

EXTENSION SNAPSHOT

Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

I ILLINOIS Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL CONSUMER &
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

What I Do and Why It Matters

This new Snapshot series serves as a way to re-introduce you to our unit staff. Each month a different staff member will be featured.

Mr. Benito's bilingual class at Peoria High School is one of seven classes that Mari Lopez co-teaches the Cooking Matters for Teens curriculum. Mari has been teaching EFNEP lessons to youth and adults since 2016.

What I Do and Why It Matters



“I teach nutrition program to children, teens, and adults in the Peoria area. I teach them how to cook and exercise as well as encourage them to be healthy. My goal is to give them a better view of a healthy lifestyle they can use every day.”

Mari Lopez

Expanded Food Nutrition Education Program Instructor
mclopez@illinois.edu

Mari was hired to the University of Illinois Extension EFNEP team in 2016. She became the second English-Spanish bilingual team member.

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

University of Illinois Extension EFNEP, teamwork award for teen cooking schools 2019

EXTENSION FOCUS AREAS

- CATCH Program for Children
- Food Pantries
- Cooking Matters for Teens
- Adult Cooking Classes

EXAMPLES OF MARI'S PROGRAM PARTNERS

Friendship House Mom's Group
Peoria High School Bilingual Class
Richwoods High School Bilingual Class
Catholic Charities Food Pantry
Thomas Jefferson Primary School
Glen Oak Primary School
Hidden Manna Food Pantry
Just for Today Alcoholics Anonymous Group
4 to 5 Step Alcoholics Anonymous Group



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