

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON

DIVISION OF EXTENSION KENOSHA COUNTY

ANNUAL REPORT

2018



Extension


UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
KENOSHA COUNTY




Kenosha County Center

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 kenosha.extension.wisc.edu



AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

Supporting Wisconsin's agriculture and horticulture industries

Whether on the farm or in the garden, we're helping to build more productive and healthy food systems and landscapes. Our educators and researchers help solve challenges that Wisconsin producers, homeowners, and industry professionals face.

MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Training volunteers to help educate the public about gardening and natural resources and develop community-based outreach programs.

46

Currently certified Master Gardener Volunteers

238

Volunteers trained since the program began in 1994

3,509

Community service hours reported by volunteers in 2018*

\$84,210

Total value of community service hours reported

*Go to wimastgardener.org, keyword 'Kenosha' for the 2018 annual report and additional program information.

SPRING INTO GARDENING

The 13th annual, one-day conference, people learned about popular gardening trends such as succulents, cooking with herbs, and creating memory gardens.

“The information presented was very useful and I intend to follow proper tree planting information given by the arboriculture instructor.”

20

Educational Sessions Provided

206

Attendees



YOUTH TRACTOR SAFETY PROGRAM

This week-long program prepares youth to safely and legally operate machinery on public roads and local farms. Along with tractor driving instruction, participants learn about fire safety, first aid, pesticide safety, and how to minimize risks associated with farm work. In 2018, **13 youth** successfully completed the program by passing a rigorous written and driving test.



Average driving score



Average written test score

PRAIRIE WALK

92 participants attended a prairie walk held at a property in Kenosha County to learn about conservation practices and resources available to help landowners implement them. Guest speakers included wildlife and conservation experts from UW-Madison, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Department of Natural Resources.



FARM FRESH ATLAS™

The Farm Fresh Atlas™ of Southeastern Wisconsin is a free local food guide coordinated in part by UW-Extension.

In 2018, **35,000 copies** were distributed throughout Southeastern Wisconsin to help consumers access healthy, local food produced by our region's farmers.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Fostering leadership and community engagement

From educating elected officials to training the next generation of local leaders, we're committed to empowering citizens to make positive, transformative change in their communities.

KENOSHA COUNTY FOOD BANK

Kenosha County UW-Extension provided process facilitation to assist groups in building consensus. As a result of this facilitation, the Kenosha County Food Bank saw tremendous progress. In 2018, 18 organizational leaders were convened as part of an advisory team. Additionally, 40+ individuals were engaged.

18

Members representing non-profit, corporate, philanthropic and governmental interests have been convened, acting as a strategy formulation body for the food bank.

40+

Food pantry leaders, community volunteers and stakeholders meet regularly to develop common approaches to healthy food procurement, safe storage and handling and dignified customer service. Others worked to refine the business plan and identify funding sources.

What is a food bank?



Food is
donated



Stored at
Foodbank



Distributed to
Agencies



Given to those in
Need

UPTOWN BRASS VILLAGE, MOBILIZING COMMITTEES AND LEADERSHIP

In 2018, Uptown Brass Village Neighborhood Association gained traction thanks in part to ongoing facilitation and educational support from Extension. The growing group is comprised of small business owners, commercial property owners, non-profit/community agencies working together with Extension to enhance public safety and retail business viability.

- 1. Design and Safety Committee:** Extension facilitated regular communication between Uptown Brass Village leadership, City of Kenosha staff, City police, and local landlords to deter crime.
- 2. Economic Revitalization Committee:** Extension leveraged data resources to target and reduce absenteeism amongst owners of the neighborhood's aging housing stock. This committee hosted a large housing summit to explore small-scale housing development strategies.
- 3. Promotions Committee:** Extension fostered technology literacy by assisting the group launch a website and social media plan to serve as a portal to news and events for community stakeholders.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN RE-ENTRY EMPLOYMENT EXPO

Kenosha County UW-Extension convened a cadre of agencies and community volunteers to host the first Southeastern Wisconsin Re-entry Employment Expo at Gateway Technical College on October 2. Various employers attended to network with service organizations supporting post-prison re-entrants into work. Cross-sector partners continue to strategize how to retain engagement from employers in this workforce development issue.



22+
Re-entry Service
Agencies

48
Employers
Attended

90%
Employers felt the
event was valuable

NATURAL RESOURCES

Enhancing resilient natural resource systems

Working with partners to ensure natural resources remain resilient and productive. From water and forestry programming to conservation training and youth environmental education, our educators and researchers navigate complex issues, facilitate challenging conversations, and help develop innovative solutions.

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES OUTREACH SERVICES

County-level partners that work directly with lake associations, communities, and water users to prevent the spread of invasive species primarily implement Wisconsin's aquatic invasive species (AIS) outreach and prevention program. Through a partnership with Wisconsin Sea Grant and the Wisconsin DNR, a joint position was created to implement statewide AIS outreach program at a local level.



ENHANCING KENOSHA COUNTY SUSTAINABILITY

Kenosha County UW-Extension continued to play a key role in various sustainability efforts in Kenosha County through the cross-department Kenosha County Sustainability Team, promoting awareness of energy efficiency efforts, recycling, and several employee engagement activities.

Sustainable Kenosha County has returned significant value to county operations through its educational programs and outreach. In an effort to provide a closer look at Kenosha County's new office waste disposal policy, Sustainable Kenosha County released an informative video on the do's and don'ts of trash disposal in the county.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

Kenosha County hosts an annual, free household hazardous waste program for residents. Attendees have an opportunity to dispose of their household hazardous waste in an environmentally friendly way. Acceptable household hazardous waste, e-waste and refrigerant waste are accepted. Kenosha County UW-Extension provides support in organizing the event by providing educational programming, outreach, and assistance during the event.



112,169



Pounds of hazardous waste collected

867



Visitors



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Empowering families and communities

We provide individuals and families with the tools and guidance they need to adopt positive health behaviors. Our programming focuses on nutrition, food security, food safety, chronic disease prevention, mental health, substance abuse and health insurance literacy.

KENOSHA COUNTY / RACINE COUNTY FOODWISE

FoodWise is an interactive nutrition and food safety program. Workshops are available in English and Spanish for learners of all ages. FoodWise is federally funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and serves Wisconsin residents with limited incomes.

FoodWise seeks to empower Wisconsin residents with limited incomes to make healthy choices to achieve healthy lives and reduce health disparities.



Nutrition education learners



19,596

Teaching contacts



1,422

Direct teaching events



Community organization partners

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Promoting financially responsible communities

We embrace the philosophy that each stage of life is unique, exciting, and filled with potential. Our programs promote fiscally responsible communities, coach parents and help families put technology, mindfulness and financial awareness into everyday use.

MONEY \$MART IN HEAD START



Money \$mart in Head Start is a financial education program offered to families invited to participate through Head Start. Families that participate in the program can be offered monthly newsletters, in-person workshops, and financial coaching.

378

Monthly newsletters sent to families enrolled

CREDIT AND DEBT WORKSHOPS

Credit and debit workshops were held for Kenosha Housing Authority clients in an effort to help families achieve financial well-being.

44

Housing Authority clients reached

RENT SMART

Rent Smart focuses on the knowledge and skills essential for a successful renting experience. It challenges participants to know and understand their rights and responsibilities as a tenant, as well as know and understand landlord responsibilities.

15

Participants from the Shalom Center

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Supporting positive youth development

Our research-based youth enrichment programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to grow into the global leaders of tomorrow. From Youth in Governance to Wisconsin 4-H clubs, we provide diverse educational opportunities to prepare youth for success in Wisconsin and beyond.

KENOSHA COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM

4-H is a youth organization that belongs to the members, their families and other interested adults who serve as volunteer leaders. In 4-H, young people share, grow, and learn together from various projects under the guidance of their families and other leaders.

64

Youth participated
in day and
summer camp

130

Open house
attendees

460

Members total



YOUTH AS RESOURCES

Youth as Resources is a grant-giving program that funds youth-designed, youth-led community service projects in partnership with United Way of Kenosha County.

12

Projects funded

12

Youth as Resources
members

\$4,310

Funds distributed for
projects



YOUTH IN GOVERNANCE

Youth in Governance is a youth leadership program in which youth serve on Kenosha County Board Committees and the Joint Services Board. Youth representatives bring a valued youth voice to Kenosha County government.

85



Local youth nominated

18



Youth applied

14



Youth appointed

CONTACT US

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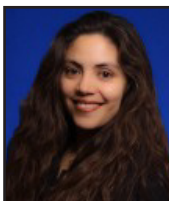
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