The impact of the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) continues to create uncertainty and concern both globally and here in our community. Following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, the University of Illinois has implemented social-distancing protocols that impact all university events. Illinois Extension, as the outreach program of the university, aligns with all policies related to public health and safety.

Effective immediately, ALL face-to-face events organized by Illinois Extension have been cancelled, suspended, or transitioned to online delivery. This will apply to all events previously scheduled through May 31, 2020. Look for specific information about cancellations or postponements on our website at go.illinois.edu/cce. In some cases, in-person events are being replaced with webinars or online meetings, or with digital resources you can review at your convenience.

These plans may change based on guidance and direction provided by the local public health department. If you have any questions about events, please contact us via email at uie-cce@illinois.edu.

For 4-H specifically, we want to reinforce this means all 4-H club meetings are cancelled through May 31, 2020. We are committed to supporting you in your continued 4-H project experience at home. Right now, we are preparing a series of statewide 4-H Online engagement opportunities through our Facebook page (Illinois 4-H). Please check there for regular updates as additional resources are identified.

We know you may also have questions about summer events. We will be actively monitoring the situation and providing updates as they are available. We know that you have put a lot of work into your 4-H projects. Be assured that we are exploring all possibilities for providing continued judging, exhibit, and showcase opportunities.

A collection of resources to assist families and community leaders preparing for and coping with COVID-19 is available online at www.go.illinois.edu/ExtensionCOVID19.

We are working to support all Illinois families at this time. We appreciate your support and understanding as we navigate this situation.

Sincerely,

Stacy Woodyard

Stacy Woodyard Illinois Extension Director Clark, Crawford and Edgar Counties University of Illinois Extension