

EXTENSION TRENDS: **ADA COUNTY**

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2023 By the Numbers

- **35,600** direct contacts
- **21,682** youth participants
- **251** volunteers
- **6,751** volunteer hours
- **\$2,906,436** extramural funding

UI Extension Educators



Ariel Agenbroad
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Community Food Systems
& Small Farms



Susan Bell
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Horticulture



Andrew Bingham
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Family & Consumer Sciences
and Financial Management



Sendy Martinez
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4-H Youth Development



Bridget Morrisroe
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Family & Consumer Sciences

2023 Impact

Educator Bridget Morrisroe is the lead for the U of I National Diabetes Prevention Program. From 2017-23, the program has reached over 285 participants at an estimated health care savings for three years at \$237,690. Morrisroe also leads a multi-county first year and Advanced Master Food Safety Advisor program. In 2023 she re-certified 31 advanced volunteers and 19 new volunteers who donated 1,300 hours valued at \$41,340.

Educator Susan Bell supervised Idaho Master Gardener volunteers during 225 days of plant diagnostic clinics for the public. This allowed them to solve 4,945 plant and insect problems for county residents. The Master Gardeners assisted with two garden schools and presented 189 workshops/classes for 3,188 adults and 305 children in the community. Sixteen community projects and eight information booths were completed, reaching 1,448 people. Master Gardeners continue to maintain eight demonstration gardens and turf trial sites at the Ada County office for the public evaluating landscape species for the high desert area. Twenty Ada County Master Composters taught composting classes at local libraries and elementary schools. They also continue to maintain a compost demonstration site featuring various bin examples and composting methodologies for the public.

Educator Sendy Martinez is working with the Nampa School District to expand the 4-H Juntos program into three high schools, Nampa, Skyview and Columbia. She hosted six family engagement nights and 25 Juntos 4-H club activities.

Educator Andrew Bingham reached nearly 1,000 youth with face-to-face financial literacy programming.

Area Educator Ariel Agenbroad continues to support Farmers Markets in the region and statewide, serving on the board of the statewide Idaho Farmers Market Association (IFMA) as the elected treasurer. In this role she assisted with grant applications and management, relationships with funders, oversight of the SNAP and Double Up food bucks incentive programs, statewide communications, association membership, and maintaining the organization's nonprofit status. She coordinated underwriting spots promoting SNAP for public and Spanish language radio. She also organized printing and distribution of the Extension publication Market Fresh in a SNAP! through Idaho Farmers Markets offering SNAP EBT benefits at their market. She organized two training webinars for Idaho market managers on risk management, and as a result was asked to serve on an expert panel for Farmers Markets by the Texas Center for Local Food. Agenbroad aided the Boise Farmers Market and Boise Farmers Mobile Market with a student intern and served on their membership committee. She also facilitated a group discussion on challenges and growth at the Boise Farmers Market annual vendor meeting and rang the opening bell on the last day of the outdoor market in October. For the second year in a row, she worked to organize an Idaho Bootcamp Training for market managers with a regional team led by the Washington State Farmers Market Association. One attendee shared that the highlight of bootcamp was "learning that there is support out there for me, as a market manager!"

4-H in Ada County

To address the impacts on the social, emotional and educational needs of youth, UI Extension 4-H Youth Development and family and consumer sciences educators received a community program grant from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to launch the Creating a Spark in Treasure Valley Youth program. Through this new program UI Extension educators expanded 4-H programming to reach youth, increasing access to activities that support educational learning. In round one of funding, 2,629 youth were reached, in round two 4,291 youth were reached, and in the final round 6,965 youth were reached. A total of 13,885 youth were reached in partnership with over 40 community partners between Sept. 2022-Sept. 2023. A total of 17 program staff at 20+ sites were hired and trained to implement the program. The 4-H Youth Yoga and Healthy Habits program was delivered at 20 sites to a total of 485 youth participants from 2018-2023. Four 4-H overnight summer camps were held in Donnelly, including one camp hosted exclusively for income-constrained youth in the Boise School District. A total of 360 youth attended a camp in 2023.



On the Horizon

Morrisroe is partnering with the City of Boise's Curb It program working to develop a lesson and publication on minimizing food waste in the home.

Bell supervises 12 Master Tree Pruners who, for the fourth year, have assisted in pruning 45 small trees in two Boise parks. This year Master Gardener students have been involved in planning the International Heritage Orchard Annual Conference which reached 2,100 people. Master Gardener volunteers continue to be involved as host and interviewees for the International American Council of the Blind Radio Show.

Farm Succession programming will be undergoing a reboot with assistance from Utah State Extension educators.

The 4-H program will continue to work with Ada and Canyon community partners to deliver programming post-ARPA funding.

Agenbroad and a team of Extension educators has been tasked with providing education and technical assistance on Farm to Early Care and Education (Farm to ECE) as a health intervention to Idaho STARS Early Childhood Health Consultants in every region in Idaho. This training and technical assistance includes personalized trainings, mentoring and support as the consultants evaluate whether Farm to ECE is a good fit and which of the strategies developed through UI Extension should be implemented statewide. Farm to ECE is a set of strategies that addresses community health outcomes by engaging early care and education sites in the three core elements of Farm to School: local food procurement, education and gardening.

Advisory Board

Special thanks to volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Ada County: Ben Brock, Jessica Harrold, Amber Bierle, David Anderson, Julie Kulm, Kristin Lambson, Daniel Romero, Jim and Kathy Ladd, Jancie Alexander, Sydney Anderson, Linda Welch, Patti Davila, Sofya Sirotkina, Gretchen Anderson, Beth Kimball, Cathy McDougall, Jackie Amende, Ashley Rundle, Dorothy Plaza, Sue Olszewski, Marcia Farrar, Todd Christensen, Erin Edwards, Garnette Monnie, Donna Beronda, Mike Witschen, Jan Veatch, Margaret Erskine, Barbara English, Karoline Woodhead and Nicole Sparano.

