



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
OZAUKEE COUNTY

MARCH 2024 REPORT

## 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



*Positive Youth Development prepares the youth of today to become the effective, empathetic adults of tomorrow. Our research-based youth enrichment programs like teens in governance build youth and adult capacity and partnerships that help both sides grow. 4-H clubs, camps and after-school programs give young people the hands-on experiences they need to develop an understanding of themselves and the world.*

### *Colleen Machut, 4-H Program Educator*

- Conducting club visits/observations with 4-H clubs and chartered groups. Conducting club visits will provide evidence of current 4-H practices in action and will indicate support and training that club leaders may need in order to best facilitate youth in taking advantage of 4-H programming and developing life skills.
- Scheduling and planning two support and feedback sessions for 4-H volunteers and youth members in April 2024. Analysis of needs assessment interviews combined with data analysis from enrollment data and Thrive data will create a full picture of the current status of the 4-H program and help to create clear goals for improvement moving forward so we can more effectively serve the needs and interests of youth in an inclusive way.
- Continued needs assessment 1:1 interviews with 4-H leaders and subsequent data analysis to set goals for 4-H supports and resources to be provided to 4-H volunteers and members. Holding feedback and support sessions will allow volunteers and youth members to have their voices heard and provide them with an opportunity to ask clarifying questions and make suggestions so that they can more fully participate in the opportunities that 4-H has to offer.

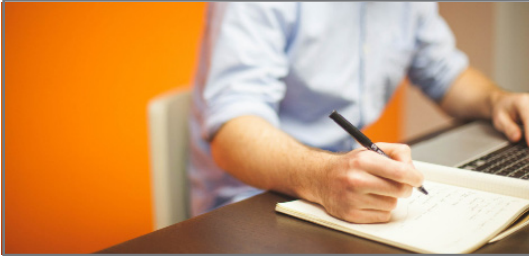


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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



*Community Development provides educational programming to assist leaders, communities, and organizations realize their fullest potential. We work with communities to build the vitality that enhances their quality of life and enriches the lives of their residents. IN short, the Community Development Institute plants and cultivates the seeds for thriving communities and organizations.*

**Paul Roback, Community Development Educator**

A board member from Family Promise of Ozaukee County, a local nonprofit, contacted Paul to facilitate a process that would create a strategic plan for the organization. To achieve the planning objectives, Paul first engaged the organization's board and staff with an online survey to solicit feedback on updating the organization's mission statement and seek input for creating a vision statement. A second survey was sent to external stakeholders to determine how well the organization fulfills its mission. Then, Paul facilitated two strategic planning sessions attended by 17 board members and staff. The planning process included updating their mission statement, creating a vision statement, identifying and prioritizing goals, and developing actions steps to ensure their success.

From evaluation (N=13), 100% of participants agreed that updating the mission statement helped clarify their role as an organization, creating a vision statement assisted them in understanding the general direction for their organization's future, and identifying and prioritizing goals increased their ability to identify issues and set priorities. 92% agreed that creating action plans increased their ability to identify their next steps for future implementation. Participants evaluated Paul's facilitation as a 4.8 on a 5-point Likert Scale (1=poor and 5=excellent). One participant commented "I think you got us as a whole board to focus in a way we have not done before." Another commented "great job as always. Your unique way to manage a group is awesome."



**AGRICULTURE**



*If it happens on a farm or in a field, the Extension Institute of Agriculture works with you to achieve better results. Our innovative dairy management programs range from genetics to farm and business management. Extension researchers work hand-in-hand with row crop, forage and fresh produce growers to provide best practices for every aspect of the growing phase. We also advise communities on using sustainable practices to create inviting spaces free from invasive species*

**Crops**

*Liz Gartman, Regional Crops Educator*

The agriculture marketplace is constantly changing, requiring producers to identify farming practices that allow them to remain profitable and environmentally sustainable. Partnering with the Cedar Creek Farmers Producer Led Group and Washington Co. Land & Water, we planned a Regional Ag update meeting that provided insight on topics related to disability resources for farmers, manure and nutrient management, feed efficiency and quality for livestock and marketing considerations to recognize as we plan the 2024 crop year. I invited speakers that are experts in their field and were able to provide up to date, practical management applications for attendees. Attempts were made to include speakers with a wide range of expertise to provide a well-rounded program to best suit the needs of attendees.

92% of attendees rated the program as “Excellent” or “Good” overall. A majority (over 50%) of attendees indicated they would use information “a great deal” related to Feeding Cover Crops (54%); Manure Management (65%), Local Nitrogen Rates (52%) and Marketing Ideas for 2024 (53.6%). Attendees indicated they saw value in manure sampling and management, implementing cover crops as part of soil health programs, and practical ways to feed cover crops to livestock. These management practices can better equip producers and supporting agribusinesses and agency staff to increase resiliency in crop systems and farm businesses.

**We teach, learn, lead and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin, and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.**

UW-Madison Division  
of Extension  
Ozaukee County Office

121 W. Main St.  
Port Washington, WI  
53074

P: 262-284-8288  
F: 262-284-8100  
711 Wisconsin Relay

Cindy Sarkady  
*Area Extension Director*

Colleen Machut  
*4-H Program Educator*

Claudia Breitengross  
Susan Hopkins  
*Support Staff*

Liz Gartman  
*Regional Crops Educator*

Paul Roback  
*Community Development  
Educator*

Cassi Worster  
*Area Marketing Specialist*