

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION Garrett County

2023 Year In Review

A MESSAGE FROM OUR

Western
Maryland
Director



The University of Maryland Extension is pleased to share how our network of local educators brought leading-edge, practical solutions to our Garrett County community. This 2023 Year in Review will demonstrate how our program participants enhanced their agriculture and horticulture practices, developed leadership capabilities through 4-H, improved their physical, mental, and financial health, boosted their digital literacy, and so much more! Our programs were designed to solve trending issues through trusted, research-based education. This was further expanded by the efforts of our strong base of 4-H and Master Gardener volunteers.

All of this was made possible through the continued support of Garrett County government in addition to state, federal, and grant funds.

We hope that you find our 2023 Year in Review to be informative and enlightening. As always, I welcome your input on how we might make 2024 an even more successful year, so please feel free to contact me at jthorn@umd.edu.

Dr. Jennifer Bentlejewski, Area Extension Director



Lacie Ashby
4-H Educator



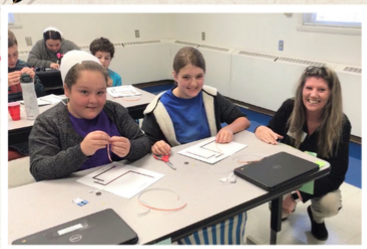
“ Growing up on a farm and being in 4-H was the foundation for me becoming a nurse. Seeing the circle of life, helping during births, comforting animals during death, giving medications, learning about nutrition, etc- all got me here today. Not to mention the public speaking, leadership, and dedication that also helped me become an educator! Plus meeting all kinds of people, and becoming friends with 4-H families- that will continue for generations!

“Past 4-H Alumnus”

“ Growing up participating in the 4-H program without a doubt had a substantial impact on my life. To just name a few, the life lessons learned from animal husbandry, to the development of excellent communication skills and an understanding of what it means to give back to the community have led me to where I am today in both my professional and personal life as not only a veterinarian but a Clinical Assistant Professor and the Small Ruminant Extension Specialist at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine.

“Past 4-H Alumnus”

- 4-H At A Glance
- 19 4-H Clubs
 - 316 Youth
 - 40 Clovers
 - 124 Adult Volunteers
- 4-H Camp Algawa
- 129 Youth
 - 14 Volunteers
- MD 4-H Environmental Education Center
- 1,921 Participants
 - (12) 4-H Camps and Private Groups



Karen Wood
4-H Educator



“ The Garrett County 4-H STEM taught by Karen Wood provides hands-on activities that enrich the science curriculum we are learning in class. The students love the programs and look forward to having her come in. The 4-H enrichment she provides gives our students a solid understanding of concepts through the application of hands-on skills.

“ The STEAM Kids programming at the Friendsville Library has benefited greatly through a collaboration with Karen Wood, University of MD Extension-Garrett County. This collaboration has allowed us to really broaden and strengthen our program options. One such example is the inclusion of programs that provide a focus on robotics, which have been especially popular. This variety has certainly helped our STEAM Kids programs become an eagerly awaited highlight for participants.

- 4-H Outreach Programs
- 111 classes serving 383 youth
- 10 Partners
- Swan Meadow School
 - Calvary Christian Academy
 - Southern High School Special Education
 - Partners After School-Friendsville, Grantsville & Oakland
 - 1/2 Day Fun with 4-H@Extension Office
 - Ruth Enlow Libraries-Kitzmiller, Friendsville & Oakland



Kristin Spiker
SNAP-Ed Educator



“ The school counselor sits with children during lunch (his lunch bunch). He stated, "It was pizza day with canned pineapple. I encouraged my lunch bunch to put the pineapple on top of their cheese pizza. 1/2 liked it and now they eat their pineapple all the time on their pizza. They really didn't eat the pineapple before that. It's fun." ”

“ When the PE teacher brought the 4th grade students back to the classroom for their SNAP-Ed lesson, the PE teacher proudly stated to all that "Ms. Kristin is the one who got me to eat healthy. I'm still not perfect but now I eat my fruits and vegetables." ”

- 719 participants reached in nutrition education
 - 285 food tasting opportunities
 - 899 parents reached with educational materials
- 7 Partners
 Broad Ford Elementary School
 Crellin Elementary School
 Friendsville Elementary School
 Grantsville Elementary School
 Dennett Road Head Start
 Grantsville Head Start
 Kitzmiller Head Start



Ashley Bachtel-Bodkins
Home Horticulture Educator
Master Gardener Coordinator



Thank you so much for coming on Monday to present for our clients! The feedback we received was very positive, just as it was the last time. I am grateful that you were willing to come out to our facility. I believe it is a real boost to our clients to learn more about local botany.

Thank you! The teachers have asked that we partner with you all more often!

- 15 Master Gardeners Volunteered 641 hours (\$29, 383 value at \$31.80 per hour Independent Sector Stats) to conduct in-person education activities reaching 790 clients
- 89 consultations were conducted to solve horticulture-related problems for local residents
- 584 GC Master Gardener Facebook followers with a reach of 21,394
- 5 new blog posts on MD Grows with 9,886 views
- 50+ educator conducted classes, workshops, hands-on activities resulted in reaching 461 adults and 463 youth with more than 15 community partners



William Lantz
AgFS Educator



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AgFS

Agriculture & Food Systems

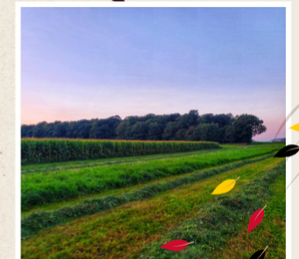
- 3 grants awarded for \$169,900 to support local farmers and organizations
- 27 hours of direct education-8 programs-319 participants
- 10 programs for recertification for pesticide applicators and nutrient management



Andrea Uphold
Nutrient Management
Program Coordinator



- Total Acreage Planned-10,059
- Total Producer Plans-56
- Total Management Units (Fields)-1314
- Manure Application Plans-31
- Updated Plans-51 producer plans were written with 9935.6 acres and 1285 management units
- New Plans-5 producer plans were written with 50.4 acres and 29 management units



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Dr. Jesse Ketterman
FCS Educator



I like what I learned. I've been in the process of bettering my credit score and was wondering what affects it. I definitely will be using what I learned in the future.

- 1460 clients reached through 86 virtual and in-person health and finance workshops

Partners

- Garrett County Lighthouse
- Garrett County Community Action
- Garrett County Health Department
- Garrett College
- St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Thanks for your presentation today. Having lived overseas for most of my adulthood, I knew nothing of the credit system. I now understand it a bit better.

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Dr. Lisa McCoy
FCS Educator



I have increased my daily amount of fruits and vegetables. This program has taught me the importance of sodium intake. Thanks for this class.

- 199 clients reached through 33 virtual and in-person health and Finance workshops and seminars

Partners

- Garrett County Health Planning Committee
- Western Maryland Food Council Board

Lisa is a very good teacher. Always ready to answer questions and explain every topic until we understand.



Shelita Jackson
Tech Extension
Educator



“
My eyes welled up when the patron shared just how much this new device would mean to her and all the things she would be able to do.
”

“
I am so happy you told me about ACP, I will have more money for food for my family.
”

- 1300 clients reached through in-person digital literacy workshops and seminars in Garrett, Allegany & Washington Counties
- 600 Chromebooks distributed while providing ACP teaching and enrollment

Partners

Garrett County Community Action
Garrett County Government
Ruth Enlow Library



Jessica McClurg
Business Services
Specialist

Administrative Support



Roberta Cvetnick
Program Management
Specialist

Keeping Connected

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Roberta Cvetnick

Roberta is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters