



**DID YOU KNOW**... Allen County had 10 youth to grow gardens, market & sell their own produce at the Farmers Market.





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## **4-H Youth Development**



Senior 4-H'er, Kierra Owens, and storybook characters pose for a photo at the Grand Opening of the Storybook Trail at Dugas Park

Number of youth who completed a speech or demonstration

Number of youth who participated in education related to family and consumer sciences

The 4-H Organization is founded with the purpose of helping youth develop the four Hs of 4-H: Head, Heart, Hands and Health. Throughout a 4-H members experience, members develop each of these four foundational Hs through club, project and service activities in their county 4-H program. Allen County 4-Her, Kierra Owens, has taken those four elements and applied each to her senior 4-H service project called, The Storybook Trial at the Dugas Park in Allen County. Kierra's project made use of public hiking trails in her community, by enhancing the walking paths with kid-friendly podiums that highlight childrens book story pages. Not only does this service project increase public traffic through these hiking trails, but the Storybook Trail also encourages youth literacy, youth physical fitness, family bonding and healthy eating habits.

#### **Family and Consumer Sciences**

247

158

About 350,000 Kentuckians hunt each year to harvest wild game meats for their families. Venison is a healthy recipe substitute with unique flavor. Proper harvest, preparation, and storage is essential for keeping game meat safe (NEP-229). Allen County Extension Agents for ANR and FCS partnered to deliver a virtual Summer Sausage Workshop. The event was advertised locally and on social media and had 17 participants. Educational topics included: food processing, creating a seasoning blend, and equipment and food safety. Of the participants who evaluated the program, 94% rated the program excellent quality and are interested in future programs. 100% reported gaining knowledge on food safety and food preservation practices. This program combined specific Extension program area audiences and attracted new first-time Extension clients. More wild game cooking demonstrations and workshops are planned for the upcoming year.



Venison Summer Sausage



18

Number of individuals who reported improved knowledge, opinions, skills, or aspirations regarding the safe storage, handling, preparation and/or preservation of food

Number of participants in Field to Fork/Hook and Cook classes

### Agriculture and Natural Resources



Producer picking ear corn

(112)

Number of producers that increased knowledge of production, fertility management, varieties, insect control, disease or pests and/or sustainable practices

Number of farmers and farmer market vendors who gained knowledge on crop diversification

The Covid-19 pandemic has presented challenges to many people. It has changed the way we live and work. With in-person programming not being an option, we were creative with our educational programming efforts. The Mammoth Cave Area ANR agents recorded and presented the Mammoth Cave Area Virtual Field Day on a virtual format.

This field day was comprised of video recordings from producers in the Mammoth Cave Area. The topics of this field day included high tunnel strawberry production, livestock feeding pad usage and eared corn production. The virtual field day was held in October 2021. There were 112 attendees. 100% of the respondents to our survey indicated they learned something that will benefit them. Over 96% rated the virtual field day as an excellent program, and 28% indicated they will make a change to their farming operation.

### **Nutrition Education**

When COVID-19 hit and schools went virtual, the need to for kindergarten prep grew more startling as many children struggled to remain focused for kindergarten readiness. That's when Allen County NEP teamed together with local leaders to create Grab-n-Go education bags for seven community childcare facilities. In the fall of 2021, various themed bags were assembled for families with children between the ages 2 to 5 in Allen County. A total of 7 different deliveries were made with themed bags including a nutritious recipe with the ingredients in the bags and a kid safe knife for the family to cook together and to encourage the child to learn some safety kitchen skills. The bags also included six different educational, kindergarten readiness activities, with directions for parents. These 148 activity bags, delivered to seven sites helped families to meet the Governors guidelines for kindergarten readiness.



Grab and Go Kindergarten Readiness Bags



148

Number of individuals who sought support from local community organizations and/or its individual members.

Number of individuals who demonstrated safe handling and preparation and/or preservation of food.

# NOTHING IS OUT OF REACH.

Healthy Families. Healthy Homes. Healthy Communities.



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# ... just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky

- **23,971** Kentucky youth who participated in a project, activity or event in science, engineering and technology through 4-H programming.
- **4,890** Kentucky producers adopting new technologies in agriculture production.
- **3,399** Kentuckians who improved or maintained health from participating in gardening.
- **3,898** Kentucky families who supplemented their diets with foods they grew or preserved.
- 4,161 Kentuckians participating in community trail projects.

#### COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



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