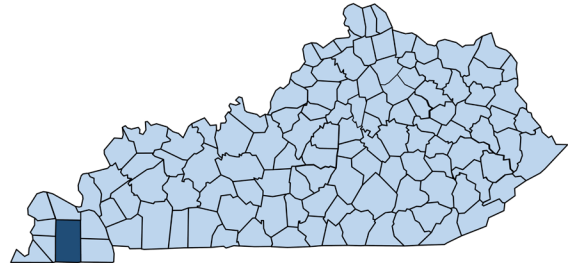


REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



Graves County 2021



DID YOU KNOW... The new Graves County Extension Office is open!



Website: graves.ca.uky.edu



Facebook: @GravesCES

For More Information, Please Contact us at:
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4200 Highway 45, Mayfield, KY 42066

4-H Youth Development



Graves County 4-Her Adrian Markoch assists with morning flag service at West Kentucky 4-H Camp

- 43** Number of youth participated in overnight 4-H summer camp
- 117** Number of youth demonstrated a skill that was learned or improved

Agriculture and Natural Resources

The new 4-H Horse Club in Graves County is providing opportunities for youth to learn more about horses while meeting new friends and caring adults. Over 40 members have enrolled in the club and over half received their six hours of education to be able to compete in state-level events.

Youth had many educational experiences including guest speakers, farm visits, riding clinics, hippology practices, and more to prepare them for the opportunities available through the 4-H Horse Program. Graves County has a large population of horse owners who desire horse-related educational events for youth, and we were proud to provide those options this year despite the challenges of COVID. Three of the youth will be advancing to State Horse Show and many have expressed interest in leasing or owning a horse before the next project year.

We are excited to see this program grow and horse families invest in all the opportunities that 4-H Horse offers.

Research has proven that youth benefit from positive relationships with caring adults. According to the Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs, youth who have mentors typically have “increased high school graduation rates, lower high school dropout rates, and healthier relationships and lifestyle choices”. 4-H Camp provides campers opportunities to be mentored and nurtured by caring cabin leaders, class instructors, teen volunteers, and camp staff members in hopes that these positive experiences will lead to better life outcomes.

Graves County took 43 youth, 8 adult counselors, 3 teen counselors, and 1 agent to West Kentucky 4-H Camp this summer the highest number in attendance from Graves County since 2013. Campers were able to participate in flag service, free recreation, swim time, camp dances, nature hikes, reflections, and several exciting classes, including ropes, horse, archery, rifle, canoeing, fishing, and more.



Graves County 4-Her Grace Hurley shows her horse at the Kentucky 4-H State Horse Show

- 117** Number of youth demonstrated a skill that was learned or improved by participating in 4-H agriculture programming
- 52** Number of youth and adults who engaged in volunteer service in their communities through the 4-H program

Family and Consumer Sciences



Largest Percentage Membership Growth

56

Number of KEHA members who report knowledge gained through county and/or area officer and chairman training

56

Number of KEHA members who utilized knowledge gained through officer training to fulfill a KEHA leadership role at the club, county, area and/or state level

NUTRITION EDUCATION

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic according to 2019 data from the Feeding America website, one in seven Kentuckians were food insecure and those aged 50-59 had the highest rate of food insecurity in the nation. During the pandemic, demand on food banks significantly increased as families faced layoffs and cutbacks at work. In response, during the 2020-2021 program year, 78% of SNAP-Ed and EFNEP Nutrition Education Program (NEP) Assistants reported partnering with local food banks to share recipes, newsletters and other materials and resources in food boxes. One SNAP-Ed Assistant reported delivering 100 Emergency Food Assistance cookbooks, 1,250 healthy and easy recipes, 300 Seasoned newsletters and 200 Healthy at Home newsletters to a local food pantry. A recipient said, "I was so happy to see recipes in my food box. Sometimes it's hard to think of ways to use some things you receive. These recipes will help me prepare healthier meals when feeding my family. Thank you." By partnering with food banks, NEP was able to reach hundreds of families throughout Kentucky.

Graves County Extension Homemakers continued to work hard during the pandemic by making close to 500 items of PPE (masks, hats, gowns) for the community. Members contributed to the Coverings for Kids face-covering initiative that provided homemade masks to the two local school systems.

The group volunteered 16,908 documented hours within the past year. The value of a volunteer hour is worth \$27.20 meaning Graves County Extension Homemakers contributed \$459,897.60 in volunteer value hours to the community! The group hosted a reception for the 2020 Census Quilt at the Graves County Library and distributed information and materials about Extension Homemakers. Members participated in the Purchase Area Extension Homemakers Creative Arts Showcase, and four members received purple ribbons and the opportunity to submit their projects to the state contest.



NOTHING IS OUT OF REACH.



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... just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky

- *23,971 Kentucky youth who participated in a project, activity or event in science, engineering and technology through 4-H programming.*
- *4,890 Kentucky producers adopting new technologies in agriculture production.*
- *3,399 Kentuckians who improved or maintained health from participating in gardening.*
- *3,898 Kentucky families who supplemented their diets with foods they grew or preserved.*
- *4,161 Kentuckians participating in community trail projects.*

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



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