Iowa State University Extension and Outreach connects the needs of Iowans with Iowa State University research and resources. We are working with the people of Greene County for what we all want: a strong Iowa.

**Greene 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:

- Grant Writing 101 & Operation ReLeaf
- Powerful Tool For Caregivers
- Food Preservation 101 & Creative Meals on the Go
- Welding Workshop, Bucket of Junk & Hot Chocolate Hustle

**Economic Development**

ISU Extension and Outreach Greene County partnered with Grow Greene County to host **Grant Writing 101** to 30 participants from all over our county and the surrounding area.

The program was led by Jane Goeken, ISU Extension and Outreach Community and Economic Development specialist. She explored public and private funding sources and provided hands-on training to seek and write successful grants for non-profits, local governments, and schools. As one participant said “It took the scary out of grant writing.”

ISU Greene County Extension and Outreach partnered with Alliant Energy and Iowa DNR to bring **Operation ReLeaf** to residents in the Spring of 2018. The benefits of this program are:

- Increasing awareness of the benefits of shade trees
- Residents receive landscape trees at a significantly reduced rate of over 50% off retail prices
- Reduction of energy usage due to energy savings
- Beautification

A total of 225 trees were distributed in Greene County.
Health and Well-Being

Greene County Extension and Iowa State University Extension & Outreach partnered to offer **Powerful Tools for Caregivers.** This educational program was delivered weekly for 6 weeks at the St. Joseph Parish Center to family caregivers during the summer of 2018. It focused on caregivers of older adults, teaching skills for self-care and how to thrive, not just survive. Participants who benefited from the training expressed, “You need to meet your own needs before you can effectively care for another” and “This program was a reminder of what caregivers need to know.”

Food and Environment

Greene County hosted **Food Preservation 101** in August. This course is a two-hour introductory class that teaches safe food preservation practices for home preservers. The program was well-attended and received interest from all ages of men, women and youth.

During September, Greene County held a food and wellness program called **Creative Meals on the Go.** The program focused on quick, easy, healthy recipes from the Spend Smart, Eat Smart website to make for work lunches, tailgates, and after-school snacks. The group learned about and sampled a unique produce item—jicama.

K-12 Youth Outreach

In February, Greene County 4-H held a **Welding Workshop** for all 4-H’ers interested in the project area. Youth in grades 4th-12th had hands-on experience learning four different welds. In conjunction with this program, Greene County Extension hosted a **Bucket of Junk Contest** at the Greene County Fair this year. Two teams were handed two buckets of junk metal and were asked to make a display that was auctioned off at the fair.

The Greene County Young Leaders hosted the first ever **Hot Chocolate Hustle 5K** Fun Run sponsored by People’s Bank & Trust. This event was held in February at the Greene County Fairgrounds. Over 30 community members signed up to attend and over 20 youth and adult volunteers made this event a success. Muir’s Embroidery donated gloves to all participants and hot chocolate was provided to everyone at the completion of the race.

Other Greene County Youth Programs include:

- Greene County Fair was culmination of hard work for over 200 4-H’ers with static, livestock communication and fashion contests.
- First Lego League
- Awards Day at Grand Junction Community Center
- New Member Night featuring learning, bowling and pizza fun
- Canned Food Drive
- Ag in Classroom with 2nd Grade Community Partner
- Over 50 Kindergarten-3rd graders participated in 5 different Clover Kids groups throughout the year

County & Housed State Extension Staff

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