

Jefferson County Annual Report 2019

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 Jefferson 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

- More than 200 youths participated in a 4-H summer residential camp.
- 522 youths were reached with school enrichment programming.
- 453 youths participated in 23 community 4-H clubs.
- 300 youths were reached with Agriculture in the Classroom programming.
- CEOS members performed 17,500 hours of volunteer service for a value of \$445,025 to the community.

4-H/Youth Development

Camping

- 44 Jefferson County youths attended Tri-County Younger Camp.
- 50 Jefferson County youths attended Tri-County Intermediate Camp.
- 49 Jefferson County youths attended Tri-County Older Camp.
- 41 Jefferson County youths attended Cloverbud Day Camp (58 youths total).
- 10 Jefferson County youths served at teen counselors for Tri-County Camps.
- 18 Jefferson County volunteers served as camp counselors for Tri-County Camps.

4-H School-Based Programs

- 139 pre-k and first grade students from two elementary schools participated in the 4-H STEM: Leap into Science Wind and Air program, a nationwide program that integrates open-ended science activities with children's books.
 - 100% of the classroom teachers ***strongly agreed*** with the following statements:
 - My students were provided the opportunities to think like a scientist by making observations and predictions, testing ideas and learning from something that may not have worked as planned.
 - The presenter integrated open-ended science activities with children's books to highlight critical thinking skills that are important in both science and literacy.
 - Children were given the opportunity to have fun exploring science and books

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- together, think scientifically and build positive attitudes toward science learning in formal community settings.
 - The information was presented at an age-appropriate level.
 - The presenter created an atmosphere conducive to learning.
 - The presenter used teaching materials that will be useful to learning.
 - The presenter asked questions that led learners to think critically.
 - The presenter implemented learning activities in a logical sequence.
 - The presenter provided learners with opportunities for participating.
 - The presenter held learners' attention.
- 100% of teachers reported 53 students showed an increase in curiosity toward science, engineering and technology after the activity.
- 100% of teachers reported that students were using the words “breeze” and “gust” when discussing the wind.
- 75% of teachers reported an increased student interest in the weather.
- 280 pre-k and first grade students at three elementary schools participated in The Germ Stops Here, which is a highly popular program that teaches the proper technique for hand-washing and the six most important times to wash your hands.
 - 100% of teachers reported behavior change.
 - 100% of teachers reported they saw their students using soap when washing more than they were before the program.
 - 86% of teachers reported their students are washing their hands after going to the restroom more than they were before the program.

Traditional 4-H Programming

- A total of 453 youths participated in 23 community 4-H clubs (364 4-H members and 89 Cloverbud members).
- 157 community volunteers were vetted.
- 244 youths participated in county Events, including County Round-Up (17), Talent Showcase (56), Officer Training School (57), Eastern Panhandle Air Rifle State Qualifier (18) and Big Day (96).
- 290 youths and volunteers were recognized at the 4-H Achievement Night.
- 103 pre-k and second grade students from two schools participated in 4-H STEM: Introduction to Pollinators - Be the Bee, where they were introduced to pollinators, their process and the role they play in our food cycle.
 - Teachers reported 38 of their students showed an increase in curiosity/aspirations toward science, engineering and technology after the activity.
 - 100% of teachers ***strongly agreed*** with the following statements:
 - This activity provided a foundation on pollination.
 - This program will or has enhanced my lesson on pollination.
 - The information was presented at an age-appropriate level.
 - The presenter created an atmosphere conducive to learning.
 - The presenter used teaching materials that will be useful to learning.
 - The presenter asked questions that led learners to think critically.
 - The presenter implemented learning activities in a logical sequence.
 - The presenter provided learners with opportunities for participating.
 - The presenter helped learners better understand the topic.
 - The presenter held learners' attention.
 - 100% of teachers reported they would be interested in the program next year.

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- 100% of teachers reported that students are using the words “pollen” and “nectar” when discussing honeybees.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Farm to School Program

- A three-day training for Jefferson County teachers, staff and administration to develop plans on how to begin conducting farm to school activities in their schools.
- 10 teachers from four schools attended the first training.
- Six teachers from two schools have implemented farm to school activities during the 2019-2020 school year, including reducing food waste, planning school gardens, organizing pop-up farmers markets and conducting taste-testing programs of local foods.
- Two schools participated in taste-testing programs rating the flavor of local produce compared to store bought, as well as using both melons and carrots grown locally as part of two research variety trials.

Youth Agriculture Programs

- Six 4-H members participated in the 4-H Land Judging Team, increasing their knowledge on soil science and land use. The junior team placed first in both the land judging and homesite state competitions.
- 140 fourth grade students from two elementary schools participated in the Soils on the Move program, where they learned about how soils are formed, their purpose and the importance of soil conservation.
- 180 seventh grade students from eleven classes at one middle school participated in What is Watershed, where they engaged in a lab activity to build their own watershed and learn about watershed pollutants.

Other Agriculture Programs

- 50 individuals participated in an introduction to gardening workshop (Gardening 101), taught by members of the Berkeley-Jefferson Master Gardener Association. This workshop had a 150% increase in attendance since it’s reintroduction in 2018.
- Four local farms and agribusinesses opened up their gates to the public, teaching others about agriculture and our local history associated with the industry during Jefferson County Farm Day.

Families and Health

Community Educational Outreach Service

- Five Community Educational Outreach Service clubs consist of 88 members.
- CEOS members performed 17,500 hours of volunteer service for a value of \$445,025 to the community.
- Services provided and volunteer efforts of CEOS clubs include:
 - \$10,912.97 raised through annual Pink Luncheon for West Virginia women with breast or cervical cancer.
 - 53 crocheted infant hats, two sweater sets, four baby afghans, 12 flannel blankets and seven bootie sets for nursery patients at Jefferson Medical Center (Jefferson CEOS Club).
 - 31 crocheted wheelchair wraps, eight knitted scarves, three hat and scarf sets, 40 afghans, and nine senior bibs for local nursing homes (Jefferson CEOS Club).
 - 60 blizzard bags for shut-ins serviced by the senior center (Jefferson CEOS Club).
 - 61 crocheted hats and six scarves for the South Jefferson Library Giving Tree (Jefferson

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- CEOS Club).
- Assisted with Red Cross Bloodmobiles six times a year (Mecklenburg CEOS Club).
- Made 14 travel/care kits for displaced children (Mecklenburg CEOS Club).
- Donated new and used items to McDowell County Ministries for children, senior citizens and nursing homes (Mecklenburg CEOS Club).
- Presented \$100 donation to Hospice of the Panhandle (Mecklenburg CEOS Club).
- Made five red baby hats for American Heart month--plus, many other baby hats, given to local hospitals (Mecklenburg CEOS Club).
- Presented \$500 donation to the following area organizations: Jefferson County Community Ministries, Meals on Wheels and Hospice.
- Presented \$200 donation to each of the two high school and four middle school libraries in Jefferson County.
- Prepared meals for the homeless three times a year (Summit Point CEOS Club).
- CEOS educational efforts included two craft workshops, monthly educational lessons and participating in a baby shower for female veterans at the VA Medical Center (Jefferson CEOS Club).

Kinship Program

- The Kinship Parenting program is aimed to provide kinship families with essential information and offer the opportunity to connect with other caregivers to share skills and experiences in a safe, supportive environment.
- Parenting in the 21st Century (Lesson 2 of the Kinship Program) was presented to 47 parents of elementary-aged students at Ranson Elementary School.
 - 76% of the participants were interested in attending additional sessions.
 - The topic that participants wanted an educational session on was self-care and stress management, followed by family relationships and effective family communication.
 - Nearly 70% of the participants plan to work with their children to set house rules and to use "I" statements when addressing issues with their children.