

Kanawha 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 Kanawha 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

- Energy Express served 76 children
- 5,000 4-H STEM kits were distributed in partnership with Kanawha County Public Library

4-H Youth Development

Camping

- 30 campers participated in our first ever Space Camp Weekend
- 87 campers participated in summer virtual camp programming
 - 36 campers (41%) were new to 4-H camping
 - 100% of campers who responded to the statewide post-camp survey rated their overall camp experience as “Excellent” or “Good”

4-H Clubs

- 4-H'ers have participated in a variety of virtual county 4-H clubs, including Kitchen Chemistry, Holiday Baking, Cloverbud Earth Science and Cloverbud Healthy Snacks.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Kanawha County Master Gardener Association

- 44 Active members – 819 service hours – 1,639 educational hours
- A Fall 2020 Class for was hosted for 16 participants.

- More than 3,000 pounds of produce that was harvested at Manna Meal garden was donated.

Families and Health

- A virtual Community Education Outreach Service (CEOS) organization fall conference was hosted.
 - The program reached more than 200 people from four states.
 - Many participants were from Kanawha County.
 - The event was promoted event WSAZ with a live interview.
- During pandemic conducted virtual wellness sessions and food preservation classes

Community Development

- Educated and support were both provided to the National Civilian Community Corp team of young adults who provided approximately \$40,000 worth of labor to Camp Virgil Tate doing renovations and trail maintenance.
- \$3,300 worth of funds were successful received for flora & fauna signs on nature trail, playground equipment and water bottle filling station at Camp Virgil Tate.

Economic Development

- A second semester of Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist was taught (finished via Zoom) – coordinated efforts for semesters 1, 3 and 4.
- Statewide efforts were coordinated to provide 12 continuing education credits for almost 100 child care providers – many from Kanawha County.
- Conducted ServSafe classes for 54 participants with 83% receiving their national certificate.

Nutrition Education

- A \$3,000 grant was awarded from Try This WV! to implement active pathways at local elementary schools, childcare centers and public play spaces.
- More than 3,500 households and youths were supported in gardening experiences through Grow This! and microgreen kit distribution.
- Markets were coordinated where COVID-19 protocols were implemented to ensure safe produce distribution. This allowed for increased access to SNAP Stretch at eight markets sites serving 1,200 area youths and seniors.

