

BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

STAKEHOLDER REPORT 2022

2022 IN KEOKUK 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 Keokuk County for a #STRONGIOWA.



The Keokuk 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.

Mike Bensmiller
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Council Member

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF KEOKUK COUNTY

In 2022, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Keokuk County continued to support Iowans in reviving the Iowa economy, including the farm economy. As a result, small businesses, entrepreneurs, agribusinesses, and farmers connected with education and resources so they could remain financially solvent, find alternate markets, and increase their profitability.

- This past year Keokuk County Extension and Outreach held the first annual Frosted Fairgrounds. This event was created to boost Iowa's economy by promoting local businesses. Lighted holiday displays made by businesses in Keokuk County were placed around the Keokuk County Expo fairgrounds. Community members of Keokuk County, surrounding counties and Iowa natives were able to drive through and look at the displays. Youth were also able to visit and enjoy cookies with Santa inside the Keokuk County Extension Office which is located on the fair grounds.



- The Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has become the preeminent early childhood book-gifting program in the world. The flagship program of The Dollywood Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, has gifted well over 172 million free books in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and The Republic of Ireland. The Imagination Library mails more than 1.8 million high-quality, age-appropriate books each month to enrolled children from birth to age five. In Keokuk County there are currently 145 youth signed up to receive a book. Since July 2022, 642 books have been mailed with a 111 families participating.



Safety First Harvest Buckets

Keokuk County Extension created Safety First Harvest Buckets to hand out to nominated farmers in Keokuk County. We put together these amazing buckets filled with donations from various businesses in Keokuk County. This made farmers smile and bring awareness to stress and safety during the harvest season. A total of 67 buckets were delivered to farmers this harvest season.



Manure, Private Pesticide and Commercial Certification

This past year Keokuk County held Private Pesticide, Commercial, Confinement and Dry Manure Certification, and Commercial Continuing Instruction Programs. There was a total of 9 programs held with a total number of 155 participants recertifying for the coming year.



EXTENSION STAFF

Katharina Bain
Regional Director, 19

Kelly Walker
County Director

Emily Belvel
Program Coordinator

Joselyn Abell
4-H Youth Outreach
Educator



4-H Camps, School Programs, Day Camps & Library Programs

2022 was packed full of day camps, library programs, first responder programs and school programming. Some of the programs held were: Babysitting

Clinic, Magician's Lab, Kids in the Kitchen, On your own and Okay, Camp Clam, Arts rock and Summer Library STEM programs. There was a total of 21 programs delivered with a total of 347 youth participants.



Human Science

This year Keokuk County held a total of 8 Human Science programs with 62 participants. These programs ranged from Pressure Canner Testing, Rural Housing Readiness Assessment and ServSafe Certified Food Protection Manager Course. In April, 32 participants with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Staff serving youth in Southeast Iowa attended the 90-minute training of QPR, Question. Persuade. Refer., providing mental wellness support.

ISU Extension and Outreach Keokuk County

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