

## 2010 Stakeholder Report Story County Extension



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*In Story County, it starts with Extension. Together we support healthy people, environments, and economies. Read about some of the ways ISU Extension meets local needs, improves quality of life, and helps make Story County a better place to live. You'll be amazed at what we do.*

Cathy Miller  
*Extension Council Chair*

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### It Starts With Healthy People

The Family Nutrition Program (FNP) helps families with young children make wise food choices, learn ways to stretch their food dollars and become better equipped to provide nutritionally nurturing



environments leading to healthier children who are better prepared to enter school. The hands-on, learn-by-doing

approach allows these parents to gain the practical skills necessary to make positive behavior changes.

We continue to nurture our relationships with area agencies in an attempt to serve as many people as possible throughout our county.

Of the 50 adults and pregnant teens who graduated from the program:

- **88%** made a positive change in one or more nutrition practices (i.e. planned meals, read nutrition labels)
- **88%** made a positive change in one or more food resource management practices (i.e. planned meals, used grocery lists)

- **49%** of graduates made a positive change in physical activity
- **2%** of the participants reported Hispanic ethnicity, **61%** were White, **22%** Asian, and **18%** African-American
- **94%** of families participated in one or more food assistance programs (e.g. Food Stamps, WIC, Head Start, School Breakfast/Lunch, FIP)
- **60%** of the children in these families were age 5 and under
- **22%** of the participants were pregnant

### It Starts With Healthy Economies

U.S. crop production uncertainty and global supply and demand for feed grains and oil seed crops resulted in volatile late



## Story County Extension Council



Front Row (L-R): Mary Ann Gardener, Pam Niemeyer, Cathy Miller; Back Row (L-R): Robert Krause, Jean Saveraid, Robert Finch, Erik Christian, Doug Sampson; (Not Pictured: Ryan McKinney)

Every Iowa County has an elected Extension Council that guides local educational programming by partnering with staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents the issues and people of the county. We have identified these local issues as priority topics for current and future programming:

- Provide safe, positive, enriching environments for youth both urban and rural
- Build strong families through nutrition training and afterschool programs
- Focus on acreage owners and their need for information on transitioning to country life
- Work with local farmers and ag businesses to meet licensing and certification requirements for both livestock and value added crops
- Partner with local human service agencies to provide training for nonprofits
- Assist with educational efforts regarding the bio-economy and the opportunities for farmers and local economic development

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summer futures prices. The Story County Extension Office hosted 65 farmers, landowners and agribusiness professionals on a rainy July morning.

The Crop Marketing Outlook & Strategies meeting featured John Roach, senior market analyst on IPTV's Market to Market and president of Roach Ag Marketing. The meeting was sponsored by the newly formed Key Cooperative; participants requested that this program become an annual event.

## It Starts With Healthy Environments

Kapil Arora, Agricultural Engineering program specialist, led an all-day workshop on Food Residuals Composting at the Iowa State University Dairy Teaching Facility in Ames. This workshop focused on food residuals composting concepts and Iowa regulations. Participants got an overview of the food residuals recycling and pulping process at Seasons Marketplace, one of the ISU dining halls. A tour of the ISU Compost facility helped participants understand composting of food residuals in an urban setting.

## Flood Recovery

Story County put ISU Extension resources to use during the August floods in and around Ames. A flood recovery information station was created for walk-in clients seeking information. More than 300 postcards offering recovery websites and phone numbers were created and mailed to local organizations and community leaders. Area chambers were asked to include Extension flood recovery information on their websites and mailers. Press releases from campus were distributed to media outlets and packets that included the First Steps booklet, hotline cards and postcards were given to schools, libraries and various DHS agencies.

## Bridge from Past to Future 4-H

Imagine watching a DVD featuring Story County Clover Kids and 4-H'ers involved in projects, community activities and participating at the county fair, while also learning how 4-H developed in Iowa and in Story County. How did learning life skills become a part of 4-H youth

development and how will those aspects of 4-H continue in the future?

In "A Bridge from Past to Future 4-H," the 4-H History Committee captured what 4-H teaches through stories of those who built the 4-H program in Story County. As Extension and societal changes occur, how will 4-H continue as a vibrant option for youth and their families?

The technical production support was provided by Dennis Goering, a 4-H alumnus, with financial support by the Story County 4-H Foundation, Story County Extension Council and a grant from the Nevada Memorial Lutheran Church, as well as local businesses, many 4-H alums and friends of 4-H.

The 20-minute DVD will benefit present and future 4-H'ers, parents, volunteers, leaders, and Extension personnel, as well as teachers, service clubs, donors, and other community leaders who have a stake in developing youth to become contributors to society. Copies are \$10 each and are available at the Story County Extension Office.



4-H History Committee members: JoAnn Blanchard, Janet Charbonneau, Jim Christy, Mary de Baca, Carolyn Manning, Ralph Manning, Bob Nervig, Shirley Pilgrim, and Jerry Upchurch.

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Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating.