BUILDING A #STRONGIOWA

CLARKE 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 Clarke County for a #STRONGIOWA.

Clarke County Extension Council

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:

- Food and Nutrition Education
- Youth Outreach
- Community Development

Youth Outreach

Summer Day Camps

Clarke County was happy to have three AmeriCorps members serve out of the office in 2019. They were able to plan, organize, and facilitate 16 summer camps that are 6+ hours long and the Mike Van Ahn Memorial Fishing Derby for kids ages 3—18.

Our Summer Camps cost anywhere from $0-$10 for all youth. They were attended by more than 80 different youth of Clarke County. Camp sizes ranged from 15 to 40 participants. Our camps are a great way to learn new skills in a safe and fun environment as well as meeting new people within the community.

Extension Council Members

We want communities and farmers to thrive, and families and children to be healthy. And eventually we want to turn the world over to the next generation better than we found it.

Randy Barnard
Extension Council Chair

Brooke Blessington
Regional Director

Paula Hein
Council Member

Kelly Myers
Council Member

Wendy Short
Council Member

Darbi DeVore
Council Member

Ronda Schrodt
Council Member

Carrie Benda
Council Member

Linda Abbott
Council Member

Rita Griffith
Council Member

IN **2019**

Health and Well-Being

Nutrition Education Program

Nutrition Education Program is supported by both community schools in the Clarke District, Clarke Community Elementary, and Murray Elementary School. This program is for youth grades kindergarten– sixth grade. All students receive at least six hours of education from our Nutrition Education Program Coordinator, Brenda Streeter. She teaches them about nutrition labels, healthy snacks, fun active games, and more! By offering this program we hope the students remember tips that will help them now and in the future to live a longer and healthier life.

Child & Adult Care Food Program

The Child & Adult Care Food Program generated approximately $290,000 this year! The local CACFP serves Clarke, Decatur and southern Warren counties and has been sponsored by Clarke County Extension since the early 1980's. Clarke County Extension CACFP has had 40 childcare providers participate in the past year. Those providers have received monthly reimbursements checks, nutrition education and resources. CACFP has locally reached 707 children who have received nutritious meals and snacks while in participating registered child care providers' homes.

Staff conducted 111 home visit reviews to these childcare providers. We provided a variety of training materials that were shared at these home visits. Some of the topics covered included healthy eating options, whole grains, encouraging breast feeding and proper handling of breast milk, limiting or eliminating sweet treats/ desserts, increasing fruit/vegetable consumption, food safety and children's physical activity ideas

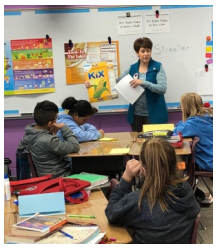
This USDA program is free and available to state-registered child care providers and licensed centers. It is part of the National School Lunch program and administered state-wide by the IA Dept. of Education. The Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) reimburses participating child care providers (and centers) for the meals and snacks they serve the children in their care. Participants must follow USDA guidelines concerning food groups and amounts to be offered, sanitation, food safety and handling, along with a minimum of two hours of nutrition training.

ServSafe™

A certification program for food service managers developed by the National Restaurant Association. 8 participated in the 8-hour training. Statewide, 2,434 attended.

Moving Office

The Clarke County Extension Office is excited to moving into their new office space at the end of this year! Their new office will be much bigger than their current location. Visit us after the new year at 709 Furnas Drive Suite One Osceola, IA 50213.



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