

Agenda
Eau Claire County
Extension Education Committee
November 15, 2023, at 4:00PM
227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720 Room 103/104

Those wishing to make public comments can submit their name and address no later than 30 minutes prior to the meeting to Kristi Peterson kristin.peterson@eauclairecounty.gov or attend the meeting in person. Comments are limited to three minutes; you will be called on during the public comment section of the meeting.

A majority of the county board may be in attendance at this meeting, however, only members of the committee may take action on an agenda item.

Join from the meeting link

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=mdc5fda4defed3cd6c1112b280c347c41>

Meeting number (access code): 2535 777 6621

Meeting password: gvKkZuYx497

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice.
2. Roll Call
3. Public Comment [Form Builder List View | Eau Claire County \(eau-claire.wi.us\)](#)
4. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes – Discussion/Action
 - a. October 18, 2023
5. Fair Committee
 - a. MOU – discussion/action
 - b. Fair Application – discussion/action
 - c. Financial Report – discussion
6. Educator presentation – Margaret Murphy, Horticulture Educator
7. Monthly Highlights – August and September
8. Kristen Bruder – AED Report

PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters, remote access, or other auxiliary aids. Contact the clerk of the committee or Administration for assistance (715-839-5106). For additional information on ADA requests, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-6945, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, TTY: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

9. Scheduling of Future Meetings
 - a. Wednesday, December 20, 2023

10. Future Agenda Items

11. Announcements

12. Adjourn

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Minutes
Eau Claire County
Extension Education Committee
October 18, 2023, at 4:00PM
227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720 Room 103/104

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice at 4:00pm
2. Roll Call
Members Present: Jodi Lepsch, Amanda Babb, Missy Christopherson, Kyle Johnson, Heather Deluka
Others present: Kristi Peterson, Addison Vang, Lyssa Seefeldt, Meg Mueller, Traci Martinson, and Sandy Tarter (virtually).
3. Public Comment - none
4. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes – Discussion/Action
 - a. September 20, 2023 – Supervisor Babb Moves to approve, all in favor.
5. Educator presentation – Rachel Hart-Brinson, 4-H Educator
 - a. Program highlights were presented.
6. Monthly Highlights – shared via email through Employee Connections and available on website.
7. Fair Committee
 - a. MOU – discussion/action
 - i. A motion was made by Supervisor Lepsch to table the agenda item until 11/15/2023, all in favor.
 - b. Fair Application – discussion/action
 - i. No action was taken. The form will be reviewed and brought to the next meeting.
 - c. Financial Report – discussion
 - i. Meg was hired as the fair coordinator for a one-year term. An assistant fair coordinator position is being discussed. She provided an update on finances and shared that audits are being done with the transition of leadership.
8. Kristen Bruder – AED Report
 - a. Health and Well-Being educator interviews 10/23
9. Scheduling of Future Meetings
 - a. Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 4:00pm
10. Future Agenda Items

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- a. Fair Application – discussion/action
- b. MOU – invite Chauncey
- c. Financial report

11. Announcements - none

12. Adjourn at 5:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Peterson
Extension Education Committee Clerk

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Fair application questions:

Today's Date

Fair Committee

Are you a current employee of Eau Claire County or employed at a firm that is a vendor or has an affiliation with Eau Claire County?

The majority of Boards/Commissions/Councils and Committees meet on a monthly basis (date and time is determined by the committee.) Can you commit to attending meetings in accordance with the schedule of the Boards/Commissions/Councils and Committees you are applying for?

Yes

No

Full Name:

Age 18 or Older:

Residence Address:

Home number:

Cell number:

Email:

Do you currently reside/live within Eau Claire County limits?

Yes

No

Number of years:

Education:

Do you have relatives employed by Eau Claire County?

Yes

No

If yes, please list name, department, and relationship.

Do you have relatives that serve on Eau Claire County Boards, Commissions, or Committees?

Yes

No

If yes, please list name, Boards, Commissions, or Committees, and relationship.

List County Boards, Commissions, or Committees on which you have served.

Are you current serving on any of these Boards, Commissions, or Committees?

Yes

No

If yes, please list here.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE: Committee members, voting and non-voting, must not be of immediate family relation and living in the same household. The Committee will consist of Two (2) non-voting members and Nine (9) voting members. Please select the position(s) you qualify for and describe your qualifications.

1. The 4-H Program Educator as a non-voting member.

Yes

No

If yes, please describe qualification.

2. The Fair Coordinator as appointed by the Friends of the Fair, as a non-voting member.

Yes

No

If yes, please describe qualification.

3. One (1) member who is either an FFA or agricultural teacher (active or retired); a FFA Alumni; or a member of a livestock group such as Wisconsin Simmental Association, Wisconsin Pork Producers, or Eau Claire County Livestock Project. This person will act as the Livestock Liaison between Fair Committee and the livestock project.

Yes

No

If yes, please describe qualification.

4. Two (2) youth members, of which one must represent the Expo exhibits i.e., photography, arts & crafts, etc. and one must represent livestock exhibits.

Yes
No

If yes, please describe qualification.

5. One (1) member of the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors, serving on the Extension Committee, to be appointed by the Extension Committee.

Yes
No

If yes, please describe qualification.

6. Two (2) members who are employed by a business or a representative of a youth service agency or organization that provides services to youth such as the Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.

Yes
No

If yes, please describe qualification.

7. Two (2) members who are citizens at large and who have an interest in the fair. 8. One (1) member who is a member of the Friends of the Fair, other than the Fair Coordinator or One (1) member who is a member of the 4-H Leaders Association.

Yes
No

If yes, please describe qualification.

Do you have immediate family member(s) that are living in the same household with you who are current committee members or a current applicant?

If yes, list name(s) of family members.

Members of the Fair Committee will not be voting members or executive board members of other organizations involved in fair activities e.g., Friends of the Fair or Livestock Committee unless they are appointed as a representative of that organization under section A and/or F. If they are serving a term with these other organizations at the time of

their appointment to the Fair Committee, they will step down from the other committees within 30 days of appointment. If the committee member does not step down within 30 days of appointment, they will be removed from the Fair Committee.

Are you a current voting member or executive board member of other organizations involved in fair activities e.g., Friends of the Fair or Livestock Committee?

Yes

No

If yes, list the organization and if are you willing to step down within 30 days of being appointed to this committee.

If selected, how would you work to better our community?

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU") BETWEEN EAU CLAIRE COUNTY THROUGH ITS EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE, THE FAIR COMMITTEE, AND THE FRIENDS OF THE FAIR FOR OPERATION AND MONETARY SUPPORT OF THE EAU CLAIRE COUNTY FAIR

I. PARTIES

This Agreement is between Eau Claire County, Wisconsin, a quasi-municipal corporation, ("County"), through the Eau Claire County Extension Education Committee (hereinafter "Extension Education Committee") and its sub-committee, the Eau Claire County Fair Committee (hereinafter "Fair Committee") located at 721 Oxford Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703 with the Eau Claire County Friends of the Fair (hereinafter "FOF"), located at PO Box 434, Augusta, WI 54722.

II. TERM OF MOU

Services under this Agreement shall commence upon the approval and signature of all parties for the 2024 Eau Claire County Fair and continue through the 2026 Eau Claire County Fair; provided the parties are not in default. Thereafter, by mutual agreement the parties may extend the term of this MOU for one (1) additional successive five (5) year period commencing upon the expiration of the initial term.

The MOU may be extended only by mutual agreement of the parties. Said (1) additional successive five (5) year period must be approved by the County through its appropriate Committees, Board, and Administrator; as well as FOF.

Parties may by mutual agreement terminate or modify said MOU upon any substantial change to the bylaws or committee structure.

Said MOU may be terminated upon breach of the other party by 30-day written notice.

III. PURPOSE OF MOU

The purpose of this MOU is to agree on responsibilities for all parties regarding the Eau Claire County Fair organization, operation, and payment of all expenses relating to the Fair.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Parties agree:

1. The Fair Committee operates the Eau Claire County Fair and is responsible for all Bylaws, rules, policy, and approval of contracts for the Fair.
2. The Eau Claire County Fair Committee is a working committee comprised of volunteer members providing hands-on assistance in the production of the annual

County Fair. Members are organized as the following to limit conflicts of interest and ensure diversity among membership.

3. Terms: The Extension Committee appointed an entirely new Fair Committee Board for the 2024 Fair. One half of the newly elected board shall serve a one-year term. One half of the newly elected board shall serve a two-year term. Thereinafter, said election, all Fair Committee members shall serve two-year alternating terms. The current Bylaws for the 2024 Eau Claire County Fair describe the makeup of the Fair Committee as the following: Two (2) non-voting members and nine (9) voting members created from the following:
 - a) The 4-H Program Educator as a non-voting member.
 - b) The Fair Coordinator is appointed by the Friends of the Fair, as a non-voting member.
 - c) One (1) member who is either an FFA or agricultural teacher (active or retired); a FFA Alumni; or a member of a livestock group such as Wisconsin Simmental Association, Wisconsin Pork Producers, or Eau Claire County Livestock Project. This person will act as the Livestock Liaison between the Fair Committee and the livestock project.
 - d) Two (2) youth members, of which one must represent the Expo exhibits i.e., photography, arts & crafts, etc. and one must represent livestock exhibits.
 - e) One (1) member of the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors, serving on the Extension Committee, to be appointed by the Extension Committee.
 - f) Two (2) members who are employed by a business or a representative of a youth service agency or organization that provides services to youth such as the Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.
 - g) Two (2) members who are citizens at large and who have an interest in the fair.
 - h) One (1) member who is a member of the Friends of the Fair, other than the Fair Coordinator or One (1) member who is a member of the 4-H Leaders Association.
4. All Fair Committee meetings are open to the public, have time allotted for public input and agenda and minutes are posted at least, but not less than, 24-hours before the public meeting.
4. Per Eau Claire County Code 2.04.450, the Extension Education Committee has oversight of its sub-committees.
5. The Extension Committee shall be responsible to the county board for the departmental policy and oversight of the county extension department and its board authorized functions, including the Eau Claire County Junior Fair

Committee.

6. The committee shall exercise those powers and duties authorized under Wis. Stat. § 59.56(3). All agreements under Wis. Stat. § 59.56(3)(c) 2., shall be approved by the county administrator.
7. The Fair Committee is a sub-committee of the Extension Education Committee.
8. The Eau Claire County Fair is thus overseen by Eau Claire County.
9. Friends of the Fair (FOF) is a not for profit 501(c)(3) corporation whose mission is to secure the resources needed to provide the financial stability that will assure the future of the Eau Claire County Fair as a family and youth focused community event. FOF receives and disperses funds to operate and support the Fair through donations, fees, and sponsorships.
10. Donations, fees, and sponsorships for the Fair are paid directly to FOF.
11. Premium dollars paid through the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (hereinafter "DATCP") as well as administration of those dollars are the responsibility of the FOF. The FOF shall administer all payments for pre-fair and fair premium events, as dictated by the DATCP, which governs Wisconsin county fairs. The FOF shall be responsible for making the appropriate payments for judges, awards, operating supplies, extra help, and other expenses.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FAIR EXPENSES

For services rendered under this contract, the Fair Committee shall have authority to approve all contracts over two-thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) associated with the fair prior to presenting the contracts to FOF. Once approved by the Fair Committee, FOF will be given the approved contract for release of payment. The FOF shall pay:

1. Rental of Exposition Center Facilities.
2. Approved operating costs associated with the Fair.
3. Eau Claire County shall annually provide ten-thousand dollars (\$10,000) in funding to the FOF for the Eau Claire County Fair as described in article II. The \$10,000 in funds are provided by Eau Claire County are specifically for the rental of the Exposition Center, tent rental, and sanitation for the Eau Claire County Fair.
4. Eau Claire County is not responsible for any expenses, direct payments, or invoices regarding the Eau Claire County Fair, including items cited in V (3).

VI. CANCELLATION OF FUNDING

For any year in which FOF does not hold the Eau Claire County Fair, rent the expo center, or is in breach of this contract, Eau Claire County is not required to submit funding to FOF.

VII. NOTICES

Notices required or deemed advisable under this Agreement shall be placed in writing and delivered personally or by registered or certified mail upon the "County" to: Eau Claire County Administrator, 721 Oxford Avenue, Suite 3520, Eau Claire, WI 54703 and upon the "FOF" to: Friends of Fair, President, P.O. Box 434, Augusta, WI 54722.

All parties are required to notify each other of any address change.

VIII. MUTUAL INDEMNIFICATION

The parties agree to fully indemnify and hold one another harmless from and against all claims, actions, judgements, costs, and expenses, arising of damages or injuries to third persons of their property, caused by the fault of negligence of the said party, its agents, or employees, in performance of this Agreement. The parties shall give to each other prompt and reasonable notice of any such claims or actions and the other party shall have the right to investigate, compromise and defend the same.

IX. LIABILITY

It is mutually agreed by the "County" and FOF that, as related to this Agreement, any loss or expense or resultant legal liability, involving personal injury or property damage, will be the responsibility of the party whose officer, employee or agent may have caused the loss or expense by his or her respective actions, acts, activities, or omissions which occurred or may occur in connection with this agreement.

X. WAIVER OF BREACHES

No waiver of any breaches of this Agreement shall be held to be a waiver of any other or any subsequent breaches. All remedies afforded in this Agreement shall be considered a cumulative and in addition to any other remedies provided by law.

XI. SEVERABILITY

Should any article or any part of any article of this Agreement be rendered void, invalid or unenforceable by the court of law, for any reason, such a determination shall not render void, invalid or unenforceable any other article or part of any article in this Agreement.

XII. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

The laws of the State of Wisconsin shall govern this Contract and executed amendments thereto. Venue for all legal proceedings arising out of this Contract, or breach thereof, shall be exclusively in Eau Claire County Circuit Court, Eau Claire, WI.

XIII. SECTION HEADINGS

The headings of the several sections and any table of contents appended hereto, shall be solely for convenience of reference and shall not affect the meaning, construction, or effect hereof.

XIV. STATUTORY PROTECTIONS

It is agreed by the parties that nothing in this Contract, including but not limited to indemnification and hold harmless clauses, shall in anyway constitute a waiver on the part of the "County" of any immunity, liability limitation or other protection available to the "County" under any applicable statute or other law. To the extent that any provision of this contract is found by any court of competent jurisdiction conflict with any such legal protection, then whichever protections, either statutory or contractual, provide a greater benefit to the "County" shall apply unless the "County" elects otherwise.

XV. PUBLIC RECORDS LAW

Both parties understand that the "County" is bound by the public records law, and as such, all terms of this agreement are subject to and conditioned on the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 19.31 et seq. "FOF" acknowledges that it is obligated to assist the "County" in retaining and producing records that are subject to Wisconsin Public Records law, and that the failure to do so will constitute a material breach of this agreement, and that they "FOF" must defend and hold the "County" harmless from liability under that law. Except as otherwise authorized, those records shall be maintained for a period of seven (7) years after receipt of final payment under this agreement.

XVI. NON-ASSIGNMENT OF AGREEMENT

The parties agree that there shall be no assignment of transfer of this Agreement, nor of any interests, rights or responsibilities herein contained, except as agreed it in writing.

XVII. MODIFICATIONS TO AGREEMENT

There shall be no modifications to this Agreement, except in writing, signed by all parties.

Agriculture

Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



A field day for farmers and agency personnel, where participants learned about new and emerging crops and production and research updates to increase farm profitability.

The North American Manure Expo where professional manure applicators increased awareness of new manure handling equipment, management, and research to apply manure more accurately and protect the environment.

Dairy e-newsletter for farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, other agribusiness professionals, and other interested individuals to inform participants of new dairy management articles/factsheets, connect with dairy educators, and learn about upcoming programming to help them learn about new research and management techniques to improve their overall farm sustainability.

Updating and adapting a risk and grain marketing curriculum into a more relevant format for use in-person, stand-alone educational videos, and an on-line course. This curriculum will assist beginning, organic and transitioning dairy farmers in identifying strengths and weaknesses of their business to assist them in making decisions that will improve their farm profitability.

Planning for development of factsheets/articles, longer publications, and videos on nutrition, genetics, & reproduction topics. The goal of this effort is to increase farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, and other agribusiness professionals' understanding of management of these topics to help improve farm sustainability and economic viability.

A video series for food and farm business entrepreneurs, where participants develop the framework needed for effective food and ag entrepreneurship and relate to the resources, they need to be successful. This effort was designed to help participants assess their skills, assets, personalities, and/or networks to help decide about a business opportunity or new enterprise.

An all-day educational event for new farmers, part-time and full-time operators, low-income startups, graziers and non-graziers featuring guest speakers, farmer/local resources panel, commercial and agency exhibitors, and farmer-to-farmer networking with emphasis on grazing fundamentals, cattle stockmanship and handling facilities, wildlife and grazing ecology and future grazing opportunities and programs. The goal is for people to be able to make informed decisions about the pros and cons of grazing, and to meet other people with similar interests and goals related to grazing and pasture management.

A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals, where subscribers learned about dairy facilities and ventilation, reproduction, animal well-being, nutrition, and Extension dairy production and management resources. This effort was designed to provide a timely and reliable source of dairy management news and updates to help them improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.

Community Development

Addison Vang | Community Development Educator



A farmers market survey for Chippewa Valley to better understand market vendor and small farmer needs. The survey will be distributed during the peak summer farmers market months and is designed to inform market decisions as well as understand the market's impact on the community food system.

Educational programming as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth.

An educational program development on food truck/transient businesses to learn about the food businesses and basic food safety practices. Meeting with a state extension specialist on developing the program. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers for food entrepreneurs to sell prepared foods in the Chippewa Valley.

The second year of a USDA grant developing a winter educational program to support Hmong and underserved farmers in the Chippewa Valley on the agricultural practices to support farm operations and profitability. Meet with partners from the state, non-profits, and extension specialists on developing the program. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers and increase access to resources for direct farmers to support the food systems in the Chippewa Valley.

Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter
FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner
FoodWise Nutrition Educator



Jael M. Wolf
Bi-Lingual FoodWise Nutrition Educator



A 6-week nutrition series at Lakeshore Elementary Kids' Garden. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide an opportunity for youth to increase produce consumption.

A 6-lesson series at River Heights Elementary with Boys and Girls Club of the Chippewa Valley-Menomonie in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide opportunities for youth to increase produce consumption.

A 6-lesson series at the North River Fronts Kids' Garden with Boys and Girls Club of the Chippewa Valley-Eau Claire in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide opportunities for youth to increase produce consumption.

Multiple meetings and emails with local partners to support our local farmers markets by implementing a new Farmers Market in Chippewa and plan for Market Match programs in Menomonie and Eau Claire Farmers Markets. This effort will help to improve food security with the development and implementation of a program for SNAP/FoodShare recipients to use benefits for food purchases.

Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



A community of practice for horticulture educators where we explore strategies and resources to expand horticulture education and outreach to underrepresented audiences. The goal of participating in this group is to dig into ways we can locally continue to grow and enhance our horticulture programs to reach more diverse audiences.

A presentation for seniors where participants learned about the benefits of plants / gardening on our overall wellbeing to encourage the incorporation of more plants / gardening in our lives.

Planning a presentation on gardening with kids for the 2023 Family and Consumer Sciences Education and WI DPI Child Care Conference at UW Stout. The goal of this effort is to discuss how gardening can enrich a child's life and to teach participants strategies on gardening with kids to encourage youth participation in the garden.

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

Planning an educational garden for the public in collaboration with facilities at the Dunn County Government Building. The goal of the effort is to incorporate native plants into the garden for both beautification and an opportunity to demonstrate plantings that, once established, support pollinators by increasing habitat, are lower in water needs and reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides helping to keep our waterways clean and reduce chemical input to our environment.

Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



Interactive activity at a booth at National Night Out Eau Claire where the 4-H intern and 4-H Educator engaged the public attendees in a fun activity to promote the 4-H program and demonstrate positive youth development practices.

4-H Club Annual Financial Report work night where the 4-H Educator reviewed how to fill out the forms with club or group leaders and treasurers to facilitate all clubs and groups accurately completing the forms and turning them in on time.

Communication with partner organizations such as CVTC and LE Phillips Memorial library to build relationships that would allow 4-H to create partner programs and expand access to new audiences.

Health and Well-Being Educator

This position is posted. See details [here](#).

Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:

Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.

Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.

Value Added Programming

Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



A series of two field days for woodland owners in Chippewa and Eau Claire counties where participants toured three managed prairie and pollinator sites in Eau Claire and Pepin counties to learn about planting, maintaining, and cost sharing prairie and pollinator plantings on their woodlands/agricultural lands. Through this, landowners can better manage their woodlands having learned about how recent funding impacts the ability to get these land management practices funded and implemented in the following years.

The North American Manure Expo where professional manure applicators increased awareness of new manure handling equipment, management, and research to apply manure more accurately and protect the environment.

Planning a 6-week nature-based program for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley – Chippewa Falls. The goal of this effort is to build nature connectedness and promote environmental literacy.

Agriculture

For updated Valley E-Newsletters click [here](#)

Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



Planning for the 2024 Western WI Ag Lender Conference for agriculture bankers and lenders, ag service professionals, and finance-oriented farmers in collaboration with a committee of ag lenders and ag service professionals. The goal of this conference is to increase lender knowledge of current agricultural markets, better understand "behind the scenes" of how ag businesses function and keep up to date with technology adaptation (how & why the cost of investment in technology is important).

Planning for development of articles, longer publications, and videos on nutrition, genetics, & reproduction topics. The goal of this effort is to increase farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, and other agribusiness professionals' understanding of management of these topics to help improve farm sustainability and economic viability.

Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



A field day for farmers and agriculture professionals where participants learned adaptation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and emerging technologies to cropping systems to manage crop pests and increase crop and farm profitability.

Community Development

Addison Vang | Community Development Educator



Meetings with state and local partners to design a winter educational program for Hmong and underserved farmers in the Chippewa Valley on agricultural practices to support farm operations and profitability. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers and increase access to resources for direct farmers to support the food systems in the Chippewa Valley.

Educational program development on food truck/transient businesses so entrepreneurs can learn about the food business and basic food safety practices. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers for food entrepreneurs to sell prepared foods in the Chippewa Valley.

Educational programming as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth. For this specific workshop, the focus will be on soil health demonstrating how to take samples, where to send the samples, and how to interpret the results. The role of the Community Development Educator was the development of and planning of the workshop with partners.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter | FoodWise Coordinator



Participation in the Eau Claire Health Alliance monthly meeting including active support for the local chronic disease prevention action team. The goal of this effort is to help guide objectives and strategies that support initiatives to improve the health of residents.

Planning and scheduling nutrition education lessons in eligible elementary and pre-k early learning centers across the Chippewa Valley. The goal of this effort is to support nutrition education and healthy eating with hundreds of youth and families.

Joy Weisner | FoodWise Nutrition Educator



A Great Apple Crunch event for Lakeshore and Longfellow Elementaries, including the Dual Immersion Spanish classrooms, where apple tasting was provided with supporting Great Apple Crunch materials. The goal of this effort is to raise awareness about the benefits of supporting local agriculture and to encourage healthy eating habits among students.

Jael M. Wolf | Bi-Lingual FoodWise Nutrition Educator



Collaboration and planning with Affinity House, women's residential addiction treatment program, and Master Gardeners to support the development of a kitchen garden. This effort will help limited resource participants learn about nutrition, food resource management, along with planting, cultivating, and harvesting their own produce.

Planning for Harvest of the Month efforts in collaboration with Eau Claire Area School District Food and Nutrition Director Lisa Smith. The goal of this effort is to help build relationships and collaborations that will support and align our efforts to promote healthy eating along with

Harvest of the Month education to students in schools.

Health and Well-Being Educator

We are bringing four candidates forward for final interviews to be held October 23, 2023.

Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



Planning a gardening series for the public in collaboration with the Chippewa Falls Public Library One Seed, One Wisconsin program. The goal of this effort is to demonstrate growing tomatoes from seed to harvest to teach and encourage people to try vegetable gardening.

Planning an educational garden for the public in collaboration with facilities at the Dunn County Government Building. The goal of the effort is to incorporate native plants into the garden for both beautification and an opportunity to demonstrate plantings that, once established, support pollinators by increasing habitat, are lower in water needs and reduce the

need for fertilizers and pesticides helping to keep our waterways clean and reduce chemical input to our environment.

A presentation for seniors where participants learned about the benefits of plants / gardening on our overall wellbeing to encourage the incorporation of more plants / gardening in our lives.

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

Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



Updating the 4-H Welcome Packet as well as all distribution lists so that families interested in 4-H receive the correct information regarding where and when clubs meet as well as the correct person to contact regarding club details. This will help make sure that anyone interested in joining a club will be more likely to do so.

Meeting with the Fair Coordinator to improve upon this year's fair and start planning for Extension's educational role in the coming year.

Meeting with CVTC to build relationships that would allow 4-H to create partner programs and expand access to new audiences.

Crafted ten email responses to inquiries about how to enroll and join 4-H where I tailored information to the recipient based on their responses in a 4-H Interest form. This effort is intended to make new families feel welcome and find a club that is a good fit for their family.

Planning for a 4-H Discovery Day at the L.E. Phillips Memorial Library where young people and adults will lead 4-H Project activities. This effort is an opportunity for youth to practice leadership skills as well as an opportunity to engage with non-4-H families and promote the 4-H program.

Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:

Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.

Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.

Value Added Programming

A community of practice for horticulture educators where we explore strategies and resources to expand horticulture education and outreach to underrepresented audiences. The goal of participating in this group is to dig into ways we can locally continue to grow and enhance our horticulture programs to reach more diverse audiences.

A video series for food and farm business entrepreneurs, where participants develop the framework needed for effective food and ag entrepreneurship and relate to the resources, they need to be successful. This effort was designed to help participants assess their skills, assets, personalities, and/or networks to help decide about a business opportunity or new enterprise.

Basic grant proposal workshop for local government, businesses, and organization members and staff. The goal of this effort is for people to learn how to find, write and apply for grants so that they can carry out the activities of their organization, business, or government unit.

An online learning opportunity for Entrepreneurs in Training (EITs) and volunteer business leaders to collaborate around developing strong business pitches and personal introductions. This structured interaction builds confidence and entrepreneurial skill in the EITs and fosters empathy in volunteers which leads to more opportunities for formerly incarcerated Wisconsinites to start businesses in a supportive community environment.