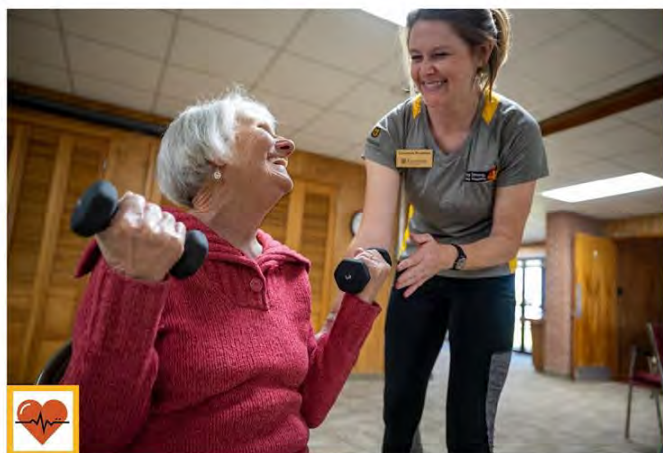
MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Health and Human Sciences**



Cooking Matters teaches shopping strategies, using nutrition information to make healthier choices and to learn how to cook delicious, affordable meals at home.

“We prepared barley jambalaya in class and one participant mentioned she had never tried barley before. She tried the jambalaya and really enjoyed it. A few days later she excitedly said she made the recipe at home and her whole family enjoyed it!”

Cooking Matters facilitator about a class participant



Stay Strong, Stay Healthy teaches older adults easy yet powerful exercises to boost strength, balance and daily life capabilities. Participants also gain insights into nutrition for healthy aging and active living.

After eight weeks, Stay Strong, Stay Healthy participants significantly IMPROVED their STRENGTH, BALANCE and SLEEP QUALITY.



A Matter of Balance helps older adults overcome their fear of falling, increase their activity levels and reduce their risk of falls. In eight classes, participants learn fall-prevention strategies, develop personal prevention plans, acquire balance-improving exercises and make lifestyle changes to minimize their fear of falling.

“I have cleaned my house of clutter for safety, put non-slip stickers on my tub floor, I’m getting much more regular exercise and I’m feeling stronger.”

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



Jenni Nevatt
 Nutrition and Health Field Specialist
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Stone County

Health and Human Sciences

Learning on Wednesdays one-time presentations in partnership with Kimberling Area Library

Nutrition and Aging: Healthy Eating for Older Adults

- **Objectives:** review dietary recommendations and share tools and strategies to help older adults meet their special dietary needs to ensure their optimal health



“I appreciate that these programs are specific to us (older adults).”



Fall Prevention

- **Objectives:** learn how to reduce falls and about local fall prevention programs

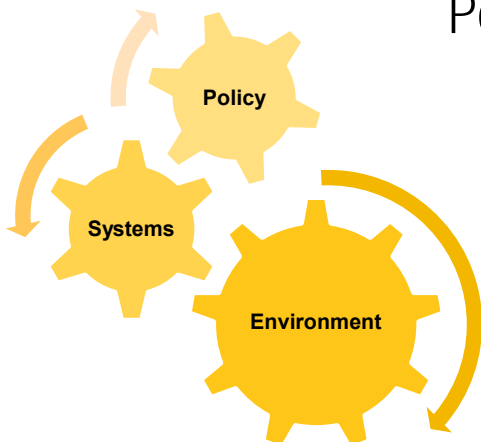
Kimberling City United Methodist Church presents:

Fall Prevention, a one-time presentation for their women’s group

- **Objectives:** learn how to reduce falls and about local fall prevention programs

Policy, Systems, & Environmental Change

*Improving community health
 by making the healthy choice the easy choice.*



Problem: incidences of heart disease are higher in Stone County than the state of Missouri

Why: elderly population, poor diet, lack of exercise

Why here: over 50% of Stone County’s residents are over 50 years of age, lack of exercise facilities

Jenni is a member of the Stone County Community Health Coalition’s Heart Health Committee, contributing to efforts aimed at reducing cardiovascular disease-related incidences in Stone Co as a part of the Community Health Improvement Plan.



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU**
 through credible statewide programs
Health and Human Sciences

“This course made me more self-sufficient and improved my family’s access to quality food.”



MU Extension offers research-based **home food preservation** courses and publications to help people cut food waste and save money.

Home Canning Basics in partnership with **Stone County Library District**

Objectives: learn correct and safe canning methods for preserving foods at home

Outcomes: of the 15 participants surveyed, ___% improved their confidence in...

- knowledge of safe home food preservation practices. 100%
- ability to follow safe home food preservation practices. 73%
- knowing where to go for safe, research-tested recipes for preserving food at home. 93%

Feel Better Now (Chronic Disease Self-Management) in partnership with **Crane Branch Library, Stone County Health Department, and The Regional Arthritis Center**

Outcomes: of the 8 participants surveyed, 7 improved their confidence in managing their condition(s)

“The action planning made me follow through and be accountable.”



Chronic Disease Self-Management programs offer evidence-based information for individuals and their caregivers to boost self-confidence in managing symptoms, enhancing quality of life and even reducing health care expenses.

These programs have undergone rigorous evaluation and are proven to be effective tools for individuals dealing with chronic conditions like arthritis, fibromyalgia, depression and diabetes.

\$5,712
 in estimated annual
 medical cost savings



Legend:



Health & Well-Being

Jenni Nevatt, Nutrition & Health Field Specialist, JNevatt@Missouri.edu

Local Impact

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$10,874,798 in federal funds to Missouri. During FY2023, Missouri's SNAP-Ed program reached over 78,000 Missourians through direct classroom education. Each person participated in an average of 6 hours of education totaling over 15,000 hours. In addition, an additional 760,135 persons participated in indirect education. Direct and indirect education resulted in over 1.8 million total contacts with Missourians.

A total of 5,361 participants were from Stone County.

Participants in SNAP-Ed learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices, eating breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity, and make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a high quality of life throughout the lifespan.

This vital programming effort also reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayer money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

Schools/Agencies served:

Blue Eye Elementary School

Galena-Abesville Elementary School

Our Lady of the Cove Catholic Church

Stone County Health Department

OACAC – Food Bank

SWMOA-KC Senior Center

Taney Co. Health Dept.

Taneyville Elementary School

Crane Elementary School

Hurley Elementary School

Reeds Spring Primary School

Stone County Recovery Center

Stone County

Health and Human Sciences

Local Impact

Amanda McCormick, Nutrition Program Associate, shared the following success story from Stone County:

While in the garden for a gardening class one client with children/grandchildren stated " This is more affordable than the grocery store and I control what goes into my family's food.



Adult gardening at Stone County Recovery Center. Learning how to assemble a brand-new garden.



Students enjoy learning how to start seedlings in the indoor green house.