

# Putnam County Annual Report 2020

#### Putting Knowledge to Work!

The West Virginia University Extension Service works to provide solutions in your community through key programs and resources, including agriculture and natural resources; 4-H and youth development; food and nutrition; health and wellness; financial planning; and home gardening. These research-based programs and services are available to all Putnam County residents thanks to the tremendous support of our community members, local organizations, volunteers and local partners, including the Board of Education and County Commission.

## Highlights

- 44 youths attended the virtual Putnam County 4-H camp, which was held in place of the traditional residential camp due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Putnam County Youth Livestock Sale had 69 livestock exhibitors whose sales contributed \$130,000 to the local economy.
- The Putnam County Lego robotics team (Clover STEMs) placed in multiple tournaments and was selected as the West Virginia representative for the Carolinas Open Invitational Tournament. The team also received the 2020 Recycling Education and Awareness Award from the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection.
- Assisted the local community in home food preservation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### 4-H/Youth Development

- 69 4-H and FFA members sold over \$130,000 in total livestock auction sales at the 2020 Putnam County Youth Livestock Sale.
- Over 60 4-H'ers received training to hold leadership positions in their clubs at officer training in 2020. 15 adult volunteers with experience in those leadership roles conducted the training.
- 44 youths participated in the 2020 Putnam County Virtual 4-H Camp, where they learned teamwork, leadership and healthy life skills.
- 4-H Teen Leaders maintained and stocked three Blessing Boxes in the community to provide food security during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 12 youths intiated the Charting program, which is a self-development program focusing on life and decision making skills.
- Energy Express provided reading, art and dramatic play activitities virtually for over 30 kids over a five-week period during the summer months.

#### Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Over 750 acres of land were tested for soil fertility across 13 different types of crops.
- The Southern Bull Test generated \$181,750 for local producers through the sale of 37 bulls and 41 heifers.
- Putnam and Mason counties delivered over 76 continuing education credits (764 contact hours) in agriculture and natural resources programming to West Virginia producers.
- Programming in Putnam and Mason counties provided 650 CEUs of pesticide nutrient management and crop management certifications.
- 4-H members created over 84 pollinator habitats across Putnam and Mason counties.
- The Putnam County Master Gardeners volunteered over 330 hours to the community.

### Family and Community Development

- Taught two semesters of Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist (ACDS), which provides training for daycare providers.
- Taught Making A Difference: The Mandate to Report training for the Appalachian Council Head Start program with 190 participants.
- Taught self-care and stress management for the Buffalo Elementary Parenting Association with approximately 20 participants.
- Taught multiple classes for the Literacy Through Games (LTG) program, which emphasizes reading, creativity and knowledge of the public library though role-playing games.
- Assisted the local community in home food preservation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.