



2021 IN SHELBY COUNTY

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach connects the needs of Iowans with Iowa State research and resources. We listen, learn, and work with the people of Shelby County for a #STRONGIOWA.



**Sustainable
ENVIRONMENTS**



**Thriving
COMMUNITIES**



**Resilient
PEOPLE**



**Future
LEADERS**



The Shelby County Extension Council has been elected by the people of the county to guide local educational programming by partnering with extension staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents you and your issues. We are always serving Iowans and we are here for you. Now. Always.

Thank you for your support.

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Serving the People of Shelby County

As Iowans adjusted to life during the COVID-19 pandemic, ISU Extension and Outreach continued to prioritize health and safety as we delivered research-based education to the people of Shelby County. During 2021 we focused on the following continuing to grow strong Iowans.

Fifth grade farm safety has been a long standing program for Shelby County Extension and Outreach. However, the format changed for 2021 as we continue to navigate COVID-19. Community partners were on-site to provide safety education to all fifth grade youth in the Harlan Community Schools and Shelby County Catholic Schools.

Shelby County Extension and Outreach staff collaborated with Harlan Community School staff for Healthy Meals in a Hurry. Staff learned about food safety while making freezer meals.



Showcasing 4-H at the Shelby County Fair

The Shelby County Fair provided the opportunity for youth to demonstrate what they had learned through their 4-H project work over the past year. Youth and Adults alike were happy to be back to a more normal county fair for 2021. With the support of the Kirkman Dairy, Shelby County 4-H Bottle Bucket program continues to grow with 30 entries. Clover Kids are encouraged to participate in the "Lend a Hen" program at the Shelby County Fair. The poultry superintendent loans hens to exhibitors to encourage participation in the project area.



Working toward Recovery

As our state works toward recovery, ISU Extension and Outreach Shelby County has been focusing on two priority areas:

- supporting lowans in reviving the Iowa economy, including the farm economy
- engaging lowans in addressing mental health.

Shelby County Extension and Outreach strengthened partnerships with Shelby County Conservation and the Harlan Community School District by working together to offer two after school Adventure series to youth in grades 3-5. These adventures were specifically designed to address the socio-emotional health of young people as identified as a

need by local school administrators. Outdoor adventures took youth to local conservation areas to explore ice fishing, snow shoeing, fishing, hiking, bird watching, and more.

Adventures in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) lead youth to partner with local artists to learn about pottery and the theatre. Youth also participating in Kids in the Kitchen and robotics exploration.



Looking ahead to 2022, ISU Extension and Outreach Shelby County will continue to focus on COVID recovery priorities: mental health and reviving the local economy. Upcoming community programs include:

- Raising School Ready Readers designed for families with children ages 3-6 to support early literacy skills
- Navigating Difference will be offered for local professionals to help expand their skills in working with diverse audiences.
- Mindful Teen specifically for teens to learn how to manage stress and anxiety
- VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) free tax

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