



#STRONGIOWA

2021 IN LUCAS 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 Lucas County for a #STRONGIOWA.



**Sustainable
ENVIRONMENTS**



**Thriving
COMMUNITIES**



**Resilient
PEOPLE**



**Future
LEADERS**



The Lucas 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.

Kim Head

Council Chair

Phillip Masters

Vice Chair

Alyson Palmer

Treasurer

Branigan Head

Secretary

Denise Storm

Council Member

Gabe Heim

Council Member

Monte Brown

Council Member

Florence Heacock

Council Member

Serving the People of Lucas 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 Lucas County. During 2021 we focused on the following efforts:

- Staff planned, built, planted, and harvested produce from a Growing Together garden funded by SNAP-Ed. 105 pounds of produce was donated to the local food pantry
- Expanding opportunities for youth with increased participation in 4-H and Clover Sprouts, as well as providing engaging STEAM education through Van Allen and Columbus Elementary Schools, and local preschools
- Expanding learning opportunities for Lucas County residents through a variety of programs, including Private and Commercial Pesticide Applicator Trainings, Veg Out!, and Master Gardener education



Showcasing 4-H at the County Fair

The 2021 Lucas County Fair provided the opportunity for youth to demonstrate what they had learned through their 4-H project work over the past year.

- 26 exhibits were selected to represent Lucas County at the Iowa State Fair in the project areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Creative Arts, Family and Consumer Sciences, Personal Development, STEM, Communications, and the Awardrobe Clothing Event. Lucas County saw an increase of over 50% in static exhibit projects and 120% in the Awardrobe Clothing Event as compared to the 2020 county fair.
- 98 4-H and FFA members exhibited projects at the 2021 Lucas County Fair. With over 300 animals present during the week-long fair! In addition, the Outreach Coordinator for Lucas County Extension hosted daily kids activities on the free stage. From a StoryWalk®, the donation garden, foam paint art, books in the cozy reading corner, and a scavenger hunt, the youth on the fairgrounds were fully entertained all day, every day!



Extension Staff

Logan Kinyon
County Youth
Coordinator

Dawn Morgan
Youth Outreach
Coordinator

Hannah Offenburger
Office Assistant/
Bookkeeper



Working toward Recovery

As our state works toward recovery, ISU Extension and Outreach Lucas County has been supporting Iowans in improving financial security.

- Financial resources and information about financial workshops were presented to the community via social media and community partners
- Staff set up a StoryWalk® during Trunk or Treat at Columbus Elementary where attendees could walk the halls to the library and read *Tia Isa Wants A Car* by Meg Medina, which tells the story of an aunt and niece who want to save enough money to take their family to the beach while also providing money for other relatives. In addition, three local banks set up a booth at the event to provide information regarding savings accounts and the services they offer. The Lucas County Extension office passed out free financial counseling resources to each adult attendee

Looking ahead to 2022, ISU Extension and Outreach Lucas County will continue offering financial resources to the residents as well as reach the youth in our recovery efforts.

ISU Extension and Outreach Lucas County

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