

2013 Dodge County UW-Extension Education  
Annual Report

**Community Development**

**Agriculture Dairy & Livestock Youth**

**Nutrition Family Wellness**

**4-H & Youth Development Horticulture**

**UW Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Extension

**UW Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Extension

# Dodge County Board of Supervisors



## To The Honorable Dodge County Board of Supervisors

Dear Members:

The Dodge County UW- Extension office is pleased to present our 2013 annual report. We are excited to highlight a special selection of educational programs from the many UW-Extension offers. You will find our descriptions are presented in a Public Value, Personal Impact, framework. We believe this approach is an effective method of illustrating the connectivity of our educational programs with the current and future prosperity of Dodge County.

UW-Extension Dodge County operates under the direction of the University of Wisconsin Extension Education Committee with authority under Chapter 59.87 of Wisconsin Statutes. Cooperative Extension’s current county and locally-based Extension delivery system offers many advantages to families, youth, businesses and communities.

The office brings University of Wisconsin knowledge and resources directly to the people in Dodge County - where we live and work. Our office is one of 72 county offices statewide, staffed by professional educators. State and federal resources, along with revenue from program fees, support UW-Extension programs.

Our **Purpose** to which we commit...

*We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.*

The **Vision** of what we want to become...

*A thriving, well-known and sought-out educational resource that reflects the rich diversity of the state.*

If you would like more details about our programs and services, please stop by our office, call us, or contact one of your fellow Supervisors on the UW-Extension Education Committee.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hoffman  
Department Head

## UW- Extension 2013 Education Committee

Allen Behl - District No. 19  
Gerald Adelmeyer - District No. 12  
Howard Kriewald - District No. 9  
Darrell Pollesch - District No. 1  
Larry Bischoff - District No. 17

## THE VALUES WE STRIVE TO LIVE BY . . . RELATIONSHIPS

We foster positive relationships through honesty, open communication and accountability. We meet educational needs by creating linkages among cultural, economic and environmental contexts. We recognize and trust the essential and interconnected nature of all roles within Cooperative Extension.



During the year, one or more staff provided an educational program or connection between these organizations and the UW System.

### Our 2013 Partners: Clients & Cooperating Organizations

Beaver Dam Unified School District	Village of Theresa	The Gathering Source
Bethany School	Dodge County Farm Service Agency	United Migrant Opportunity Service (UMOS)
Columbus School District	Aging & Disability Resource Center	Watertown Agri-Business
Dodgeland School District	Clearview	Watertown Family Center
Herman School District #22	Dodge County Administrator	WI Dept of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection
Horicon Schools	Dodge County Clerk	WI Pork Producers Association
Hustisford School District	Dodge County Corporation Counsel	Wisconsin Agriculture in the Classroom
Immanuel Lutheran School	Dodge County Finance	Wisconsin Beef Council
John Hustis Elementary School	Dodge County Human Resources Department	Wisconsin Corn Growers
Lomira School District	Dodge County Human Services & Health Dept	Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board
Mayville School District	Dodge County Information Technology Dept	Wisconsin Outdoor Alliance
Moraine Park Technical College	Dodge County Public Health Department	Wisconsin State Fair
Neosho Joint 3 School District	Dodge County Land Conservation	Wisconsin Women for Agriculture—Rock River Chapter
Saylesville School District	Dodge County Land Resources & Parks	Beaver Dam Community Food Pantry
School for Agriculture & Resource Education	Dodge County Restorative Justice	Dodge County Food Pantry
St .John’s Lutheran—Fox Lake	Dodge County Sheriff’s Department	St. Stephen Food Pantry
St. John’s Lutheran School—Juneau	Dodge County Highway Department	Sacred Heart Parish
St. John’s Lutheran School—Watertown	Dodge County Local Emergency Planning	Mayville Food Pantry
St. John’s Lutheran School—Lomira	Badgerland Financial—Beaver Dam	Randolph Food Pantry
St. Mary’s Catholic School	Badgerland Financial—Fond du Lac	Watertown Food Pantry
St. Matthew’s Lutheran School	Beaver Dam Agribusiness	Waupun Food Pantry
St. Paul’s Lutheran School	Beaver Dam Noon Kiwanis	Beaver Dam Community Library
St. Stephen’s Lutheran School	Clothes for Kids	Fox Lake Library
Theresa Learning Community	Discover Dodge-Land Resources & Parks Dept	Juneau Public Library
Trinity/St Luke’s Lutheran School	Dodge County 4-H Clubs	Lowell Library
UW-School of Veterinary Medicine	Dodge County 4-H Leaders Association	Hustisford Community Library
Watertown School District	Dodge County Antique Power Club	Kid’s Care, Beaver Dam Community Hospital
Waupun Area School District	Dodge County Board of Supervisors	Pattycakes Daycare, LLC
Dodge County FFA Chapters	Dodge County Dairy Herd Improvement Assoc.	Pooh Corners Daycare
City of Beaver Dam	Dodge County Dairy Promotion Committee	Wee Care Child Care Center
City of Columbus	Dodge County Dairy Youth Advisory Committee	Willows Christian Child Care
City of Fox Lake	Dodge County Fair Association	Community Coordinated Child Care Inc (4-C)
City of Hartford	Dodge County Farm Bureau	Community Care Preschool
City of Horicon	Dodge County Farm Bureau Women	All Star Academy
City of Juneau	Dodge County Forage Council	Associated Bank
City of Mayville	Dodge County Holstein Breeders Association	Ballweg Equipment
City of Watertown	Dodge County Home & Community Education	Brandon Meats
City of Waupun	Dodge County Job Center	Cedar Road Meats
Village of Brownsville	Dodge County Master Gardener Association	Country Meat Cutters
Village of Clyman	Dodge County Meat Animal Sale Committee	Rural Mutual Insurance
Village of Hustisford	Dodge County Pork Producers	Waupun Equipment Company
Village of Iron Ridge	Dodge County Unit of Wisconsin Towns Assoc.	WBEV/WXRO
Village of Kekoskee	Dodge/Fondy Corn Growers Association	WTKM Radio
Village of Lomira	Green Valley Enterprises	WWRS—TV Station
Village of Lowell	Marsh Haven Nature Center	WMDC
Village of Neosho	Parent Resource Place	WFDL (Waupun & Lomira Radio)
Village of Randolph	Beaver Dam Parks & Rec Department	
Village of Reeseville	PAVE	



# Current Dodge County UW-Extension 2013 Faculty and Staff



<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>% funded by county levy</u>
Jeff Hoffman.....	Community Development / Dept. Head	40%
Sally Schoenike .....	4H & Youth Development Agent	40%
Bonnie Borden.....	Dairy & Livestock Youth Educator (70%)	40%
Vacant.....	Crops & Soils Agent	40%
Vacant.....	Dairy & Livestock Agent	30%
Pattie Carroll.....	Family Living Educator	40%
Lucas Van Egtern .....	Dairy & Livestock Youth Summer Intern	40%
Whitney Rathke .....	Summer 4-H & Youth Agent	100%
Deb Wiebelhaus.....	4-H & Youth Program Assistant (45%)	100%
Becky Gutzman .....	Nutrition Education Coordinator <sup>1</sup>	0%
Vacant .....	Nutrition Education Educator	0%
Ashley Check.....	AmeriCorps/VISTA (50%)	0%
Jessie Gaska .....	Summer AmeriCorp/Vista (50%)	0%
Kari Schoenike.....	Summer AmeriCorp/Vista (50%)	0%
Tracy Malterer .....	Typist III	100%
Brenda Wenzel .....	Typist III	100%
Deb Struve.....	Typist III	100%

<sup>1</sup> Shared with Columbia County. Funded entirely by USDA and UW-Extension.



University of Wisconsin-Extension

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and American with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.

# Community Development Programs

Jeff Hoffman  
Educator & Department Head  
Positively Affecting Leaders & Adding Value  
to Organizations



## Fox Lake Strategic Financial Analysis



The City Administrator of Fox Lake requested Community Development Educator Jeff Hoffman develop a financial planning process. Specifically, he wanted Hoffman to work with Fox Lake Common Council members to better understand their current budgetary realities and prepare for critical discussions concerning future city expenditures. Ultimately, the Council developed mission and value statements to lead them. Additionally, there were recommendations to reduce the Fox Lake budget significantly by reducing subsidized services, delaying projects, and reducing department budgets. The goal of Council is to maintain services as best as possible and look for every opportunity to increase the tax base of the community.

**Public Value:** The residents of Fox Lake will benefit from a governmental body who has planned to govern residents using tax dollars in the most efficient and effective ways. All official actions will consider the current and future needs and safety of citizens.

**Personal Impact:** Common Council members grew from the critical review of the city’s financial situation. Members are better prepared to make and justify difficult decisions, which likely will be unpopular.

## Strategic Planning with Dodge County’s Public Health Unit

Good practice for healthy organizational development suggests that strategic planning will help organizations stay relevant and current. Community Development Educator Jeff Hoffman facilitated a strategic planning initiative with the Dodge County Public Health Unit during the summer of 2013. Stakeholders discussed the strengths and weaknesses of current programming and made plans to address future needs of citizens. This planning initiative helped focus the Unit’s programming, concentrating resources to the most pressing needs and also dedicating efforts to challenging new areas in the field of Public Health.



**Public Value:** The citizens of Dodge County will experience improvements in the efforts by Public Health. Citizens will experience new programs designed for current needs, at the same time, reworking current programs will make them more applicable. In addition, there will be efforts directed to improve communication methods that are more applicable to those used by younger families.

**Personal Impact:** Robust planning discussions allowed the Public Health Unit to analyze their programs based on value added, citizen’s needs, resource allocation, and future resource constraints. The knowledge is directing Public Health’s programming to align with the Unit’s mission and citizen’s needs.

## Dairy & Livestock Youth Programs

Bonnie Borden - Dairy & Livestock Youth Educator

Helping Youth Understand Agricultural Issues



### Youth Leadership Development

Today's youth are tomorrow's adults! Helping youth develop confidence to be "leaders" and use their thinking skills to project possibilities to grow new ideas is vital to Dodge County's future. Borden has organized Junior Dairy Ambassadors, Jr. Livestock Ambassadors, and helped encourage more youth to be part of advisory boards in youth dairy & livestock programs. Youth have made a difference by proposing clarifications to existing rules, adding new perspectives, and working side by side with adult mentors. Youth leaders have taught livestock project meetings and created materials and lessons for outreach to the public in agricultural awareness.



**Public Value:** Dodge County benefits when youth who have been given mentoring in leadership skill development become adults who take part on county planning and government committees.

**Personal Impact:** Youth participants develop self-confidence in their people skills and advanced communication skills.

### Interactive Animal Display Boards

As the extension of learning and teaching for our state university system, UW-Extension has great opportunities to connect the public with agricultural knowledge in school settings, breakfasts on the farm, fairs and community events. These venues are perfect for educators to connect with and educate the public about farm animals, food sources and the overall importance of agriculture in their lives. Attention-getting, hands-on teaching tools help educators create interest and draw people in for a fun learning experience, which makes it more likely they will retain what they just learned.

Educator Borden, along with summer intern Lucas VanEgtern, created two interactive teaching boards to teach event participants about animal families (father's name, mother's name, baby's name) and animal groupings names (herd, flock, etc.). These teaching tools were a basic, beginning step to incite interest in animals, deeper than just identifying the specie. When using the boards, leaders springboard into other conversations, like daily care, feeding, reasons for raising the specie, meat by-products that give value and local food sources.



**Public Value:** Dodge County benefits from consumers having a better understanding of their local food sources: economic growth for local producers.

**Personal Impact:** Participants gain knowledge and are able to identify animal family names and animal group names, bettering their understanding of the rural farm community life around them in Dodge County.

## Crops & Soils Agricultural Programs

Crops & Soils Education

Helping Ag producers be productive



### Pesticide Applicator Training

The profitability of individual cash grain enterprises is closely linked to crop management decision-making and the use of cost-effective production practices. Economic efficiency is improved when growers have the knowledge to select from among available tools to address both crop challenges and opportunities effectively. Cooperative Extension is uniquely positioned to provide unbiased information to assist Wisconsin farmers in evaluating these tools and making choices appropriate to their individual operations and goals.



**Public Value:** Surface and ground waters of Dodge County will remain uncontaminated by excess pesticide application.

**Personal Impact:** Participants learn the importance of proper use and disposal of agricultural chemicals.

### Tractor and Machinery Safety and Certification Course

As specified by state law, ANY youth under the age of 16 who operates a tractor or self-propelled equipment on the highway must successfully complete a Tractor and Machinery Safety course. Federal Child Labor Laws



also require that youth ages 14 or 15 must successfully complete a Tractor Machinery Safety program if they are performing hazardous work for a farmer other than their parent/legal guardian. Dodge County UW-Extension staff, agriculture teachers and state specialists taught the program over a three-week period on the Saturdays of February. A tractor driving safety assessment exercise was held late April at the Dodge County Fairgrounds.

**Personal Value:** Agriculture remains as among the most hazardous industries in the United States. One third of all fatalities occurred to youth between the ages of 15 and 19 - 36% of the fatalities involved machinery. This program has a direct impact on the safety and quality of life for our young farm workers.

**Public Impact:** Youth participants between the ages of 12 to 16 received a variety of information and training on the safe operation of tractors and machinery that they may encounter on crop or livestock farms.



## Wisconsin Nutrition Education Programs/WNEP

Becky Gutzman - Nutrition Coordinator

Building Healthier Communities



### Nutrition Education for Older Adults

WNEP in Dodge County helps low-income senior citizens obtain Senior Farmers market Vouchers (funded by United States Department of Agriculture to increase use of farmers' markets to support local economy.) In order to help seniors make better use of the produce purchased, WNEP coordinator Becky Gutzman conducted lessons at several housing sites where low-income seniors and disabled adults reside. Some of the topics included using fresh herbs to replace salt in foods, quick cooking methods to use with fresh produce, and meal planning with summer fruits and vegetables.



**Public Value:** \$6850 in SFMNP vouchers were distributed in Dodge County. Local farmers redeem these vouchers, creating additional cash flow in the local community. Additional public value results from friends or family members who accompany seniors and also purchase at the markets.

**Personal Impact:** Dodge County Seniors who participated in WNEP education associated with the SFMNP utilized their vouchers, and gained new ideas for using fresh fruits and vegetables. Many stated that they had not used stir-frying as a cooking method, and would try it with fresh vegetables.

### Food Pantry Education

WNEP conducts direct education with food pantry clients at locations around Dodge County. At the Lowell-Reeseville Pantry, Family Living Educator Pattie Carroll and WNEP Coordinator Becky Gutzman, conducted a class for families called "Healthy and Homemade." Parents and children together learned what healthy meals consist of, how to have children help with meal preparation, and how to utilize foods commonly received from the pantry in healthy meals. Participants used foods from the pantry to create a simple main dish and tasty fruit salad during the class and sampled the results. Every three months, all food pantries in Dodge County distribute a newsletter from WNEP called "Food \$ense." Food \$ense gives participants nutrition and food safety advice, and practical recipes and meal planning ideas using low-cost foods. Food pantry clients also receive monthly recipe cards with easy-to-prepare healthy foods. Demonstrations at the pantries often inspire people to take a new donated food or to try a new food.



**Public Value:** A strong and accessible emergency/charitable food safety net is critical for families at risk of hunger. For many families, food pantries and other charitable food programs play a vital role in meeting food needs. Communities that have sufficient emergency food resources-at convenient locations and times, with adequate supply and variety, and offered with dignity-can help struggling families maintain secure access to sufficient and healthy food.

**Personal Impact:** Evaluations of WNEP's classes and newsletters shows that families have learned of resources to help their family and have used recipes provided by WNEP. Parents participating in classes gained skills in meal planning, and learned ways to involve children in meal preparation activities.

## Family Living Programs

Pattie Carroll

Family Living Educator

Strengthening Families and adding value to our Communities



### Parenting Education Shapes Stronger Families

Families perform a number of functions that provide private benefits to their members and public benefits to society. Families contribute to the rearing of caring, committed members of society. When children have relationships with their parents that are sensitively responsive and reliably available, they develop many qualities that societies value in their citizenry, including involvement, leadership, self confidence, and social competence in problem-solving situations (Englund, Levy, Hyson, & Sroufe, 2000). Dodge County Stakeholders including Dodge County Interagency Network, Dodge County School Administrators, and Renewal Unlimited, have identified parenting education as priority to create stronger families in our communities. As a result, Carroll collaborated with Beaver Dam Unified School District and the Parent Resource Place in Beaver Dam to offer face-to-face parenting education series.



**Public Value:** Family-strengthening programs create the conditions for Dodge County families to carry out the many functions they perform helping to generate productive workers, in raising caring and committed members of society, and in caring for those who cannot always care for themselves, both young and old.

**Personal Impact:** Parents increase their capacity to be the first and best teacher for their children by learning skills that directly affect the well-being of their children. As a result, family stress levels decrease and children thrive.



### Childcare Professional Development Provides Peace of Mind to Dodge County Families

According to the US Census Bureau 2008-2012's American Community Survey, nearly 5,000 children age six and younger in Dodge County, are living in households where all parents in the family are in the labor force. Dodge County Area Director's Caucus (DCADC), a networking organization for childcare providers, helps maintain high industry standards offering families peace of mind knowing that their children are being well cared for. Carroll's role with DCADC is to provide professional development and to act as an advisor for the organization. Carroll facilitates two-hour face-to-face monthly professional development seminars for center directors. Topics include Best Practices for Center Directors, Fostering Resilience in Youth, Building Positive Relationships, and Licensing Updates. In addition, Carroll coordinates guest speakers to discuss topics including but not limited to Youngstar requirements, professional development through Moraine Park Technical College, and changes in Dodge County Human Social Services. Carroll also provides professional development for childcare employees.

**Public Value:** A key component of quality childcare programs is the quality of teacher. UW Extension Family Living Programs help center directors provide relevant training for their staff, thus giving parents access to high quality childcare and less stress. As a result Dodge County families are more resilient.

**Personal Impact:** Local staff development and training is important to Dodge County Center Directors. Carroll facilitated 17 professional development opportunities with over 375 educational contacts providing valued training for Dodge County childcare centers.



## 4-H & Youth Development Programs

Sally Schoenike - 4-H and Youth Development Agent

Deb Wiebelhaus - 4-H Program Assistant

Supporting Young People



### Life Skills

The primary goal of any 4-H program is to aid youth in developing skills they will need to be successful in the future. These include: communication, decision-making, cooperation, record keeping, responsibility, lifelong learning, respect, and countless others. 4-H initiatives are designed specifically to enhance the development of these skills



Cloverbud Night at Marsh Haven

through the motto of “learning by doing.” By engaging youth in various projects of their choosing they develop the ability to become independent contributing members of society.



Summer 4-H Camp

**Public Value:** By aiding youth to enhance their skills and become productive contributors, 4-H enables a legacy of success for future generations. The youth impacted by these programs have an opportunity to have a ripple effect on their communities, allowing the life skills they gained through 4-H to impact not only their own lives, but those around them as well.

**Personal Impact:** Through engaging these life skills, 4-H members have the ability to become the individuals they have the potential to be. They are able to realize and hone skills that enhance their personal development and future well-being.

### Fostering Volunteerism

In a digital world rooted in social media where society is perpetually information-rich and time-poor, it can be a challenge to dedicate time to learning how to serve others. 4-H encourages youth and adults alike to collaborate in



Community Service Lock-In

service through projects such as the Community Service Lock-In, Shop with the Cops, Dresses for Africa, assisted living and nursing home projects, roadside cleanup, food pantry and humane society donations and volunteer efforts, and other programs. Initiatives such as these foster a sense of patriotism and dedication to one’s club, community, country, and world.



Community Service

**Public Value:** The nature of these programs is that they enhance community living through achieving what is best for the betterment of society. Public value is intrinsic and intentionally integrated throughout all community service initiatives.

**Personal Impact:** The actions of 4-H youth and adult volunteers impact not only those that they serve, but the volunteers themselves. Volunteering offers the opportunity to add meaning and value to one’s life through enhancing the life of another individual.

## 4-H & Youth Development Programs

Sally Schoenike - 4-H and Youth Development Agent

Deb Wiebelhaus - 4-H Program Assistant

Supporting Young People - Continued....



### Leadership Development

A successful youth program has the ability to enable its members to build on past successes, not simply repeat what previous generations have done, and Dodge County 4-H accomplishes this through training members in leadership development. In a typical 4-H year, approximately 150 youth serve as club officers. These students participate in training seminars and planning meetings to help lead their local clubs.

Dodge County 4-H also has over 200 members serving as youth



4-H Club Officer Training

youth to develop their own leadership abilities.



Camp Counselor Training

leaders, camp counselors, Friends Helping Friends facilitators, and in other capacities. These individuals are supported through numerous training endeavors that feature hands-on experience. An additional 300 adults volunteer as leaders and are offered training programs such as Youth Protection, Leader Training, General Leader Training, and Club Training to aid them in effectively helping

**Public Value:** People that have leadership skills are sought after as employees and leaders in community organizations. They improve the overall quality of a community through using the skills that they developed through their 4-H experience.

**Personal Impact:** The leadership skills developed by these individuals offer benefits to them far beyond their 4-H experience. The communication, organization, responsibility, and other related leadership abilities developed through the previously described programs are precisely the essential learning outcomes that employers are looking for, thereby giving 4-H members a competitive edge in the workplace and society as a whole.

Dodge County 4-H and Youth Development Programs give young people a chance to learn new skills, gain self-



4-H Day at the Capitol

confidence and contribute to their communities. This program creates real-world experiences that teach leadership, citizenship, and life skills. Thanks to our County Board, UW-Extension Education Committee, UW-Extension Office and Staff, 4-H families, 4-H youth and adult leaders, and our Community Partners for working together to have a program that has provided benefits to many throughout the years and will continue for many years to come. Four-H is celebrating “100 Years of Growing Leaders” and it has

been a privilege to be a part of this

*Sally Schoenike*

Sally Schoenike, 4-H and Youth Development Agent