EXTENSION IN ACTION

Serving DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt counties

ILLINOIS EXTENSION 2022





Jamie Boas County Director



New leadership continues mission to expand Extension's outreach

In late 2022, I started as the new county director for DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt counties. I joined Illinois Extension in 2007 and served as a 4-H youth development educator for 12 years before transitioning to this role.

4-H and Extension shaped who I am today. It allowed me to explore my interests and learn how to lead and motivate others. Perhaps most importantly, it opened the door to a career with Extension. My daily goal is to live and share Illinois Extension's motto, "Extending Knowledge, Changing Lives," with our staff, volunteers, and community members. This annual report reflects the wide range of ages, partner agencies, and geographical areas we serve. The staff have done a terrific job reaching out to those we have not connected with recently. If you are interested in a program you see here, please don't hesitate to contact any of the staff.

People are our greatest resource, and I will continue providing Extension staff with the assistance and positive energy they need to reach youth and adults for many years. Thank you for your continued support of Illinois Extension in DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt counties

DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt counties Jamie Boas, County Director

Illinois Extension Makes an Impact

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's land grant mission thrives each day through Extension's programs, resources, knowledge, and dedicated staff that are responsive to five grand challenge themes: Com

Community: Support Strong and Resilient Residents



Economy: Grow a Prosperous Economy

Environment: Sustain Natural Resources at Home and in Public Spaces



Food: Maintain a Safe and Accessible Food Supply

Health: Maximize Physical, Mental, and Emotional Health

2022 Engagement

Extension leaders, staff, and stakeholders define priorities that create meaningful, mission-centered outcomes throughout the state:

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643 Communities Served	<b>720K+</b> Program Attendees	14.5M+ Webpage Views	22.9M+ Social Media Impressions	900K+ YouTube Views
488 Educational Sessions/Week (25K+ Annually)	<b>95</b> Online Courses Accessed by 12K+ People	<b>7,062</b> Local Government Education Webinar Reach	<b>1,807</b> 4-H Clubs	178,341 4-Н Affiliations

Partnerships			Resource Generation	
<b>5,941</b> Program Volunteers	269 Community Gardens	<b>1,030</b> School Partners	\$15,732,391 Value of Volunteer Contributions	<b>\$223,639</b> Value of Donated Garden Produce



# Illinois Extension collaborates to address food insecurity

Food insecurity continues to plague our communities. Macon County's food insecurity rate is 12%. University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners and SNAP-Education staff continued their partnership with Crossing Healthcare to further expand the Crossing Healthcare Prescription Program, a Growing Together Illinois project. Patients qualified for the 2022 program with a health condition, such as diabetes, or a confirmed food insecure status.

The Growing Together Illinois Continuation project increased its community reach by including participants involved with the Healthy Steps program at Crossing Healthcare. The Healthy Steps program provides services to new mothers with children between the ages of 0 and 3. The program's focus includes the new mother's well being by providing growth and development education to parents and caregivers.

Research shows a strong link between food insecurity, poor health, and even poor academic outcomes for children. Food insecurity is not just about hunger. It's about not having access to food options that meet nutritional needs, which is particularly important for individuals and families with limited resources. Extension connects youth, volunteers, and partners to work together to address food insecurity in locally relevant ways.

Master Gardeners planned Crossing Healthcare's Prescription Produce garden and grew many plants from seeds. Weeds, pests, and drought conditions challenged garden maintenance, but the Master Gardeners skillfully addressed these issues, resulting in a bountiful harvest. Master Gardeners also provided garden tours and sessions for the public during the season.

"2022 was a great year for Crossing Healthcare Garden. We had more volunteers this year than in the past," says Master Gardener Brenda Craven. "We learned better ways to deal with wildlife, and we gave away a ton of produce."

Twice a month, SNAP-Ed staff hosted Eat.Move.Save. booths during the prescription produce pick-up times. These booths provided nutritional education and recipes to coordinate with the produce given that week. The Growing Together Illinois project welcomed 4-H as an additional partner. A special interest 4-H club met at the garden throughout the growing season. Youth worked with Master Gardeners and assisted with garden activities, such as planting, harvesting, and distributing produce to the patients.

The dedicated efforts of SNAP-Ed, horticulture, Master Gardener, and 4-H staff resulted in a successful program for Illinois Extension and Crossing Healthcare. A formal strategic plan is now in place for the Crossing Healthcare Prescription Produce Garden to ensure sustainability. Illinois Extension recognized this project as recipient of the Interdisciplinary Team Excellence at its annual conference.



Food Insecure Patients Enrolled

95% Would Eat More Fresh Vegetables in the Future



**3,478** Pounds of Produce Harvested

1,431 Volunteer hours at Crossing Healthcare Garden



InterDisciplinary Team Award Left to right: Stacy Coussens, Louise Hyneman, Marisa Capps, Julia Duncan, Sarah Vogel, and Associate Dean and Extension Director Shelly Nickols-Richardson

# V

# Master Gardeners engage in community

Illinois Extension Master Gardener volunteers share their knowledge with the community in a variety of ways. Master Gardeners speak at garden clubs, civic groups, and schools; answer calls or emails at garden help desks; and establish demonstration gardens that serve as educational tools.

Training is the first step to becoming a volunteer. Illinois Extension offers a self-paced online option, a hybrid option consisting of live virtual sessions supplemented by individual study, and an in-person option at the Macon County Extension office.

# Seed Sowing starts off the year

Winter Seed Sowing was the first in-person horticulture event of the year. Participants learned how to winter sow and used the technique to help Master Gardeners sow seeds in preparation for the plant sale. Participants also created a make-and-take to begin their gardening preparation.

Even before the global pandemic's new social, economic, and life challenges, mental health was a growing concern. Illinois residents of all ages and walks of life need to know where to turn for resources to better manage the daily stressors that impact mental health and well-being.

# Horticulture workshops offer coping strategy

Gardening can positively impact mental health and well-being by reducing stress and anxiety. It is an opportunity to connect with nature and practice mindfulness. Piatt County Mental Health clients created beautiful flower arrangements and learned about seed saving with Piatt County Master Gardeners and Illinois Extension staff.

Extension staff presented additional workshops such as tree leaf and nut identification, container gardening, and evergreen arrangements. This partnership has continued to grow, and the clients enthusiastically await what Extension will offer in 2023.



# Extension provides opportunities for everyone

Macon Resources' clients participated in a make-and-take terrarium workshop led by Illinois Extension horticulture educator Sarah Vogel. The workshop focused on materials and plants used in a terrarium, how to care for the plants, and how to build a terrarium. Participants engaged in the handson part of the workshop and built their own terrarium using quart canning jars, potting soil, and rooted plant cuttings. Sarah planned three separate workshops to accommodate the different needs of Macon Resources clients.

Macon Resources is central Illinois' largest provider of services for those with cognitive, intellectual, or developmental disabilities. Illinois Extension recognizes the importance of growing this partnership to reach underserved audiences and provide education for those with developmental disabilities.





10 New Master Gardener Volunteers

80 Master Gardener Volunteers in DeWitt, Macon,

Master Gardener Volunteers in DeWitt, Macor and Piatt Counties



6,436 Master Gardener Volunteer Hours



\$199,315 Value of Volunteer Hours



Learn more about Master Gardener Training go.illinois.edu/MgTrainingDmp

## Catching the spark to fuel future interests

Youth need opportunities to discover and identify their skills, talents, interests, or special qualities. Community clubs, special interest clubs and after-school programs offered by 4-H allow youth to participate in many different activities.

A **Special Effects Make-up Workshop** in DeWitt County taught youth about special effect makeup techniques used onstage and in haunted houses. Youth practiced the techniques and explored their creativity. Two of the three volunteers leading the workshop had over 20 years of experience in special effects makeup for haunted house actors and other stage productions.





## STEM activities encourage curious thinkers

Food Science is a field in which science, technology, engineering and mathematics play an important role. A **Food Science** summer series in DeWitt County focused on taste testing, flavoring, food chemistry, production, and preparation. Elementary students experimented with yeast, made unleavened bread, created their own flavors, churned butter, watched popcorn pop off the cob in the microwave, and designed product marketing.

**Explorers of the Deep,** the 4-H STEM challenge, centered around a submersible, ocean health, and how scientists build unique robots to travel underwater and collect data. Students learned about buoyancy, ballast, and calculating density. For the final project, students created a social media graphic based on an ocean fact and shared it on the Macon County's 4-H social media.

# Music video leaves legacy

4-H is a place to belong! The Parsons Fierce Scholars 4-H Club was a unique club that focused on music. The after-school club explored the Hip Hop musical genre and produced the Parson's Anthem music video. Students participated in all aspects of the production process: choreographing the dance, shooting the video footage, designing the shirts, and writing and recording the lyrics. Illinois Extension staff provided guidance on proper video and recording equipment use, and helpful tips and tricks.

The principal unveiled it during an all-school assembly. The Parsons Anthem music video came to life because caring adults believed in and encouraged a diverse group of students to create something meaningful.





### Chess club fosters a sense of belonging

Chess promotes academic skills in spatial development, problem-solving, integrity, and appropriate behavior in social situations. The 4-H Chess Club provided beginner instructions and an opportunity for youth to engage with others. Ben Steele, 4-H educator, introduced rules, strategies, and movement of chess pieces at each meeting. Youth earned points for meeting attendance, completing games, winning games, good sportsmanship, special moves, and homework completion. The points translated to ranks: beginner, pawns, bishops, knights, rook, and royalty. All members started in the beginner rank. Chess Club finished the year with a tournament at the Macon County Extension office. Twenty-six players representing four age divisions, kindergarten through third, fourth through sixth, middle school, and high school, played six games in a four-and-a-half-hour period.





Teen teachers from Blue Ridge High School's STEM club planned STEM activities for 35 elementary students. The high school students used a station rotation model to teach STEM concepts and gain a better understanding of the time it takes to create lesson plans.

I learned how to come up with things on the spot and how to adapt to the kids' behaviors. Teen Teacher

Thirty-two Monticello high school agriculture students served as teen teachers for 125 early elementary students. High school students planned and prepared agricultural literacy activities for kindergarten classes. Elementary students played dairy bingo, a matching goat breed game, interacted with chickens, tasted honey, and sampled a variety of apples. These 4-H career exploration programs provide a wonderful opportunity to develop communication, presentation, and leadership skills. Teen teachers' reported an increase in confidence when working with children and better time management skills.

Thriving youth are the core of healthy, robust communities. Illinois Extension's mentorshipbased youth development model focuses on social competence, academic success, career development, and community connection. The 4-H experience creates opportunities and environments for all youth to thrive now and in the future.



Teen teachers engaged with Monticello elementary students.

# History comes alive for students

Learning about our nation's history is important for understanding our culture and society. Cerro Gordo and Monticello middle school students traveled through time with 4-H staff to explore different foods from significant historical periods such as the Great Depression and the Civil War. Some lessons required students to cook specific foods from a recipe, and others included sampling prepared foods. All the foods presented were foods the students had never tried, and some admitted that they wouldn't have tried them on their own. Learning about history through hands-on activities such as **Cooking Throughout History** supplements classroom-based curriculum and includes all types of learners.



The 4-H Memorial Camp at Allerton Park was the perfect site for the **Westward Expansion Program.** Monticello fifth graders had immersive experience learning about challenges early settlers met on their journey west. Students rotated through four stations, each representing one aspect of the trip: food, transportation, entertainment, and Illinois in the 1800s. Illinois Extension staff cooked white chicken chili and cornbread over the open fire, demonstrating how the early settlers prepared food.

Students explored how the early settlers traveled by completing a covered wagon manifest to understand how weight played a role in what the settlers packed in the covered wagon.

Ring toss, hoops, and a DIY buzz saw provided students with a glimpse of how the children entertained themselves. Pelts of the animals early settlers encountered were displayed. Students also explored what the prairie looked like in Illinois. The Westward Expansion Program is another great example of how 4-H provides supplemental activities for classroom learning.



# SNAP-Ed makes community connections

Rising food costs affect all, including nonprofit organizations, such as food pantries. Small food pantries not connected to box stores have experienced a decrease in purchasing power which trickles down to the families and individuals they serve.

Illinois Extension SNAP-Ed educator Louise Hyneman connected a local butcher shop, The House of Meats, with the Salvation Army food pantry. The butcher shop sold product at a reduced price to the food pantry, ensuring that a variety of fresh and frozen meats would be available for their clients. The new relationship, facilitated by Extension, helps fill the gaps for nutritionally insecure community members.



Personal health decisions are influenced by the broader community and environment where we live. By working together, we can create environments where healthy choices are the easy choices. Classrooms, school cafeterias, food pantries, workplaces, and other built environments play an important role in promoting health and wellbeing.



Community Outreach Worker Tammy Buse teaches a nutrition lesson.







**Recognizing the importance of mealtime** Student meals play a vital role in schools. USDA requires K – 12 nutrition professionals to earn continuing education hours each year. **ABCs of School Nutrition-Learning Institute**, an all-day training, featured sessions on communicating with families, social media practices, employee recognition, food waste, and school wellness policies. Illinois Extension provided this free training in partnership with the Illinois State Board of Education and the Macon-Piatt Regional Office of Education.

Meal planning is sometimes stressful for families. Balancing nutrition with what foods a child may actually eat can be difficult. In partnership with Baby Talk Early Head Start, Illinois Extension provided nutrition education to teen and adult moms with kids under the age of three. Nutrition and Wellness Educator Caitlin Mellendorf presented a short lesson, led an activity, and then guided moms in preparing a recipe. Illinois Extension reinforced the importance of mealtime and modeling by eating with infants and toddlers.

# Addressing diabetes in the community

Around 10% of Illinoisans have diabetes. If not managed well, diabetes leads to long-term complications. Education can help people with diabetes make choices that improve blood sugar control and limit complications.

**Living Well with Diabetes**, a six-week virtual series, was a joint effort of Illinois Extension, Kirby Medical Center, Piatt County Mental Health Center, Decatur Family YMCA, SIU School of Medicine, and Crossing Healthcare. These community partners provided education on nutrition, medication, mental health, and physical activity. Participants learned how to manage their diabetes better and expanded their support resources.

Illinois Extension partnered with Piatt County Mental Health Center and Macon Resources to provide general nutrition and basic cooking skills classes for adults living with chronic health conditions. The one-hour classes included short lessons and activities followed by a simple recipe the adults prepared themselves or, if needed, with the help of an aide. Participation in the program exposed the adults to new foods, encouraged nutritious food consumption outside of class, and taught simple cooking skills to those with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Illinois Extension prioritizes working with underserved populations. Adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities deserve the opportunity to feel valued and respected as community members. Life skills education is part of the process.

More than half of Illinois adults have a known chronic health condition, with many facing inequities that make improving their health more challenging. People of all ages need trusted and reliable research-based information to make health decisions that improve their quality of life. With our community partners, we deliver creative and sustainable solutions to assure that these supports are available when and where people need them.



Caitlin Mellendorf presenting nutrition lessons for Macon Resources clients.



**Investing in the future of agriculture** Youth crop scouting competitions invite students to take a closer look at careers in agriculture and environmental sciences. The **Illinois Youth Crop Scouting Competition** was a cooperative effort between University of Illinois Extension, University of Illinois Crop Sciences, University of Illinois Pesticide Safety Education Program, the Illinois Soybean Association, and the Illinois Certified Crop Advisers. Students learned crop scouting principles and Integrated Pest Management for corn and soybeans and obtained knowledge and skills helpful for future careers. Six high school teams, including a team from Maroa, participated in this year's event in Savoy at the University of Illinois Agronomy Farm. The competition is the only one of its kind in Illinois.

## Hands-on workshop addresses pruning fears

Pruning fruit trees is somewhat of a mystery for new fruit tree growers—the fear of making a mistake while pruning causes some apprehension. Fifteen hearty souls braved the cold temperatures to attend Illinois Extension's **Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop**. Master Naturalists and Extension staff demonstrated how to prune the trees correctly. Participants practiced their technique before returning home to prune their trees. One participant said they planned to put the training in action on their apple tree at home. Webinar reaches small farm and home garden audience Paw paws have recently been in the news for their potential for commercial development. Local foods and small farms educator Doug Gucker presented **Paw Paws: Our Native Tropical Fruit** as part of Illinois Extension's Small Farms Winter Webinar series. The presentation was the first statewide Extension programming on paw paws that targeted the small farm and home garden audience.

A second presentation on paw paws explored the specifics of growing paw paws in Illinois. This webinar was recorded and posted on University of Illinois Extensions local food systems and small farms YouTube channel.

#### Graziers learn how to avoid plant poisoning

Most grazing animals are curious and often try newly introduced or discovered food sources. Illinois Extension educator Doug Gucker led the **Pasture Walk** in a river bottom pasture to help grazers identify unknown plants. Every year, grazing animals, including horses, die from eating a toxic plant. This program was a joint effort between DeWitt, Macon, Piatt, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Moultrie, and Shelby counties.



Out Standing In the Field Podcast go.illinois.edu/OITF



Sharing knowledge with the community Illinois Extension Master Naturalists provide educational outreach in community settings. The Glacier's Edge Master Naturalists includes DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt counties.

The **Carolyn Mason Community Education Day** theme was "A Prairie State of Mind" and focused on the importance of prairie to Central Illinois, specifically its flora, fauna, and soils. Community members learned about nature journaling, toured the Homestead Prairie Farm at Rock Springs, participated in a scavenger hunt, and had the option of taking an early morning bird walk. This annual event is a great outreach for the Glacier's Edge Master Naturalists.

Hummingbirds are remarkable creatures. The most common sighting in Illinois is the Ruby-throated hummingbird and many people try to attract them to their home gardens. Glacier's Edge Master Naturalists, in collaboration with the Macon County Conservation District, participated in the annual **Hummingbird Festival** at Rock Springs Center. Master Naturalists provided an activity sheet and hands-on activity for youth and helped capture, band, and release the birds.

The survival of our planet depends on the quality of our water, land, energy, and air. These shared resources must be managed through sustainable practices that support ecological balance. In a changing climate, Illinois Extension helps Illinois residents make informed choices on stewardship of these natural resources to ensure sustainable environment and ecosystems supporting healthy living and climate resilient communities.

# Master Naturalists efforts make impact

Japanese honeysuckle is an invasive plant causing grave damage to many public land forest ecosystems, including Fairview Park in Decatur. Master Naturalists and Master Gardeners, in cooperation with the Decatur Park District, spent a Saturday clearing the invasive species during the annual Honeysuckle Sweep. The dedication and commitment of these volunteers has resulted in native shrubs and trees returning to the park's ecosystem. The improvement was seen by all who attended the event and fueled a renewed sense of optimism.



Volunteers prepared to clear Japanese Honeysuckle during the annual Honeysuckle Sweep at Fairview Park.



9

New Master Naturalists Volunteers

33 Master Naturalists Volunteers in DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt Counties



**5,062** Master Naturalist Volunteer Hours

\$156,778 Value of Volunteer Hours

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS/ORGANIZATIONS**

4-H Memorial Camp **ABC Preschool** Agriculture Watershed Institute Allerton Park & Retreat Center Allerton Public Library Anna Waters Head Start Archer Daniels Midland Argenta-Oreana Public Library Argenta-Oreana School District Association of Nutrition and Foodservice Professionals Atwood-Hammond Library Atwood-Hammond School District Baby TALK Early Head Start **Barclay Public Library** Bement Chamber of Commerce Bement Public Library Bement School District Black Iron Coffee Blue Mound Memorial Library Blue Ridge School District Blue Ridge Township Library Boys & Girls Club of Decatur **Bryant Cottage Bushel and Peck Wild Flowers** C.H. Moore Homestead DeWitt County **Carriage House Apartments** Central Illinois Aerospace Cerro Gordo School District Chi Xi Omega **Cisco Community Center** City of Monticello **Clinton Community School District Clinton Community YMCA Clinton Journal Coffee Connection** Connie's Country Greenhouse **County Market Crossing Healthcare** Decatur Day Care Center **Decatur Family YMCA Decatur Housing Authority Decatur Park District Decatur Public Library** Decatur Public Schools **Decatur Public Schools Foundation Decatur-Macon County Opportunities DeWitt County 4-H Foundation DeWitt County Coalition DeWitt County Farm Bureau DeWitt County Friendship Center DeWitt County HCE** 

**DeWitt County Housing Authority DeWitt County SWCD** DeWitt-Piatt Bi-County Health Department Double D Farms DOVE, Inc. Ecumenical Food Pantry of Piatt County **Empowerment Opportunity Center** Exelon Faith in Action Farm Progress Show Farmer City Public Library First Baptist Church, Decatur First Christian Church, Monticello First Mid-Illinois Bank, Monticello First National Bank, Clinton First Presbyterian Church, Monticello First State Bank, Monticello Forsyth Public Library Fox Run Farms Friends Creek Community Building **Girl Scouts** Girl Scouts of Clinton Good Samaritan Inn/Mercy Gardens Holly's Country Kitchen Homework Hangout Hope Welty Public Library Illinois 4-H Foundation Illinois Association of Home and Community Extension Illinois Public Media **Kirby Medical Center** Lake Fork Sportsman Club Macon County 4-H & Extension Foundation Macon County Ag in the Classroom Macon County Conservation District Macon County Community Environmental Council Macon County Fairgrounds Macon County Farm Bureau Macon County HCE Macon County Obesity Prevention Coalition Macon County SWCD Macon Resources, Inc. Macon-Piatt Regional Office of Education Maddox Sweet Corn Farm Maroa Public Library Maroa-Forsyth School District McGrath Plants and Produce Meridian School District Mike Heiniger Photography Millikin University Monticello Christian Academy

Monticello Farmer's Market Monticello School District Monticello United Methodist Church Mothers of Preschoolers Mt. Zion District Library Neighborhood Care Center - Clinton New Vision Food Pantry Northeast Community Fund Now Decatur Old Kings Orchard 121 Coffee Run Oxford House Piatt County Farm Bureau Piatt County HCE Piatt County Journal-Republican Piatt County SWCD Piatt Mental Health Center PrairiErth **Reasonable Services Food Pantry RFD** Radio Network **Richland Community College Rural King** Salvation Army Save-A-Lot - Clinton South Macon Public Library State Bank of Bement Take Off Pounds Sensibly The Herald & Review The Vault The Woods Apartments **Topflight Grain Co-operative** Tractor Supply - Clinton Tractor Supply - Monticello Triple M Farm U of I Plant Biology Greenhouse United Way of Decatur & Mid-Illinois Vespasian Warner Public Library WAND TV Warner Hospital and Health Services Waynesville Township Library WCIA TV Webster-Cantrell Hall Wee Folks Daycare Weldon Public Library Weldon Springs State Park WHOW Radio Willow Tree Missions WMAY Radio WPXN Radio Youth with a Positive Direction



Illinois Extension is funded through a combination of local, county, state, and federal dollars, which are returned to the community through educational programming.

\$713,022	County Board
\$482,218	State County Board Match
\$149,164	Federal Income
\$125,000	Program Income
\$110,000	State Income
\$45,000	Gifts/Donations/Grants
\$28,852	Local Sources
\$21,942	4-H Premiums

## 2022-2023 EXTENSION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Megan Murphy	Jerry Edwards	Nancy Derby
Piatt	Piatt	Macon
Sonya Anthony	Ben Suckow	Brett Brown
Macon	Macon	Macon
David White	Jennifer Suckow	April Gum
Piatt	Macon	DeWitt
Angi Carter	Tayisha Nelson	Kendra Wallace
DeWitt	Macon	DeWitt
Ray Spencer	Karen Halicki	Kathi Drozs
Piatt	Macon	DeWitt
Kallee Steinkamp	Merry Lanker	Morgan Drozs
Piatt	Macon	DeWitt



# Thank you for your many years of service

The final months of 2022 brought a change in leadership for DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt staff. Illinois Extension named County Director Doug Harlan the assistant director for Region 3. Harlan served as county director for DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt counties for 16 years. He will now oversee Extension programs in the state's lower 48 central and southern counties. The DeWitt, Macon, and Piatt staff appreciate the many years of leadership that Doug provided and look forward to the new ideas and programs under Jamie Boas's leadership.

# **Online Outreach**



5,309 Recipients of 84 Extension and 4-H newsletters



**32,083** Website Page Views



4,578 Followers of 6 Facebook Pages



Hours of Video Watched

Illinois Extension continued its efforts in reaching the online community with e-newsletters, event highlight videos, social media accounts and podcasts.



Visit DeWitt, Macon and Piatt counties go.illinois.edu/DMP











#### STAFF

Jamie Boas County Director

Whitney Allison Program Coordinator, Master Gardeners

Cortney Benton Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development

Tamera Buse Community Worker, SNAP-Ed

Marisa Capps Community Worker, SNAP-Ed

Laura Crider Program Coordinator, Marketing and Communications

Rachel Davidson Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development

Julia Duncan Program Coordinator, Agriculture Eric Eickmeier Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development

Peggy Fear Business Administrative Associate

Abby Foley Office Support Assistant, Macon County

Jeralee Funk Office Support Assistant, Piatt County

Douglas Gucker Educator, Local Food Systems and Small Farms

Stephanie Hale Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development

Louise Hyneman Educator, SNAP-Ed

Maria Lightner Program Coordinator, Marketing and Communications Caitlin Mellendorf Educator, Nutrition and Wellness

Beth Miglin Program Coordinator, Horticulture

Stacy Nichols Office Support Assistant, DeWitt County

Diana Tibbs Office Support Assistant, DeWitt County

Sarah Vogel Educator, Horticulture and Natural Resources

Kendra Wallace Program Coordinator, 4-H Youth Development

Roxanna Waterhouse Office Support Assistant, Macon County

#### **OFFICE INFORMATION**

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#### Macon County Extension

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(217) 762-2191 Fax: (217) 762-2703 Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 4:30 PM

#### ONLINE





DeWitt, Macon & Piatt Counties



Cover photo: Young 4-H member making friends with a goat.

Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



#### College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences

University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating. University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, please contact the event coordinator. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time to meet your needs. The Illinois Nutrition Education Programs are funded by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture by the Director, Cooperative Extension Service, and University of Illinois.

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