2021 IN HOWARD 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 Howard County for a #STRONGIOWA.

Sustainable Environments  Thriving Communities  Resilient People  Future Leaders

Serving the People of Howard 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 Howard County. During 2021 we focused on the following efforts: Pesticide applicator courses, 4H and Clover Kids, Farmland Leasing, Farm Safety, Food Insecurity, Child Care Provider Trainings. We progressed cautiously into 20-21 programming offering many programs virtually or with limited capacity as participant safety was foremost.

Showcasing 4-H at the County Fair

The Mighty Howard County Fair returned in 2021, providing the opportunity for youth to demonstrate what they had learned through their 4-H project work over the past year. The 4-H FFA Swine and Dairy Heifer projects were popular for members to work with specific animal breeds. 4-H Clubs...
met virtually and face to face safely. The 4-H FFA swine and dairy heifer projects helped bring members back together for animal science learning. Farm Safety educated over 110 fifth grade students in Howard County.

**Working toward Recovery**

As our state works toward recovery, ISU Extension and Outreach Howard County has been engaging Iowans in improving food supply, safety, and access. Offering virtual food canning and freezing workshops, fair demonstration on salsa preparation, monthly flyers provided to over 200 mobile food pantry recipients were ways we were able to reach and teach.

Supporting our child care professionals continues to be a priority. This year we supported two child care trainings. One was focused on relationships with parents and was the second offering to a very successful training in 2020. Another training was a two session pilot of training focused on using storybooks to support the development of resilience—the ability to bounce back after adversity in young children. Looking ahead, we are planning a Growing up Wild Workshop with Howard County Conservation for child care professionals.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Howard County will offer Women in Ag programming, Child Care Provider Education, Ag Pesticide Applicator trainings providing safety education. We are excited to have Clover Kids in Crestwood, Notre Dame, Riceville and Kessel Kids. We work closely with the Borlaug Foundation each year supporting a Borlaug-Thomason intern which in 2021 was Grace Reiss. Howard County Economic Development implemented the Borlaug mural in downtown Cresco with the support of Extension and Howard County Master Gardeners.

**ISU Extension and Outreach**

**Howard County**

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