

### Agriculture

Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



*Updating and adapting a risk and grain marketing curriculum into a more relevant format for use in-person, stand-alone educational videos, and an on-line course. This curriculum will assist beginning, organic and transitioning dairy farmers in identifying strengths and weaknesses of their business to assist them in making decisions that will improve their farm profitability.*

*A cover crop walk where farmers and agency professionals engaged in hands-on learning and discussion about cover crop management to learn strategies and methods to implement cover crops and improve soil health and farm profitability.*

*Educational programming as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth.*

*A webinar for sheep and goat producers to learn about techniques of grilling and cooking lamb. This effort was designed to help producers prepare lamb products to ensure an enjoyable eating experience and to promote eating lamb to consumers to increase lamb consumption.*

*A conference for dairy owners/managers, engineers, agribusiness professionals where they learned about innovative manure handling processes to recycle nutrients, produce biomass (renewable) energy, and to reduce manure gas greenhouse emissions to improve business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal husbandry and welfare.*

*An all-day educational event for new farmers, part-time and full-time operators, low-income startups, graziers and non-graziers featuring guest speakers, farmer/local resources panel, commercial and agency exhibitors, and farmer-to-farmer networking with emphasis on grazing fundamentals, cattle stockmanship and handling facilities, wildlife and grazing ecology and future grazing opportunities and programs. The goal is for people to be able to make informed decisions about the pros and cons of grazing, and to meet other people with similar interests and goals related to grazing and pasture management.*

*An in-person two-day workshop for beginning sheep producers to learn about ewe and lamb care, assist with lamb birth, nutrition, vaccination, diseases, lamb processing, and view demonstrations of sheep operations. This effort was designed to help producers feed females in late gestation, care for ewes in labor and newborn lambs, and maintain ewe and lamb productivity to sustain or increase profitability.*

*A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals, where subscribers learned about dairy facilities and ventilation, reproduction, animal well-being, nutrition, and Extension dairy production and management resources. This effort was designed to provide a timely and reliable source of dairy management news and updates to help them improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.*

## Community Development

Addison Vang | Community Development Educator



*Educational programing as part of a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant supporting underserved HMoob and marginalized small farmers in Western Wisconsin, where participants learn about the importance of food safety, soil health, and gain awareness of farm agencies and food-business resources. The goals are to reduce challenges and barriers to support and expand underserved HMoob farm operations through good agricultural practices and economic growth.*

*Resources for a Fond du Lac School school district employee to better support HMoob students experiencing a change in life events. The goal of this exchange is to provide culturally responsive and timely support for our community.*

*A presentation to and conversation with the Board of Momentum West Regional Economic Development Organization, where the participants learned about broadband funding, planning, local team efforts and digital inclusion efforts in Wisconsin. The purpose of this effort is to strengthen the digital inclusion ecosystem in Wisconsin.*

*Planning for a series of webinars for food entrepreneurs in collaboration with county educators, statewide specialists, and local experts. This effort is designed to equip food entrepreneurs with increased skills and knowledge for operating successful food business enterprises.*

*A video series for food and farm business entrepreneurs, where participants develop the framework needed for effective food and ag entrepreneurship and relate to the resources, they need to be successful. This effort was designed to help participants assess their skills, assets, personalities, and/or networks to help decide about a business opportunity or new enterprise.*

## Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter | FoodWise Coordinator

Joy Weisner | FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Jael Wolf | FoodWise Nutrition Educator



*A Blazing Lion Family event at Longfellow Elementary where students, parents, and staff meet before school to walk laps and FoodWise provided nutrition information, recipes, and stickers to kids. This effort helped to*

*An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.*

# Extension Eau Claire County

## April 2023 Report

---

*increase awareness of FoodWise programming along with supporting increased physical activity and nutrition education.*

*A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders at Augusta Elementary where students engage in language arts while learning about eating healthy, being active, and the importance of handwashing. This effort will help students explore, identify, and taste new fruits and vegetables.*

*A 6-week nutrition education series to 5th graders at Augusta Elementary where they learn about healthy habits and how the nutrients in foods contribute to a healthy diet. This effort will help the students plan healthy meals and snacks using a variety of foods from the food groups.*

*A 4-lesson series for preschoolers at Augusta Elementary to learn about fruits, vegetables and keeping their bodies healthy. This effort helps children to learn to use their senses with colors, music, and tastes to explore foods and physical activity.*

*A Date with Dad event at Eau Claire Head Start where parents learned the benefits of getting kids helping in the kitchen along with a healthy snack preparation. This effort supports parents in encouraging their families to eat healthy and reduce mealtime struggles.*

*A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders in Lakeshore Elementary and Locust Lane Elementary. The goal of this effort is for students to learn about eating healthy, being active, exploring fruits and vegetables, and the importance of handwashing.*

*A 6-week nutrition education series for 3rd graders at Flynn Elementary and Locust Lane Elementary to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, and included hands-on activities. This effort was designed to encourage students to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.*

*A 6-week nutrition education series for 5th graders at Locust Lane Elementary and Lakeshore Elementary where they learn about healthy habits and how the nutrients in foods contribute to a healthy diet. This effort will help the students plan healthy meals and snacks using a variety of foods from the food groups.*

*A series of 6 nutrition lessons for 3rd graders at Lakeshore Elementary. This effort will help students explore MyPlate and discover why people need to eat food from all five food groups, identify benefits of physical activity, and identify why one snack might be a better choice than another snack by reading a Nutrition Facts Label.*

*A series of virtual statewide strength training sessions (StrongBodies) where older adults learn best practices along with nutrition and health education. Participants engage in regular strength training exercises to improve strength, balance, and flexibility so they can stay healthy and socially connected.*

### Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



*Planning a series of horticulture-based activities for people living with dementia and their care partners, offered in partnership with the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County Dementia Care Specialist. The goal of this effort is to offer hands-on, nature-inspired experiences that provide opportunities to stimulate participant's senses, enjoy social interactions, and provide physical activity while imparting a sense of purpose.*

*Planning a gardening series for beginners in collaboration with the Cardinal Community Learning Center where participants learn the basics of vegetable gardening, starting seeds indoors and growing vegetables in containers when space is limited. The goal of this effort is to teach those new to vegetable gardening how to get started and encourage people to try vegetable gardening.*

*Planning a gardening presentation in collaboration with the Bloomer Public Library for the public. The goal of this effort is to teach participants strategies to grow successful patio gardens and to encourage people of all ages to garden even when space is limited.*

*Planning a gardening series for the public in collaboration with the Chippewa Falls Public Library One Seed, One Wisconsin program. The goal of this effort is to demonstrate growing tomatoes from seed to harvest to teach and encourage people to try vegetable gardening.*

*A community of practice for horticulture educators where we explore strategies and resources to expand horticulture education and outreach to underrepresented audiences. The goal of participating in this group is to dig into ways we can locally continue to grow and enhance our horticulture programs to reach more diverse audiences.*

*Planning a 6-week garden program for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley Menomonie Center and FoodWise. The goal of this effort is to teach best practices in the garden through hands-on activities, promote life-long healthy eating habits and to foster connections to nature.*

### Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



*The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:*

*Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.*

*Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.*

### *Human Development & Relationships*

This position is currently vacant. Watch for the posting soon.

### *Positive Youth Development*

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



*Planning for a citizen science education event where youth (and families) will learn how to collect data on flowering plants and pollinators in their yard along with the No Mow May Chippewa Valley Pollinator Partnership to educate young people on flower identification, scientific sampling methods, and the importance of pollinators.*

*Planning for a 3-session Virtual Weaving Series in collaboration with a UW-Madison professor and Extension STEM outreach specialist to provide project learning for art and STEM to both those enrolled or not enrolled in 4-H.*

*Art U, a 6-week virtual art instruction program for youth in grades K-6 and in-person for grades 7-12 where youth were led in an art lesson using different mediums and participated in a gallery walk to show off their finished pieces on the last night. This effort was designed to provide project learning in the spark of Art.*

*Planning for camp counselor training where 19 young people will build community and learn leadership skills that they will use as counselors for the Eau Claire-Dunn-Clark summer 4-H camp in order to be prepared to lead a high-quality camp program.*

*Planning for a hands-on project learning day for middle school and high school youth in collaboration with 4-H volunteers. The goal of this effort is to broaden participants' experiences, increase project skills, and encourage youth and adult partnerships.*

## Agriculture

Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



*Dairy e-newsletter for farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, other agribusiness professionals, and other interested individuals to inform participants of new dairy management articles/factsheets, connect with dairy educators, and learn about upcoming programming to help them learn about new research and management techniques to improve their overall farm sustainability.*

*An information table for the public at Chippewa County's Chippewa Strong Event where information on the positive impact plants have on various areas of our lives was offered. This effort is designed to increase awareness of the benefits of plants and how we can incorporate more plants in our lives.*

*Updating and adapting a risk and grain marketing curriculum into a more relevant format for use in-person, stand-alone educational videos, and an on-line course. This curriculum will assist beginning, organic and transitioning dairy farmers in identifying strengths and weaknesses of their business to assist them in making decisions that will improve their farm profitability.*

*A dairy production and management newsletter for farmers, managers, employees, and agribusiness professionals, where subscribers learned about dairy facilities and ventilation, reproduction, animal well-being, nutrition, and Extension dairy production and management resources. This effort was designed to provide a timely and reliable source of dairy management news and updates to help them improve farm business viability, environmental sustainability, and food safety through animal welfare.*

*A video series for food and farm business entrepreneurs, where participants develop the framework needed for effective food and ag entrepreneurship and relate to the resources, they need to be successful. This effort was designed to help participants assess their skills, assets, personalities, and/or networks to help decide about a business opportunity or new enterprise.*

## Community Development

Addison Vang | Community Development Educator



*An educational program on Food Licensing to learn about the different licenses for prepared food businesses and basic food safety practices open to all, with the goal of reaching underserved populations. The goal is to reduce challenges and barriers for food entrepreneurs to sell prepared foods in the Chippewa Valley. The workshop offered Spanish and HMoob interpretation.*

*Develop a soil health/testing program for the Chippewa Valley to support small farmers understanding how to conduct soil samples, interpretation of test results, and soil health practices. Community assessments have indicated a desire to understand soil health to support vegetable production. The summer months will involve developing and identifying partners with the fall/end of the harvest seasons devoted to education and soil testing. The goal of the program is to support Chippewa Valley small farmers with soil health knowledge and also provide non-English speakers and underserved farming communities who have traditionally had issues accessing resources due to language barriers and, or lack of awareness.*

*An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.*

A farmers market survey for Chippewa Valley to better understand market vendor and small farmer needs. The survey will be distributed during the peak summer farmers' market months and is designed to inform market decisions as well as understand the market's impact on the community food system.

## Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter | FoodWise Coordinator  
Educator

Joy Weisner | FoodWise Nutrition Educator

Jael M. Wolf | FoodWise Nutrition



A collaboration with Feed My People Food Bank to host the Hunger Prevention Coalition meeting with multiple local agencies attending and providing updates as it connected to food security in the area. This effort provides connection and opportunity to share local initiatives such as the Farmers Market-Market Match program and more to promote within the community.

A Harvest of the Month social marketing campaign and event at Augusta Elementary where promotional materials were shared with families and all school youth were offered a cafeteria tasting of the highlighted vegetable-radishes. This effort supported parents in creating healthy food environments and guided children to try healthy foods.

A 3-lesson series at Bridge to Hope which provides shelter and support for individuals and families effected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking where they learn about nutrition, meal planning, utilizing pantry foods, and food safety. The goal of this effort is to help participants make healthy choices on a limited budget.

An educational event on Farmers Market -Market Match program to Eau Claire Area Hmong Mutual Assistance Association. The goal of this effort was to share the procedures and benefits of this program that allows FoodShare recipients to receive double tokens for food purchases which increases their food security and promotes local produce.

A 5-week nutrition education series with Western Dairyland Fresh Start program for at-risk teens and young adults where they learn about nutrition, food preparation/cooking, food safety, and mindfulness. The goal of this effort is to empower teens/young adults to adopt healthier lifestyles by teaching them the knowledge and skills needed to prepare nutritious snacks and meals at home.

A Blazing Lion Family event at Longfellow Elementary where students, parents, and staff meet before school to walk laps and FoodWise provided nutrition information, recipes, and stickers to kids. This effort helped to increase awareness of FoodWise programming along with supporting increased physical activity and nutrition education.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders at Augusta Elementary where students engage in language arts while learning about eating healthy, being active, and the importance of handwashing. This effort will help students explore, identify, and taste new fruits and vegetables.

A 6-week nutrition education series to 5th graders at Augusta Elementary where they learn about healthy habits and how the nutrients in foods contribute to a healthy diet. This effort will help the students plan healthy meals and snacks using a variety of foods from the food groups.

A 4-lesson series for preschoolers at Augusta Elementary to learn about fruits, vegetables and keeping their bodies healthy. This effort helps children to learn to use their senses with colors, music, and tastes to explore foods and physical activity.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 1st graders in Lakeshore Elementary. The goal of this effort is for students to learn about eating healthy, being active, exploring fruits and vegetables, and the importance of handwashing.

A 6-week nutrition education series for 3rd graders at Flynn Elementary to learn about the importance of eating five food groups, physical activity, and included hands-on activities. This effort was designed to encourage students to try more fruits and vegetables at each meal.

Multiple meetings and emails with local partners to support our local farmers markets by implementing a new Farmers Market in Chippewa and plan for Market Match programs in Menomonie and Eau Claire Farmers Markets. This effort will help to improve food security with the development and implementation of a program for SNAP/FoodShare recipients to use benefits for food purchases.

Planning with Lakeshore Elementary, River Heights Elementary, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Master Gardeners in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide an opportunity for youth to increase produce consumption.

A series of virtual statewide strength training sessions (StrongBodies) where older adults learn best practices along with nutrition and health education. Participants engage in regular strength training exercises to improve strength, balance, and flexibility so they can stay healthy and socially connected.

## Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



Planning a 6-week garden program for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley Menomonie Center and FoodWise. The goal of this effort is to teach best practices in the garden through hands-on activities, promote life-long healthy eating habits and to foster connections to nature.

Planning an educational garden for the public in collaboration with facilities at the Dunn County Government Building. The goal of the effort is to incorporate native plants into the garden for both beautification and an opportunity to demonstrate plantings that, once established, support pollinators by increasing habitat, are lower in water needs and reduce the need for fertilizers and pesticides helping to keep our waterways clean and reduce chemical input to our environment.

A vegetable container garden program for the Spring Series StrongBodies Chat for participating seniors where they learned about the benefits and ease of growing vegetables in containers. This effort is designed to encourage people of all ages to garden for wellness and food, even if space, time and/or mobility is limited.

A patio garden program at the Augusta Memorial Public Library for the public where they learned strategies to grow successful patio gardens. This effort is designed to encourage people of all ages to garden for wellness, beautification and /or food even if space is limited.

A fruit container garden program for the Spring Series StrongBodies Chat for participating seniors where they learned about several fruits that can be successfully grown in a container. This effort is designed to encourage people of all ages to garden for wellness and food, even if space, time and/or mobility is limited.

A community of practice for horticulture educators where we explore strategies and resources to expand horticulture education and outreach to underrepresented audiences. The goal of participating in this group is to dig into ways we can locally continue to grow and enhance our horticulture programs to reach more diverse audiences.

*Planning a gardening series for the public in collaboration with the Chippewa Falls Public Library One Seed, One Wisconsin program. The goal of this effort is to demonstrate growing tomatoes from seed to harvest to teach and encourage people to try vegetable gardening.*

*Planning a series of horticulture-based activities for people living with dementia and their care partners, offered in partnership with the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County Dementia Care Specialist. The goal of this effort is to offer hands-on, nature-inspired experiences that provide opportunities to stimulate participant's senses, enjoy social interactions, and provide physical activity while imparting a sense of purpose.*

*Planning a gardening series for beginners in collaboration with the Cardinal Community Learning Center where participants learn the basics of vegetable gardening, starting seeds indoors and growing vegetables in containers when space is limited. The goal of this effort is to teach those new to vegetable gardening how to get started and encourage people to try vegetable gardening.*

## Human Development & Relationships

This position is currently vacant. Watch for the posting soon.

## Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator



*A citizen science education event where youth (and families) will learn how to collect data on flowering plants and pollinators in their yard along with the No Mow May Chippewa Valley Pollinator Partnership to educate young people on flower identification, scientific sampling methods, and the importance of pollinators.*

*An in-person Youth for the Quality Care of Animals training specifically for those in the rabbit and poultry project. This was to offer a lower-cost and more species-appropriate opportunity for those who needed this educational opportunity to meet the requirements for exhibiting at the local county fair.*

*A 3-session Virtual Weaving Series with sessions on weaving patterns, weaving materials, and weaving LED wire to provide project learning for art and STEM to both those enrolled or not enrolled in 4-H.*

*Camp counselor training where 4-H staff helped 19 young people build community and learn leadership skills that they will use as counselors for the Eau Claire-Dunn-Clark summer 4-H camp to be prepared to lead a high-quality camp program.*

*A 3-hour staff development workshop (Real Colors) where 4-H summer camp counselors from three Wisconsin counties increased their ability to recognize their strengths and the strengths of others, build rapport quickly with others, understand how others process information, and modify their communication to connect with others. The workshop is intended to help teams work together more effectively.*

*Planning for two 4-H camps for over 80 youth from Clark, Dunn and Eau Claire counties, where youth will sleep overnight in cabins and tents. The goal is to bring youth together to try new activities, make new friends, and experience nature and time away from home in a safe setting.*

### Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



*The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:*

*Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.*

*Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.*

### Value Added Programming

Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties

*An all-day educational event for new farmers, part-time and full-time operators, low-income startups, graziers and non-graziers featuring guest speakers, farmer/local resources panel, commercial and agency exhibitors, and farmer-to-farmer networking with emphasis on grazing fundamentals, cattle stockman ship and handling facilities, wildlife and grazing ecology and future grazing opportunities and programs. The goal is for people to be able to make informed decisions about the pros and cons of grazing, and to meet other people with similar interests and goals related to grazing and pasture management.*

### Agriculture

Lyssa Seefeldt | Regional Dairy Educator



Jerry Clark | Regional Crops & Soils Educator



*Planning for development of factsheets/articles, longer publications, and videos on nutrition, genetics, & reproduction topics. The goal of this effort is to increase farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, and other agribusiness professionals' understanding of management of these topics to help improve farm sustainability and economic viability.*

*Dairy e-newsletter for farmers, nutritionists, veterinarians, other agribusiness professionals, and other interested individuals to inform participants of new dairy management articles/factsheets, connect with dairy educators, and learn about upcoming programming to help them learn about new research and management techniques to improve their overall farm sustainability.*

*A newsletter for farmers and agribusiness professionals where they learned about upcoming programs and topics including potassium and nitrogen in pasture management, single gene inherited traits in dairy cattle, managing transition cows on small farms and pest management on vegetable farms. The purpose of this effort is to work collaboratively to provide timely education for improving agricultural production with multiple county farmers and stakeholders.*

*A research-based educational article for farmers, managers, employees, and agri-business professionals, where they will learn about utilizing a forage test to determine forage stability for dairy farms. The goal of the article is to help producers learn how reading a forage test can help determine how stable their stored forages are to increase business viability and environmental sustainability.*

*Dairy needs assessment for Chippewa, Dunn, & Eau Claire farms to learn what types of educational programs dairy farmers would be interested in to improve their dairy cattle management to ultimately lead to improved economic viability and farm sustainability.*

### Community Development

Addison Vang | Community Development Educator



*A farmers market survey for Chippewa Valley to better understand market vendor and small farmer needs. The survey will be distributed during the peak summer farmers market months and is designed to inform market decisions as well as understand the market's impact on the community food system.*

### Health & Well-Being

Sandy Tarter  
FoodWise Coordinator



Joy Weisner  
FoodWise Nutrition Educator



Jael M. Wolf  
FoodWise Nutrition Educator



*A 6-lesson series at River Heights Elementary with Boys and Girls Club of the Chippewa Valley-Menomonie in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide opportunities for youth to increase produce consumption.*

*A 6-lesson series at the North River Fronts Kids' Garden with Boys and Girls Club of the Chippewa Valley-Eau Claire in providing a summer garden nutrition education series. This effort will introduce youth to gardening, promote fresh produce, and provide opportunities for youth to increase produce consumption.*

*Participation and collaboration with local agencies to conduct a poverty simulation in Chippewa Falls. This effort helped those who have never experienced poverty to better understand the challenges faced by those who live it daily.*

*Participation in Eau Claire Health Alliance with active support for the local chronic disease prevention action team. This effort will help guide objectives and strategies that support initiatives to help improve the health of residents.*

*A 3-lesson series at Bridge to Hope which provides shelter and support for individuals and families effected by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking where they learn about nutrition, meal planning, utilizing pantry foods, and food safety. The goal of this effort is to help participants make healthy choices on a limited budget.*

*A 5-week nutrition education series with Western Dairyland Fresh Start program for at-risk teens and young adults where they learn about nutrition, food preparation/cooking, food safety, and mindfulness. The goal of this effort is to empower teens/young adults to adopt healthier lifestyles by teaching them the knowledge and skills needed to prepare nutritious snacks and meals at home.*

*Multiple meetings and emails with local partners to support our local farmers markets by implementing a new Farmers Market in Chippewa and plan for Market Match programs in Menomonie and Eau Claire Farmers Markets. This effort will help to improve food security with the development and implementation of a program for SNAP/FoodShare recipients to use benefits for food purchases.*

*An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.*

A 4-lesson series for women in an addiction treatment program where they learn about nutrition and food resource management principles. The goal of this effort is to help limited resource participants make healthy food choices on a budget.

A series of virtual statewide strength training sessions (StrongBodies) where older adults learn best practices along with nutrition and health education. Participants engage in regular strength training exercises to improve strength, balance, and flexibility so they can stay healthy and socially connected.

## Horticulture

Margaret Murphy | Horticulture Educator



A gardening program for beginners where participants learn the basics of vegetable gardening in containers. The goal of this effort was to teach participants techniques to successfully grow vegetables in containers and to encourage people to grow vegetables even when space and/or time is limited.

A gardening program for beginners where participants learn the basics of vegetable gardening. The goal of this effort was to teach those new to vegetable gardening how to start a vegetable garden, understand soil health, learn about plant selection, planting, and garden maintenance.

A garden presentation for AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program participants. The goal of this effort is to teach participants strategies to grow successful patio gardens and to encourage people of all ages to garden even when space is limited.

Planning a 6-week nature-based program for youth in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley – Chippewa Falls. The goal of this effort is to build nature connectedness and promote environmental literacy.

An information table for the public at Chippewa County's Chippewa Strong Event where information on the positive impact plants have on various areas of our lives was offered. This effort is designed to increase awareness of the benefits of plants and how we can incorporate more plants in our lives.

A vegetable container garden program for the Spring Series StrongBodies Chat for participating seniors where they learned about the benefits and ease of growing vegetables in containers. This effort is designed to encourage people of all ages to garden for wellness and food, even if space, time and/or mobility is limited.

## Human Development & Relationships

This position is currently vacant. Watch for the posting soon.

## Positive Youth Development

Rachel Hart-Brinson | 4-H Program Educator

Planning for the Sample 4-H program in partnership with the Eau Claire Area School District where young people

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

# Extension Eau Claire County

## June 2023 Report

---

*will sample different project areas in 4-H.*



*Planning for a residential college program for youth where they will explore career and higher education opportunities through hands-on-workshops. The goal of the program is for youth to gain a better understanding of the career pathways available to them and to see college as attainable.*

*Planning for two 4-H camps for over 80 youth from Clark, Dunn, and Eau Claire counties, where youth will sleep overnight in cabins and tents. The goal is to bring youth together to try new activities, make new friends, and experience nature and time away from home in a*

*safe setting.*

## Area Extension Director

Kristen Bruder | Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn Counties



*The role of the AED is like that of the department head in the county. If you have ideas, thoughts, or want to chat about Extension please reach out! Below is a brief overview of the role of AEDs:*

*Extension fully invests in Area Extension Directors (AEDs) who oversee an area. These administrative positions are responsible for partnership management, staff development, financial management and program coordination.*

*Through the many interactions the AED has with county partners and local educators, the AED develops a solid understanding of the local needs and county priorities and helps to align Extension educational programs to ensure the programs address county needs. Educators also communicate local needs to their programmatic Institutes which collectively identify opportunities to address statewide needs.*