

# 2024

## Annual Impact Report

Jefferson County Extension



**Extension**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



**JEFFERSON COUNTY**  
**WISCONSIN**

Explore. Thrive. Belong.



# About Extension



## ***We Are the Wisconsin Idea***

UW-Madison Extension's outreach creates key connection points for families, communities, businesses, non-profit organizations, government, and more. We support local volunteers and leaders to take action and serve as role models in their communities, and we make sure Wisconsinites have the latest research, best practices, and educational opportunities. With a presence in every county in Wisconsin and in partnership with First Nations we are:



**Promoting healthy relationships**



**Empowering health & well-being**



**Fostering civic & economic leadership**



**Supporting Wisconsin's agriculture industry**



**Enhancing Resilient Natural Resource Systems**



**Supporting positive youth development**

## Mission

To connect people with the University of Wisconsin. We teach, learn, lead and serve, transforming lives and communities.



# Meet Our Team



## **CHRISTINE WEN**

Area Extension Director  
Jefferson, Rock, Walworth



## **JERRY WILCENSKI**

4-H Program Educator



## **JOSH KAMPS**

Regional Crops &  
Soils Educator  
Jefferson, Rock, Walworth



## **ALISON PFAU**

Bilingual Regional  
Dairy Educator  
Jefferson, Rock, Walworth, Dane



## **JULIE HILL**

Horticulture Outreach  
Specialist  
Jefferson, Rock, Walworth



## **STEVE CHMIELEWSKI**

Community Development  
Educator  
Jefferson and Waukesha



## **LISA KROLOW**

Bilingual FoodWise  
Nutrition Coordinator  
Jefferson and Walworth



## **PRISCILLA GONZALEZ**

Bilingual FoodWise  
Nutrition Educator  
Jefferson and Walworth



## **KATELYN BROEDLOW**

County Support Staff



## **MEGHAN SPLINTER**

County Support Staff







**Jerry Wilcenski**  
4-H Program Educator

## Program Snapshot

# 663

ENROLLED 4-H  
MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

# 30

FIRST YEAR  
MEMBERS

# 21

COMMUNITY  
CLUBS

## 4-H Mission

4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential working and learning in partnership with caring adults.

## Program Impact

Drawing on the rich knowledge base of the University of Wisconsin, 4-H youth are provided with information, curriculum, and project leaders with lived expertise to **help youth build the skills needed in their college and career path.** Through Club meetings, project learning days, and leadership experiences, youth are ready to be the leaders of tomorrow!

## Top 5 Youth Project Areas

ART  
(140)

PHOTOGRAPHY  
(120)

FOODS &  
NUTRITION  
(117)

SWINE  
(117)

POULTRY  
(99)



The Jefferson County Senior Livestock Judging teams placed first and fifth and the Junior Livestock judging team placed fourth in the State 4-H Livestock judging contest.







# HEALTHY CHOICES HEALTHY LIVES

**Lisa Krolow**

Bilingual FoodWise Nutrition Coordinator

**Priscilla Gonzalez**

Bilingual FoodWise Nutrition Educator

## Program Snapshot

754

PARTICIPANTS

### Partnering with Food Pantries

JEFFERSON COUNTY FOODWISE TEAM CONDUCTED A 5-WEEK COOKING SERIES TO HELP RESIDENTS UTILIZE COMMONLY DISCARDED ITEMS.

## Program Impact

The Jefferson County FoodWise team provided nutrition education to preschoolers in 10 classrooms, where they learned about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables and staying active through regular exercise. The hands-on lessons were designed to engage young children and help them understand healthy habits in a fun and interactive way .



“ The FoodWise team collaborated with the UW Whitewater Food Pantry which serves low-income students on Campus. We inventoried pantry items and provided healthy recipes to help students prepare meals with available ingredients





**Alison Pfau**

Bilingual Regional Dairy Educator

# Agriculture Dairy

## Program Snapshot

12

ON FARM VISITS!

50

FARMS CONTACTED

400

PARTICIPANTS

## Program Highlight

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension Dairy Program strengthens the competitiveness of the Wisconsin dairy industry through statewide leadership in education and research.

To support beef and dairy farms and their employees, the Extension Dairy program has developed the "Handling and administration of vaccine and medicine in cattle" workshop. This program will help farm personnel to understand the importance of the vaccine and medicine, the proper use and handling, and the consequences of the not proper administration and manipulation of animal health products. Also, they will have a Hands-On demonstration.



“ Thank you so much for providing this opportunity to review all the information. I really appreciate you organizing these discussions for us Spanish speakers working on Wisconsin farms. I hope there are more events and trainings like this in the future. It will definitely improve performance on dairy farms, leading to increased production and economic growth for everyone. ”







**Josh Kamps**  
Regional Crops & Soils Educator

# Agriculture Crops & Soils



## Program Snapshot

PARTNERING WITH FARMER  
LED WATERSHED GROUPS,  
NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT  
GROUPS, AND PROVIDE  
PESTICIDE APPLICATOR  
TESTING

60

LOCAL PRODUCERS ENGAGED  
WITH THE EXTENSION CROP  
EDUCATION PROGRAM

## Program Impact

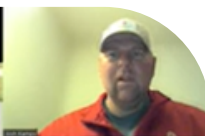
Groundbreaking Research,  
Grounded Solutions

Providing Jefferson County farmers  
research-backed resources,  
educational events, and decision-  
making tools to optimize crop yield  
and keep fields thriving.

The Soil Health Field Day provided  
research-based information to inform  
cropping practice change with cover  
crop interseeding, soil health, and  
manure composting delivered to  
farmers, crop consultants, sales  
agronomists, and conservation  
professionals.

### Crop Production Planning for 2024

*Farm Economics, Yield Goals, and  
Agronomic Considerations*







**Julie Hill**  
Horticulture Educator

# Agriculture Horticulture



Master Gardeners  
volunteered over 2000  
hours at 16 organizations  
throughout Jefferson  
County in 2024

## Program Impact

The Horticulture Program educates, promotes and supports gardening practices that reduce environmental contamination and pollution, promote environmental stewardship and maintain resilient and healthy communities in Jefferson County.



SCAN FOR UPCOMING  
PROGRAMS

## Program Snapshot

23

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

35

IN-PERSON  
PRESENTATIONS

75+

ANSWERED  
GARDENING QUESTIONS

I have zero experience and  
this program gave me  
confidence.

- Container Gardening Program  
Participant





# Community Development

**Steve Chmielewski**  
Community Development  
Educator

“Community-serving organizations, including nonprofits, local governments, and coalitions, are more effective when they have a clear purpose/mission, vision, and goals.”

Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their fullest potential.

We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their quality of life and enriches the lives of their residents.



## Program Snapshot

# 2

STRATEGIC PLANS  
DEVELOPED

RURAL ENTREPRENEURIAL  
VENTURE WITH JEFFERSON  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

STRATEGIC PLANNING  
WITH SUSTAIN  
JEFFERSON



## Program Impact

Strategic Planning for Nonprofit and Public Organizations has assisted with two objectives: Strengthen support systems for existing businesses and advance small-town economies through a focus on business, nonprofits and government to then develop and implement their own approach.



# Jefferson County Extension Reach



73

partner  
organizations

98

programs

2,660

youth & adult  
students

180

volunteers

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**On behalf of all those who benefit from our services, we thank our many  
community partners who help us serve out our mission.**

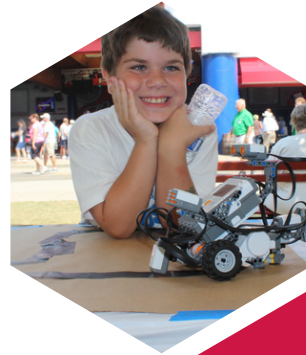
- Amundson Community Center
- Boy Scout Troop 43
- Capital Area Regional Planning Commission
- Childhood Autism Therapy Clinic
- City of Fort Atkinson
- Cold Spring Town Hall
- Doherty Farm
- Dwight Foster Public Library
- Farmington Town Hall
- Greater Watertown Area Health Foundation
- Hebron Community Center
- Immanuel United Methodist Church
- Ixonia Town Hall
- Jefferson Agribusiness Club
- Jefferson County
- Jefferson County ADRC - Senior Meal Sites
- Jefferson County Farm Service Agency
- Jefferson County Head Start
- Jefferson County Health Department
- Jefferson County LWCD
- Jefferson County Master Gardener Association
- Jefferson County WIC
- Jefferson Public Library
- Jelli's Market
- Lake Mills Legion
- Lake Mills Methodist Church
- Lundy Dairy Farm
- Lutheran Social Services - Senior Subsidized Housing Sites
- Madison Region Economic Partnership
- NRCS Jefferson Service Center
- River Bend Activity Center
- Rock River Coalition
- Rockwell Elementary School
- St. Colletta
- The Bread Basket Food Pantry
- Oconomowoc Sportsmans Club
- University of Wisconsin Whitewater Continuing Education
- Watertown Conservation Club
- Watertown Archers Inc
- Watertown Public Library





# Complementing Your Strategic Plan

- Highly Regarded Quality of Life
  - 1.1, 1.2, 2.3, 2.4, 4.1
- Intentional Economic Growth
  - 1.1, 1.4, 2.2, 3.1, 4.1
- Transformative Government
  - 1.2, 1.4, 3.3, 3.4, 4.3



## Connect With Us



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[jefferson.extension.wisc.edu](http://jefferson.extension.wisc.edu)

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