Webster County Annual Report 2018

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 Webster 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

- 185 4-H youths and 26 Cloverbuds developed leadership, citizenship and life skills, preparing them to be productive members of their communities by participating in a number of community club and county programs and activities.
- 32 youths enrolled in Energy Express, supported by six college-going students serving as AmeriCorps Energy Express mentors. On average, youths gained 1.7 months in broad reading achievement.
- Webster Springs Farmers Market producers provided opportunity for Webster County senior citizens to redeem 68% of senior farmers market nutrition program coupons, valued at $2,376.

4-H and Youth Development

- 72 youths exhibited 114 blue ribbon projects at the Webster County Fair.
- 146 youths attended Webster County 4-H camp, where they were encouraged to plan for their future, learned ways to help their community and had a chance to be a leader.
- 31 youths participated in at least one statewide 4-H program, event or activity, including one individual who was awarded People’s Choice at the state photo exhibition.
- 60 youths participated in 4-H National Youth Science Day “Code Your World” activities at 4-H events and after-school programs.
- 32 youths enrolled in Energy Express, with 67% either maintaining or increasing letter-word identification, reading fluency, passage comprehension and broad reading. The program helped prevent academic and nutritional summer slide for these students.
- Six college-going youths provided a valuable service opportunity and resume building experience while serving as AmeriCorps Energy Express mentors, earning a total of
$18,617.46 in living allowances and education awards, helping them finance their post-secondary education. An additional 10 part-time jobs are supported by Energy Express.

- 575 youths learned the importance of proper handwashing to prevent the spread of germs by participating in Germ City activities at school-based health fairs.

**Agriculture and Natural Resources**

- 22 soil tests, covering 13 home gardens and 24 acres of hay, pastureland and other crops were completed. This enabled producers to apply only the necessary soil amendments, reducing their costs of production and protecting the environment.

- Five producers sold produce at the Webster Springs Farmers Market. All producers were eligible to accept senior farmers market nutrition program coupons. An estimated 500 consumer visits were made during the market season.

**Family and Community Development**

- 4,679 nutritious meals were provided to youth participants and teen volunteers through the Summer Food Service Program sponsored by the 4-H Leaders Association. Meals were provided at two Energy Express sites, two school-based summer enrichment programs, the Starting Points Child Development Center, the weeklong “Deliver the Rock” basketball camp and eligible participants at 4-H camp. Reimbursement totaled $14,998.74.

- 16 Community Educational Outreach Service members developed leadership and knowledge skills while maintaining an active community service agenda.