

BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

STAKEHOLDER REPORT 2022

2022 IN BLACK HAWK COUNTY

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach provides research-based education and engages Iowans in solving today's problems and preparing for a thriving future. We listen, learn, and work with the people of Black Hawk County for a #STRONGIOWA.



The Black Hawk 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 BLACK HAWK COUNTY

In 2022, ISU Extension and Outreach Black Hawk County welcomed 45 new volunteers! These individuals came on board as 4-H leaders/mentors, Master Gardeners, and volunteers for the Black Hawk County 4-H & FFA Fair, Annual 4-H Omelet Breakfast, and the Discovery Program. They join a base of more than 250 approved volunteers that were instrumental in extending our programming to the citizens of Black Hawk County and beyond though nearly 6,000 hours of education and service to date this year. This is a contribution of time, expertise and talent valued at over \$155,000 in the state of Iowa.



CAREER INSPIRE FOR 8TH & 9TH GRADE

Black Hawk County 4-H partnered with Junior Achievement to host the first annual "Career Inspire" career fair. Heather Henning, Youth Program Specialists, served on the planning team for Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources to network and recruit community members to support the event.

Career Inspire was more than a career fair, it brought together the business community and local schools and was designed to help launch students into their futures: high school, college or technical schools, and careers beyond. The program consisted of three segments: 1) in-class sessions presented by the classroom teacher; 2) the hands-on Career Inspire expo; and 3) an in-class debrief. During the Career Inspire expo, students participated in hands-on activities, often using equipment or tools used on a job.

A total of 1,741 students from Waterloo Schools attended the two-day event in support of 263 community volunteers. Heather Henning (Youth Program Specialist for ISU), Diane Wolfe (CYC for BH County), Steven Eilers (Urban Agriculture Specialist for BH County) Jill Weber (Human Sciences Specialist, Food and Health for ISU), Maya Hayslett (Crop Science Specialist for ISU) and Mike Henning (Black Hawk County volunteer) supported the event with hands on activities within the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources career field..

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The Dick Young Greenhouse programming provided consultations and hands-on learning experiences for ages 5 and up in summer camps, 4-H STEM Fair, home-schools, middle schools, special needs, master gardener classes, libraries, North East Iowa Home and Landscaping Show, and senior independent living residences. The emphasis on providing the information to produce simple, economical, sustainable methods and techniques allows for creativity and the encouragement to explore new interests from art to horticulture, producing life-long learners. The sky is the limit, especially when you have supportive master gardener volunteers, teachers, and student volunteers so eager to get involved! .

Childcare Provider Workshops were held in partnership with Child Care Resources and Referral in Black Hawk County, with 8 workshops and 63 childcare providers attending. Workshops offered were Gardening in Childcare, Move For Thought, Safe Food For A Healthy Future, and Food Safety Escapade Challenge.

Latinos Living Well- A second series of Latinos Living Well was held in Black Hawk county in May and June. The four week series teaches healthy eating, label reading and the importance of physical activity for Latino families..

Master Conservationist program had 14 area students this spring. The online videos and readings were paired with in-person field trips around Bremer and Black Hawk Counties. The students learned from local experts and ISU staff at each location. The intensive blended online and in-person curriculum is developed to equip lowans interested in natural resource conservation with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions about natural resources and to become local leaders and educators.

FOOD PRESERVATION IN BLACK HAWK COUNTY

Food Preservation was taught at several events in the county. 10 4-Hers attended a jam making and pizza baking workshop in March. 27 Master Gardeners learned about Food Preservation 101 on August 16th. A Pickling and



Dehydrating workshop was attended by 8 people in September; (*First Spanish food preservation class in the state)7 women attended the Spanish Jam workshop in September, and 5 people attended the Pressure Canning workshop held October 4th in Cedar Falls.

Serv Safe classes were held in Black Hawk County and 80 food service professionals earned the Certified Food Protection Manager credential in 8 classes. Credential were earned by successfully passing the exam at the end of class. (Classes are scheduled for Nov 14 and Dec 12 in Waterloo yet in 2022).

TASK FORCE WORK TOWARD RACIAL EQUITY IN CEDAR FALLS

ISU community engagement specialists Aimee Viniard-Weideman and Omar Padilla assisted task force in focusing its scope of work, reviewing available data, and making collaborative decisions about their recommendations. Recommendations being establish a Cedar Falls equity committee, develop a Cedar Falls equity vision and plan, invest in organizational capacity and infrastructure, be a partner for transformative change, create public engagement opportunities that are welcoming and inclusive, and host and collaborate in public education and equity. Cedar Falls city council now approved the job classifications for a diversity, equity, and inclusion specialist. .



Top and bottom right photo -- Summer staff teaching Waterloo Kindergarteners about dairy cattle and sheep during Ag Day and Hawkeye Farm. Bottom left photo -- Daine Wolfe talking to a group of students at Career Inspire.

AG DAY AT HAWKEYE FARM AND HANSEN'S DAIRY

Black Hawk County 4-H and Extension partnered with Hansen's Dairy, Hawkeye Community College and the Life Labs to present Ag Day to over 800 Kindergarten students at the Waterloo Schools.

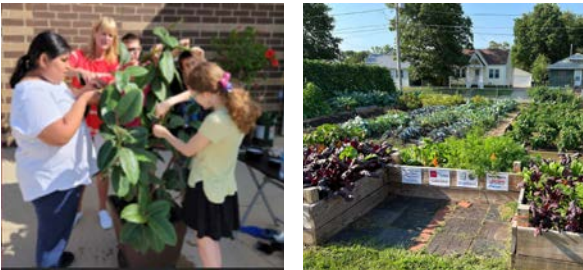
This fun filled educational opportunity gave students a chance to learn more about Dairy, Sheep, Swine, Beef and Poultry.

They had the chance to touch the feathers on a chicken while learning that Iowa is number one in egg production. (16.4 billion eggs a year) They felt how soft the hair of a dairy cow is and tasted freshly churned ice cream. They also learned about the many by-products we get from a sheep and feel the lanolin in their wool. And lastly they experienced the aroma of an Iowa swine barn in the heat of the summer..

So much learning took place not only by the students but also by the teachers and adults that came along. We are hoping to continue and expand this partnership for many years.

THE DISCOVERY PROGRAM

The Discovery Program took place at the National Cattle Congress on September 21-22-23 from 9:15am-2:15pm.



Students from all over Black Hawk County plus schools from Butler, Bremer and Grundy Counties came to learn about Beef, Dairy, Swine, Sheep and Poultry.

A total of 1,124 youth attended and took home an increase youth attended and took home an increase knowledge of Iowa Commodities and the 4-H Flyer "Find your Spark". In the 3 day program there were 14 different adults that taught the Dairy, Swine Sheep and Poultry sections, Beef was taught by Hawkeye Community College students, and 8 adults gave a tour of the grounds to the 24 schools that attended.

FOOD BANK GARDEN BREAKS LAST YEAR'S RECORD

The last harvest at the Food Bank garden is done and the numbers are in. The final total is 7,560 pounds of fresh produce that was donated directly to the food pantry and enjoyed by Food Bank customers. This year's total is about 1000 pounds above last year's total.

The garden was a recipient of a \$2,200 Growing Together Grant through Iowa State Extension and Outreach. The grant was used to purchase plants,

create more raised beds, and a drip watering system that will increase production for years to come.

There are a number of dedicated Black Hawk County Master Gardeners who volunteer from spring to fall starting seeds, building beds, planting, watering, weeding, and picking produce at the garden to make this record harvest possible.

Other good news is that the Food Bank is allowing the garden to add more beds outside of the fence and to use the fence as a trellis for some of the vining crops, such as squash and cucumbers. That should help them expand our planting area and in turn grow more produce for the food pantry. The maintenance manager at the food bank has volunteered to repair the greenhouse so it can be used more effectively and for seed starting.

EXTENSION STAFF



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