



ILLINOIS

Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

What We Do

University of Illinois Extension is the community-based outreach arm of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Based in St. Charles, our staff and volunteer team provide the link between the University and the residents of Kane County.

U of I Extension programs are aimed at making life better, healthier, safer and more profitable for individuals and their communities. Locally, we offer informal education in the areas of 4-H youth development, horticulture and natural resources, health and wellness, and SNAP-Education with Illinois Nutrition Education Programs.

2019 Kane County Reach

Volunteers



435

Extension/4-H volunteers

Volunteer Hours



14,709

Volunteer hours in communities

Volunteer Value



\$395,532

Volunteer value* to communities

4-H Program



12,362

Youth Participants

SNAP-Education



2,826

Unique Participants

Master Gardeners



4,191

Direct Contacts

Website



76,509

Local Unique Page Views

Facebook



193,004

Facebook Post Reach

Media



246

Print and Broadcast

* \$26.89 per hour was utilized as the hourly value of Illinois volunteer service, as reported by Independent Sector at www.independentsector.org

Contact Us

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Visit our website: go.illinois.edu/extensiondkk

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/extensiondkk

Headquarters Office in Kane County

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630-584-6166

Local Government Education



13

Webinars in 2019



390

Reached in Community Involvement and Leadership Webinars



86

Reached in Food Access Webinars



191

Reached in Economic and Financial Well-being Webinars



922

Reached in Economic Vitality and Community Resiliency

The Leadership Academy for County Officials, developed by U of I Extension provided training to elected and appointed county officials. Erin Brady (Asst. State's Attorney, Kane County), Matthew Hanson (County Board, Kane County), and Chris Kious (County Board, Kane County) attended five interactive, day-long sessions on fiscal management, leadership in crisis situations, data-driven decision-making, economic development, community asset development, and more.



Illinois State Treasurer Mike Frerichs spoke at the 2019 Leadership Academy, and discussed how working with other state treasurers across the country helped him address challenges in Illinois.



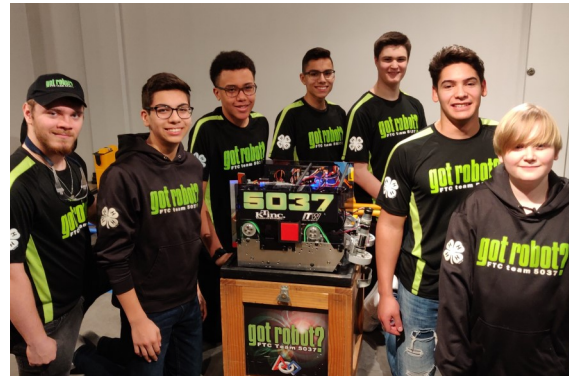
HCE PARTNERSHIPS VALUABLE TO COMMUNITIES, EXTENSION

The Association of Home and Community Education (HCE) works to enhance the lives of individuals and families through quality educational programs, and leadership and service experiences in the community.

Extension also partners with HCE to host educator-led webinars on key topics, such as preventing identity theft, communicating with those with dementia, and nutrition on a budget. In 2019, more than 70 local residents attended these presentations in Kane County. In addition, these groups are great supporters of University of Illinois Extension and 4-H, often contributing funds and volunteer time to our local programs.

4-H MEMBERS PASS ON PASSION FOR STEM TO OTHERS

Got robot? 4-H Club/FTC Team 5037 partnered with Gail Bordon Public Library in Elgin to raise funds to provide STEAM kits, including 10 bilingual ones, for the library's youth area. Each clear backpack has an educational activity, corresponding books, and information to assist parents in helping their child discover and learn. "It is so important and inspiring for children to see teens achieve amazing things," said Tabatha Anderson, Grade School Services Manager. **"It has been exciting to see how these kits have already inspired many children and families to learn together."**



EXTENSION SUPPORTS SCHOOL-WIDE EFFORTS FOR HEALTHY CHOICES

The Kane County SNAP-Education team worked closely with McCleery Elementary School at multiple levels in 2019. In addition to direct education in classes, they worked together for Garden Club Family Night, a Family Fitness magnet, and the School Health Index. "The results allowed for conversations between administration, teachers in the classroom, and SNAP to determine where improvements can be made," said teacher Alex Shaw. "I like partnering with Extension because we are a team! **This partnership provides the opportunity to have an exterior, research-based program support our students. The impact for our families is fantastic! For example, at garden club night, SNAP taught families how to make health conscious decisions when making snacks at home without sacrificing taste or creativity.**"

SHERMAN GARDEN TEAM GROWS ITS OUTREACH

Celebrating a decade of service in 2020, the Sherman Community Garden and Natural Prairie (SCGNP) has truly "helped others learn to grow" in Elgin. In 2019, the team of 23 Extension volunteers mentored more than 100 community gardeners with meetings, newsletters and on-site consultation. **In fact, the Master Gardener team has gone on to mentor other community gardens, such as East Side Neighborhood Garden.** The SCGNP features dozens of raised beds, container gardens, an ergonomic garden, compost area, natural prairie, pollinator gardens, woods and more. In 2019, Master Naturalists spent more than 50 hours removing invasive species in those wooded and natural areas.

