



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION
Dade County

2024 Annual Report

**SERVE
MISSOURI.**

**DELIVER
MIZZOU.**

2 N. Main Street
Greenfield, MO 65661
417-637-2112
dadeco@missouri.edu



Extension
University of Missouri

an equal opportunity/ADA institution



December 2024

Dear county commissioners, elected leaders and friends of MU Extension and Engagement,

As we reflect on the past year, I want to express my deep gratitude for your support of MU Extension and for your partnership in enhancing the lives of Missourians.

Your support for MU Extension fuels Missouri's agriculture, strengthens families, prepares our youth and promotes the health, well-being and vitality of our communities. Over the past year, our programs have focused on addressing key needs throughout the state:

- **Expanding access to 4-H:** To make 4-H more accessible, we've introduced more in-school and after-school clubs, reducing barriers and creating opportunities for young Missourians to develop essential skills and leadership abilities.
- **Supporting agriculture and land stewardship:** We're addressing critical issues such as succession planning for family farms, rural mental health, agricultural business management and land stewardship. These initiatives are helping Missouri's farmers plan for the future and preserve the health of our land for future generations.
- **Advancing health initiatives:** Our team of community health field specialists, covering every region of the state, works directly with local leaders to assess health needs and bring UM System resources and expertise to these communities, supporting healthier lives and stronger communities.
- **Promoting economic development:** MU Extension is helping to create economic opportunities by working with individuals, supporting businesses in their growth and collaborating with communities to enhance local vibrancy. Through these efforts, we help bring new jobs, skills and possibilities to Missourians across the state.
- **Providing essential training:** Our continuing education programs prepare Missouri's firefighters and health care workers to meet the demands of their roles with the latest skills and knowledge, ensuring they are well-prepared to serve our communities.

As you read through this annual report, I hope you feel as proud as I do of the accomplishments we've achieved together. The dedication and professionalism of MU Extension's faculty and staff are inspiring, and I am grateful to work alongside them—and each of you—as we make Missouri a stronger, healthier and more vibrant place. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we are serving Missouri by delivering the University *for* Missouri.

Warm regards,

Chad Higgins, PhD
Vice Chancellor, MU Extension and Engagement
Chief Engagement Officer, UM System

Who we are

Faculty and staff

County Office Staff

Tina Brownsberger, Administrative Assistant

Bob McNary, 4-H Youth Specialist

Heather Scharbach, Nutrition Program Associate

Specialists serving Dade County

Amber Allen, Human Development Specialist

Reagan Bluel, Dairy Specialist

Allen Brandes, Extension Engagement Specialist

Patrick Byers, Horticulture Specialist

Patrick Davis, Livestock Specialist

Jamie Eggerman, Nutrition and Health Specialist

Katie Fields, Business Development Specialist

Theresa Fossett, Family Nutrition Education Programs (FNEP), Director

Sarah Havens, Southwest Regional Director

Jennifer Lutes, Ag Business Specialist

Kelly McGowan, Horticulture Specialist

Amy Patillo, Labor & Workforce Development Specialist

Lisa Robinson, Reg. Economic Development Specialist

Abi Rogers, Business Development Specialist

Allen Waldo, Missouri APEX Accelerator Specialist

Council members

Michelle Kleeman, Chairman

Jake Douglas, Vice-chairman

Sarah McGehee, Secretary

Theresa Johnson, Treasurer

Linda Crane, Member

Susan Hawks, Member

Tanya Haubein, Member

Chance Kleeman, Farm Bureau

Nancy Rasmussen, City of Lockwood

Bruce Roseman, Member

James Stewart, Member

Brian White, Eastern Commissioner

Youth Representatives

Brea Burton, Youth Representative

Kolton Kleeman, Youth Representative

County executives



Jake O'Connor, Western Commissioner

Brian White, Eastern Commissioner

Kim Kinder, Presiding Commissioner

Budget and more

Appropriations budget

Income	
County Appropriations	24,833
Refund/Rebate	478
Total Income	25,309
Expenses	
Salaries/Benefits	19,405
Travel	1,188
Postage	687
Telephone	548
Office Supplies/Service	641
Insurance	1,673
Annual Meeting	243
Capital Repairs	292
Total Expenses	24,676

Return on investment

University System	1,161
Donations	6,380
Program Revenue	3,431

Local Support

Did you know you can donate directly to Dade County Extension with a gift to be used immediately or as an endowment contribution for long term efforts. Monies put into the endowment are left forever to earn interest with the county office benefiting each year. You can also direct your donation to a specific program such as 4-H or Master Gardeners.

Dade County partners

Ag Properties
Arvest Bank
Dade County Commission
Dade County Health Department
Dade County Senior Center
Dade County Soil & Water Conservation District
Missouri Farm Bureau
Great Southern Bank
Heritage Tractor
Missouri Department of Agriculture
Natural Resource Conservation Service
Ozark Area Community Action Corporation
Pennington Seed
S&H Farm Supply
Simmons Bank
Southwest AG
Top Notch Excavating
Warren Agri-Products

MU Extension is a unique funding partnership.

Extension funding is a three-way partnership of federal, state and county government. Federal and state money, through the University of Missouri system, pay professional staff salaries, training costs, computers and communication equipment. County funds support the local office, secretarial and youth assistant salaries, staff mileage and council expenses.

The Dade County Extension Council, faculty and staff would like to express our appreciation to the Dade County Commissioners for their continued support of extension programs.

Dade County



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

UM System Footprint in the county in 2024



FY24 county students

9 students

- 8 Undergraduates
- 1 Graduate and professional student
- 7 Full-time students
- 2 Part-time students



County employees and retirees

6 people employed by UM

- 6 Campuses

5 UM retirees and beneficiaries
 UM salary and retirement income:
 \$408,247
 UM state tax revenue: \$11,420
 UM federal tax revenue: \$52,139



County alumni

Selected school alumni

- 2 Medicine
- 5 Nursing
- 7 Health Professions
- 3 Dentistry
- 2 Pharmacy
- 1 Optometry
- 4 Veterinary Medicine
- 21 Agriculture
- 16 Engineering
- 4 Law

Alumni teaching K-12

- 4 teachers
- 3.4% of all district teachers
- 1 principal or administrator
- 11.1% of all district principals and administrators



County breakdown

MU

- 6 students
- 58 alumni
- 6 employees

UMKC

- 0 students
- 14 alumni
- 0 employees

Missouri S&T

- 3 students
- 17 alumni
- 0 employees

UMSL

- 0 students
- 4 alumni
- 0 employees



County properties and offices

MU Extension in: Dade County



County population: 7,627



County services provided

Health care (FY24)

- 31 in-state patients seen at MU Health Care, with \$55,108 of uncompensated care
- 1 in-state patient seen at UMKC School of Dentistry with a statewide average of \$52.57 per patient in uncompensated care
- MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network recorded 77 visits to 33 patients having ZIP codes associated with the county

Extension (2023)

- 2,773 Total educational contacts from MU Extension to residents of the county, including:
 - 100 contacts related to productive farming, better gardening, and managing natural resources
 - 2,646 contacts related to healthy eating and aging, strengthening families, personal finance, or youth development
 - 11 contacts related to starting businesses, developing community leaders, or renewing the local economy

Dade County



University of Missouri System
COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS

UM System Statewide Footprint

Economic and Community Development Highlights

- In FY23, Business Development Specialists worked with small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide to create or retain 98,527 jobs.

\$3.1
billion

For every dollar invested from 2019 to 2021, the MU Extension Business Development Program has returned \$133 in economic impact for its clients by increasing sales more than \$1.6 billion. For a total impact of \$3.1 billion, the program has generated more than 37,000 jobs and attracted nearly \$451 million in capital investments and \$1.5 billion in government contracts.

- Between FY18 and FY23, UM System brought Missouri more than \$1.58 billion in federal and private research funds, funded primarily from outside the state, but spent within the state.



In FY24, UM System was issued 29 patents and filed 69 new U.S. patent applications.

- In FY24, the UM System awarded 707 design and construction project contracts throughout Missouri, for a total investment of \$287.3 million in the state.



In FY24, to improve access to medical and health related services, MU Health Care's Missouri Telehealth Network's Show-Me ECHO program provided 16,687 hrs of case-based instruction to 3,113 learners located in 105 of 114 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis.

Education and Training Provided



40,542 police, fire fighters, and medical professionals attending continuing education (2023)



Agriculture and natural resource programs served 369,077 farmers and related businesses (2023)

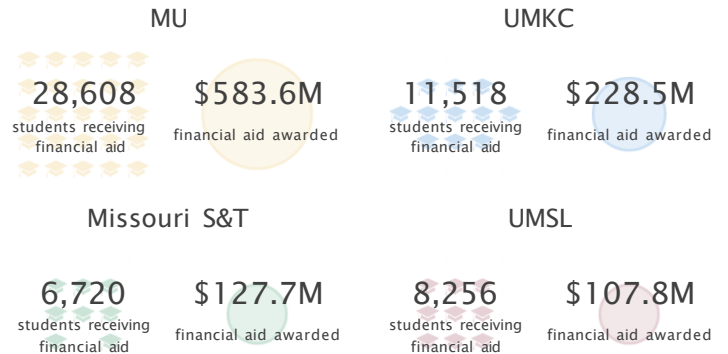


210,577 youth and stakeholder educational contacts in 4-H clubs, schools, camps and other programs (2023)

Education Highlights

FY24 Financial Aid Awards

In FY24, 69.7% of the UM System's 79,014 students received financial aid totaling \$1.048 billion



UM System's MOREnet (Missouri Research and Education Network) provides internet connectivity, access, support and training to 58 higher education institutions (230,000 students), 484 K-12 school districts (830,000 students) and 134 public libraries (serving nearly 3 million Missourians) in 2023.

- UM System awarded 50.5% of the 31,689 Bachelor's or higher degrees awarded by Missouri four-year public institutions in 2023-24.
- UM System awarded 35.0% of the 1,776 research doctorates and 26.8% of the 3,796 professional doctorates awarded by Missouri public and not-for-profit private institutions in 2023-24.
- In FY24, UM System's \$30.7 million in National Science Foundation (NSF) grants represented 96.9% of all NSF grants made to Missouri public colleges and universities.
- In 2024, over 12,400 Missourians accessed mobroadband.org, part of the UM System Broadband Initiative which helped the statewide build-out of high-speed internet infrastructure.

Supporting the University of Missouri is an investment in the future of Missouri.

The university advances Missouri citizens and communities through its mission of teaching, research, public service, and economic development across our four campuses and University of Missouri Extension.

Prepared in December 2024, based on the best available and most recent data. Data Sources include: Missouri Office of Administration · UM IR · MU Institute for Public Policy · Center for Applied Research and Engagement Systems (CARES) · MU · UMKC · Missouri S&T · UMSL · UM System · UM Health Care · MU Extension · US Census Bureau · US Dept. of Health and Human Services · National Science Foundation



Missouri Grand Challenges: Local Solutions



DADE COUNTY

Knowing Missouri's Needs

MU Extension asked Missourians to share the greatest challenges they and their communities face.

We heard that feedback and made big changes in the way we work with council and local partners to improve lives. Locally, a network of county engagement and subject matter specialists now share MU's knowledge, research and engagement, targeting programs, information and assistance in:

- agriculture and environment
- youth and family
- business and community
- health and safety

For each grand challenge, MU Extension and Engagement targets a specific gain by 2023:



Economic opportunity

Increase MU Extension and Engagement's economic impact to the State of Missouri from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion overall, and from \$88 billion to \$100 billion in agriculture, the top economic sector



Educational access and excellence

Increase participation in postsecondary education from 66% to 70%



Health and well-being

Improve Missouri's health ranking from 40th to 35th in the nation

Knowing Local Challenges



CHALLENGE 1: Economic Opportunity: *Economic Mobility*

Average Earnings per Job

Average earnings per job can reflect the type of economy, skill of employees, and availability of jobs and workers in an area. Average earnings is calculated by dividing total full-time and part-time employment by total earnings. Earnings is the sum of three components of personal income--wages and salaries, supplements to wages and salaries, and proprietors' income. Full-time and part-time jobs are counted at equal weight. Both employment for wages and salaries and proprietors employment are included, but the employment of unpaid family workers and volunteers is not included. Average earnings per job is a measure of the wages paid at jobs in the county not the earnings of people who live in the county. The dollar figures shown are not adjusted for inflation.

2022 Average Earnings (\$)

\$41,315

Dade



Missouri

\$62,528 🙄

Data Source: US [Department of Commerce, US Bureau of Economic Analysis Regional Economic Accounts, 2007-2022](#).

Cost-Burdened Households (30%)

Cost-burdened households, where housing costs exceed 30% of total annual household income, is one measure of the relationship between cost of living and income. Households with high housing costs have fewer dollars remaining for other expenditures and are more likely to live paycheck-to-paycheck. The 22.65% of households in the report area are considered cost-burdened. This is below the state average of 25.15%.

Cost-Burdened Households, Percent

22.65%

Dade

Missouri

25.15%

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey](#), 2018-22.

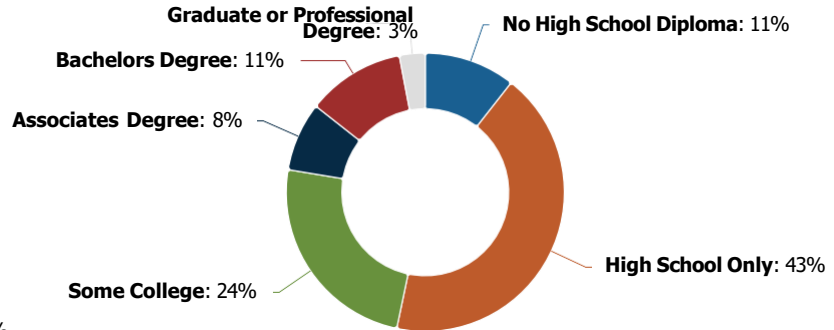


CHALLENGE 2: Educational Access and Excellence: *Educational Attainment*

Adult Educational Attainment

Educational attainment shows the distribution of the highest level of education achieved in the report area, and helps schools and businesses understand the needs of adults, whether it be workforce training or the ability to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics opportunities. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25 and is an estimated average for the period from 2017 to 2021.

In the report area, 24.3% of adults have at least some college education and 19.4% of adults have an associate's level degree or higher. However, 42.7% stopped their formal educational attainment after completing high school, and 10.6% of adults did not complete high school.



No High School Diploma

10.59%

Missouri

8.69%

Dade

Data Source: US Census Bureau, [American Community Survey, 2018-22](#).

Data Source: [US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2018-22](#).



CHALLENGE 3: Healthy Futures: *Access to Care*

Mental Health Care Providers

Mental health is a critical public health issue worldwide. Access to mental health services is a challenge across Missouri, which ranks 46 out of 51 states in provider access. In the trio there are approximately 5 credentialed professionals providing mental health care to serve the area's 7,569 residents. The patient-provider ratio in the report area is 1,514 to 1, which means there is 1 provider for every 1,514 persons. The ratio of persons to providers in the report area is higher than the state average of 346:1, which means there are fewer providers per person in this area.

Primary Care Providers

Older adults make up a historically large percentage of the U.S. population and meeting the healthcare needs of an aging population can be challenging. In the report area, there are approximately 5 primary care physicians (MDs and DOs) to serve the area's 1,850 residents over the age of 65. The patient-provider ratio in the report area is 370:1, which means there is 1 provider for every 370 older adults. The ratio of adults to providers in the report area is higher than the state average of 250:1, which means there are fewer providers per person in this area.

Ratio (Population to Providers)

1,514:1

Missouri

346:1

Dade

Rate per 100,000 Seniors

270.30

Missouri

399.40

Dade

Data Source: [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS - National Plan and Provider Enumeration System \(NPPES\), December 2024](#).

Data Source: US Department of Health & Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, [HRSA - Area Health Resource File, 2021](#).



CHALLENGE 4: Agricultural Growth & Stewardship: *Food Security & Access*

The ability to access healthy and affordable food can be a challenge in Missouri’s rural and urban communities alike — with negative impacts on people’s health and food security status. Food insecurity is the lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life. It is associated with many adverse social and health outcomes. Missouri’s overall food insecurity rate is 11.8% — and 12.8% for children under age 18. More than half of Missouri’s 114 counties and the City of St. Louis report food insecure populations of 12.6% or higher. Multiple interventions that address the root causes of food insecurity can impact this critical public health issue. Learn more at the [Food Security Story Map](#).

Population Living in a Food Desert

58.83%

Dade

Missouri

17.69%

Data Source: US Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, [USDA - Food Access Research Atlas](#), 2019.



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs

Missouri 4-H for ages 8 – 18



Missouri 4-H Agriculture and STEM programs

employ hands-on activities that foster problem-solving, creativity, critical thinking and exploration in engineering and technology. Agriculture programming emphasizes biology, environmental science, agri-science, veterinary science and engaging activities such as animal care and agronomy. STEM programs delve into computer science, robotics, aerospace, physics, chemistry and veterinary science.



4-H's Leadership and Civic Engagement programs

foster understanding, confidence and decision-making skills to empower youths to become informed and active young citizens. 4-H civic engagement initiatives prepare young people to become future leaders by engaging them in programs where they have voice and influence.



Community clubs are organized by volunteer club leaders and teams of recognized volunteers. Members attend club meetings, elect officers, enroll in projects and plan learning and community service activities. Some clubs opt to be single-project clubs, where all members focus on the same project.



Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Local Impact

2023-2024 4-H Annual Report Information

A community of 295 youth building life skills, contributing to their community, and becoming college and career ready.

Common Measures

Findings from a 2021-2022 evaluation study shows that Missouri 4-H:

Missouri 4-H Inspires Kids to Do

98% said they are willing to work hard on something difficult.

91% set personal goals.

97% said they try to learn from their mistakes.

98% said they treat others the way they want to be treated.

Missouri 4-H Grows True Leaders

97% said they like to learn about people who are different from them.

93% said they think about others feelings before they say something.

75% reported feeling comfortable being a leader

4-H Builds Leadership and Communication Skills

95% help others reach their goals.

86% comfortable speaking in a group.

99% said they show respect for other's ideas.

85% Can work with someone who made them upset.

95% Look for ways to involve all members of a group.

4-H Builds Social and Emotional Skills

94% said they keep trying until they reach their goals.

89% Stop to think about their choices when making a decision.

97% reported that they like to learn new things.

91% of Missouri 4-H'ers surveyed said they are willing to try something they might get wrong.

4-H clubs

4-H programs are grounded in the belief that youth learn best by doing. Through hands-on projects in areas like science, health, agriculture, and civic engagement in a positive environment youth receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles. Youth have the opportunity to concentrate on one focus area, or they can try a variety of programs throughout their 4-H experience.

Regardless of how youth participate, all 4-H programs include mentoring and career readiness as core elements.

- 4-H participants = 295
 - **Duplicates not removed.*
- 4-H Community Clubs = 71 members: offer in-depth educational experiences in which members learn life skills such as decision making, public speaking, and working with others. Members learn by doing this under the guidance of adult volunteers, who lead a wide variety of projects that support 4-H members in finding their SPARK.
- 4-H In School Community Clubs = 224 participants, SPIN (special interest) clubs, In school and Afterschool Clubs, and school enrichment. Families and communities can choose what fits their needs.

Volunteers

- 4-H members are supported by 45 youth and adult volunteers
- Time valued at about \$150,705
- Volunteers are the core of the 4-H Program. They help to create, support, and deliver educational programs and experiences. Missouri 4-H volunteers report contributing an average of 100 hours per year to the program. Valuing their time at \$33.49 per hour (Independent Sector, 2024), the contribution of Newton 4-H volunteers was worth about \$150,000 in 2024. More importantly, these individuals serve as role models and mentors for youth.

Dade County

Missouri 4-H

Local Impact

Frank Graham 4-H Volunteer Leadership Award 2024

The Frank Graham 4-H Volunteer Leadership award recognizes exemplary volunteers for their hard work and dedication to helping Missouri youth grow. It is named for Frank Graham who served as director of MU Extension 4-H Center for Youth Development from 1958-1975. During his 33 years of service, Graham was an avid supporter of volunteer leadership, believing that a volunteer is the foundation of the 4-H program. Vicky Taylor is the 2024 recipient.



Vicky Taylor – Frank Graham Award

Regional 4-H Camp – Camp Smokey June 2024

Since the 1940's Southwest Missouri 4-H have been camping at Camp Smokey in Roaring River State Park at Cassville. This year 18 Dade County Members participated in 4-H Camp.



Ozark Empire Fair exhibits

Dade County Youth Fair – Lockwood June/July 2024

For several years, Dade County 4-H Achievement Day has been held with the Dade County Youth Fair. This year 30 4-H members participated in Achievement Day and 15 4-H members showed livestock at the Dade County Youth Fair.

Ozark Empire Fair July 2024

58 projects were selected to be exhibited by 31 members. Receiving 46 Blues, 10 Red, 2 Clover Kids, 2 Grand Champions and 4 Reserve Champions. Nilah Cossins "Cat House" and Hailey Graham's "Ducks" on Pond photo received Grand Champion ribbons. Maria Schnelle's "Snickerdoodle Cookie", Hailey Graham's "Ducks on Pond" photo, and Koen Lilienkamp's "Hanging Basket Stand" received Reserve Champion ribbons, with Koen's "Hanging Basket Stand" receiving Best in Show.

Missouri State Fair August 2024

31 projects were chosen to be exhibited by 20 members. All receiving purple ribbons.

Missouri State Fair Farm Family 2024. Each year, the MU Extension in Dade County and the Dade County Farm Bureau select a local farm family, who are active in their communities, involved in agriculture and/or who participate in local outreach and extension programs such as 4-H or FFA. Josh, Corry, Wriston, Grayson, and Corbin Worthington represented Dade County in 2024



2024 Missouri State Fair Farm Family - Worthington

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs, promotes problem-solving, critical thinking, and innovation. Greenfield Elementary grades 4, 5, and 6, have been participating in a monthly in school activity. One main project is renovating the community garden.

Dade County

Missouri 4-H

Profiles and Stories

Busy Bee 4-H – A Year in Review

On March 10, over 20 Busy-Bee 4-H members enjoyed a trip to Urban Air in Springfield.

It was a beautiful evening on April 14 as Busy-Bee 4-H picked up trash along highway 160 west of Lockwood.

In June, several members enjoyed attending 4-H Camp and 18 members were present for the county achievement day on June 29.

Our July meeting was held at the Lockwood pool on July 13.

In October, Busy Bee 4-H held the annual glow run at Harvest Homecoming Festival and had over 25 participants.

Also in October, the club attended church at Immanuel Lutheran Church and then hosted a Prayers and Potatoes Fundraiser.

Busy-Bee 4-H Club held a bake sale at the Lockwood Chamber of Commerce Merchant's Night to raise money to buy gifts for nursing home residents. A total of \$275 was raised and used to purchase gifts for 9 residents.

They also sang Christmas carols at the Good Shepherd Nursing Home in December prior to the club Christmas party and won first place in the Christmas parade with their cowboy themed "Yahoo! It's Christmas!" float.



Field trip to Urban Air



4-H Camp at Roaring River



"Yahoo! It's Christmas" parade



Prayers and Potatoes Fundraiser



2024 Glow Run

Dade County

Missouri 4-H

Profiles and Stories

Dadeville 4-H – A Year in Review



Graham Hailey Reserve Champion award



Arts & Crafts project



Baker's MSF participation Success



Community Service project



Quilting project



Veterinary Science project



MFA Oil Grant awarded



Cooking project



Bowling Party project



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Agriculture and Environment**



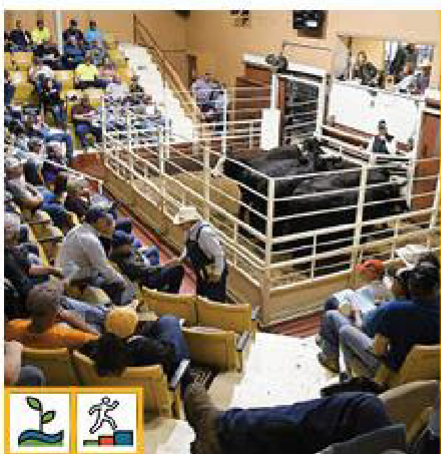
The Missouri Integrated Pest Management Program (IPM), funded by USDA grants, has been an important extension program for more than 30 years. Mizzou IPM distributes articles, pest monitoring data and publications on how to improve the application of integrated pest management strategies and systems in crops. In addition, the new Soybean Growth Monitoring Report is released through IPM every two weeks during the growing season.

The MU Soil Testing Program delivers research-based nutrient and lime recommendations to more than 32,500 customers annually.



Missouri Grazing Schools teach management-intensive grazing by dividing large fields into smaller paddocks and systematically rotating livestock among them. Producers who attend the grazing schools learn how to reduce costs through improved livestock grazing and pasture management while getting insights into fencing, watering systems and grazing system design.

The annual impact of management-intensive grazing is estimated to be \$125 MILLION per year in Missouri.



The Missouri Show-Me-Select Replacement Heifer Program strives to enhance beef herd reproductive efficiency, boost farm income and establish dependable sources of quality replacement cows in Missouri. The program brings in the power of animal genomics through an enhanced DNA-option, Show-Me-PLUS.



Since its inception more than 900 FARMS have enrolled, with an estimated statewide impact of \$200 MILLION.

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Dade County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact

Farm Visits and County Office Interactions

University of Missouri Field Specialists in Agronomy, Dairy, Livestock and Ag Business offer local farmers and producers individualized education via in-person interaction, phone calls, email, and farm visits to answer agricultural related questions. This education helps farmers and producers make important management decisions for their farms and businesses and helps improve the overall management of Missouri's important natural resources and agriculture production.



Fall armyworm on soybeans from a farm visit.

Pesticide Applicator Training

University of Missouri Extension provides initial pesticide applicator training and recertification of Missouri's agricultural producers that desired a private pesticide applicator license. This training is for producers wanting to purchase and apply restricted-use pesticides. Private Pesticide Applicator Training program is a vital educational program that focuses on providing knowledge of the safe and proper use of agricultural pesticides as well as the legal requirements associated with application. During 2024, Micah Doubledee along with other specialists and office personnel provided in-person and online pesticide applicator training classes and 39 people from Dade County participated in the program.



Forage & Crops Conference

99th Dade County Forage and Crop Conference

Agronomist Micah Doubledee hosted the Dade County Forage and Crop Conference in Lockwood, MO for local Dade County farmers as well as people of the community. This conference featured 3 speakers who spoke on a variety of topics focusing on Building Back What We Lost in our Forage Systems, Overview of Native Grass Establishment, What Killed the Cow (Toxic plants to livestock) . Participants received a free dinner from Hillbilly Express BQ, Dadeville. A total of 51 people attend the Conference with, and 9 sponsors contributed money.

Soil Testing and Plant Testing

University of Missouri County Extension offices offer soil testing and plant testing via the soil testing lab and plant disease diagnostic lab in Columbia, MO for Missouri landowners, farmers, gardeners, commercial and agricultural producers. The results from soil tests give producer insight into the pH level, available phosphorus, potassium, calcium and magnesium; organic matter; acidity and cation exchange of their soil. Soil reports also offer educational advice and recommendations from the soil lab and local extension specialists to help producers make important agricultural decisions regarding soil fertilization for intended crops and potential yield goals. In 2024, 52 pasture and 7 garden samples were submitted through the Dade County office.

Crop Scouting Program

Agronomist Micah Doubledee continued the weekly crop scouting program which informs producers of pest and disease threats during the growing season by scouting fields Barton, Jasper and Dade Counties. Participants pay \$35 dollars a year to join the program to have their fields scouted. A 2- to 3-page report is sent out via email to the participants discussing scouting observations and research-based information on topics such as environmental issues, nutrient deficiencies, plant diseases, pest identification and management, pictures, resource and video links, upcoming Ag events and more. This report is also sent to the Lamar Democrat paper the following week for other local farmers and residents to read. In 2024, 15 producers actively participated in the program. Participants were from Barton, Dade, Jasper and Newton counties.



Fusarium head blight on wheat from crop scouting program.

Dade County

Agriculture and Environment

Local Impact

Cattle Winter Feeding and Pasture Management Workshop

27 people were educated on winter management of cattle and pastures for success in the next grazing season. The goal was that cattle producers would utilize knowledge on their operation to be successful through the winter and the coming grazing season.

Feeder Cattle Grading, Marketing and Feeding Workshop

This workshop was part of the Missouri Steer Feedout Program and was provided in cooperation with Barton County MO Cattlemen's Association, Show Me Youth Ag Academy, and Missouri State University. This workshop educated Steer Feedout participants and approximately 60 people on grading, pricing and marketing feeder cattle using the 43 steers from 6 farms in the Steer Feedout. Furthermore, participants were educated on feeding these cattle in the feedlot. 6 Dade countians attended this workshop.

Missouri Steer Feedout

This program is designed to provide hands on education to cattle producer in feeding cattle in the feedlot. Furthermore, it allows these producers to received carcass and feedlot performance data on the steers that can be used in marketing their cattle and making management decisions, so their cattle perform better and are more profitable post weaning. Also, this program is being used in education of youth at the high school level. Dade county had 3 farms enroll 20 steers that will be marketed in the summer of 2025. Also, the steers are being fed at a cooperating feedyard in the county.

Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Days

This program is a cooperative effort between veterinary clinics, pharmaceutical companies and MU Extension. Bull testing periods are in the spring and fall where the bull goes through a breeding soundness exam and is provided vaccinations at a reduced cost. Bull owners receive handouts and education from MU Extension on prior breeding season bull management. In the spring 3 bull owners in Dade county tested 19 bulls and 1 bull failed while the other 18 bulls were satisfactory to breed. This 1 owner can replace the bull that failed which should help that cattle producer have optimum pregnancy rates in the coming breeding season. In the fall 3 bull owner in the county tested 15 bulls, and all bulls were satisfactory to breed. This process educated the cattle producer letting them know that they are using bulls that should provide optimum pregnancy rates during the breeding season.

Hickory County Cattlemen's Bus Tour

This bus tour educated 35 people on various aspects of agriculture and that cattle industry through stops at cattle operations, sheep operations, colleges, stockyards, and cotton processing facilities. These tour locations were in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas. 4 Dade countians attended the tour. The goal of the tour is that participants of the tour will take knowledge back to use in their own farming operations to help make them successful.



Winter Feeding / Pasture management Workshop



Missouri Steer Feedout



Bull Breeding Soundness



Cattlemen's Bus Tour

Dade County

Agriculture and Environment

Profiles and Stories

Match Made in Heaven: Livestock + Crops - Building Relationships – Listening for Common Ground – Integrating Crops & Livestock. A Field Day was held at Dave Haubein's farm, where he has a system of cover crops aerially seeded into corn stalks and grazed with beef cattle in the fall and spring with up to 5# day gain on the cattle! His diverse mix of 8+ species, also creates a haven for migratory birds and attracts turkeys during hunting season. He shared the impact these practices have had on his soil, increasing organic matter from 1-3% over 4 years. Dade county had 2 attendees.

Poultry Processing at the SW Research, Extension, and Education Center – Field Day

The MU Extension Value-Added Meats Team organized and conducted a poultry processing demonstration during SWREEC Field Day. The team guided 379 high school students and teachers through each step of poultry processing, including slaughter, scalding, plucking, evisceration, chilling, and cutting. Dade county had 5 participants.



SW Research Field Day

Commercial Horticulture's goal is to enhance community well-being by supporting both beginning and experienced farmers through impartial, science-driven education, resources, and technical aid. Our goal is to equip clients with research-based information that will enable their success in gardening and farming endeavors.

Specific objectives include Encouraging the establishment of new specialty crop farm ventures in Missouri. Improving farm management by promoting sustainable practices that benefit the community, are viable for farmers, and are environmentally responsible. Connecting beginning and established specialty crop farmers to educational, community, and governmental resources for growth, marketing, and sales. Providing high-quality, unbiased information to support informed decision-making in crop production, management, sales, and marketing. Actively listening to growers to identify needs and challenges, guiding program development, delivery, and research. Removing barriers and improving access for underserved farmer demographics. Measuring impacts of farmers through increased participation local food systems, stronger farmer connections, and improved community health. Continuing to support local produce farmers and maintaining our role as a trusted resource in the counties we serve.

As a cohesive team, our shared motivation revolves around creating a program that profoundly impacts our specialists, farmers, and local communities. We are driven by the following collective goals: **Meaningful Impact:** We aspire to build a program that genuinely matters, benefiting the farmers and communities we serve. **Sustainable Solutions:** Our passion lies in assisting growers, enabling them to overcome challenges and achieve economic, environmental, and social sustainability. **Continuous Learning and Connection:** We value learning new skills and fostering connections—both among ourselves and with local growers. **Community-Centric Approach:** Our flexibility allows us to address the diverse needs of our entire community, extending beyond commercial growers. **Legacy and Success:** We find motivation in contributing to the success of those we support.

Small Fruit Production Webinar Series – Berries and Grapes had 1 Dade county participant. Practical Advice from Successful Farmers had 7 Dade county participants. Growing Tree Fruit, Nut Crops, and Syrup Trees had 1 Dade county participant.



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Business and Community**



CLIENT HIGHLIGHT



LOCS
— OF —
GLORY

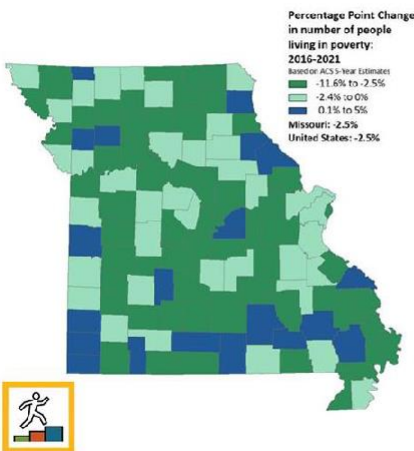
The **Missouri Small Business Development Centers** (SBDC) provide professional training and customized one-on-one counseling to small businesses across the state. Working with the Missouri SBDC helps business owners make confident decisions.

FY2020-2022, Missouri SBDC ASSISTED 878 STARTUPS and helped Missouri small businesses earn more than \$440 MILLION.



Missourians from all walks of life celebrated the **2023 Missouri Good Neighbor Week**, Sept. 28 to Oct. 4, by completing and reporting neighboring acts and nominating others as the most engaged neighbors in their counties.

In 2023, the goal was to document 15,000 acts of neighboring. That goal was surpassed with 19,752 Missourians being positively affected during MISSOURI GOOD NEIGHBOR WEEK.



The **Missouri Economy Indicators (MEI)** series explores business, industry and workforce topics that affect Missouri's economy. The data is shared through newsletters and on social media. MU Extension faculty and staff receive talking points and collateral to share with local stakeholders.

In 2022, MEI published 15 issues, and MEI online resources were accessed MORE THAN 5,000 TIMES. Two out of five MEI newsletter recipients reported using the information to help guide policy or decision-making in their work.

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Dade County

Business and Community

Local Impact

Missouri Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

The Missouri SBDC at Missouri Southern State University provides support to Dade County entrepreneurs and small business owners through 1:1 assistance and training. Over the course of 2024, our office met with clients to discuss a wide range of topics including:

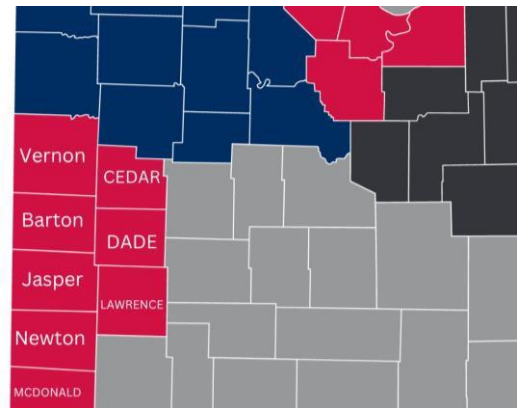
- Starting a business
- Cash flow management
- Business loan refinance and expansion
- Business relocation
- Financial planning
- Marketing and social media strategy
- Purchasing a business
- Childcare grant application assistance
- International expansion opportunities
- Technology commercialization
- Experiential projects linking MSSU students and business owners

Through leveraging regional partnerships, we are able to offer the following:

- Innovate SOMO
- Early-Stage Boot Camp
- Government contracting assistance
- Identification of grant opportunities effecting businesses due to imports

Key Outcome

- ✓ 5 Business owners received multiple 1:1 consulting sessions regarding their small businesses
- ✓ 32 Jobs retained
- ✓ 1 Government contract awarded to small businesses in Dade County



The Missouri SBDC at Missouri Southern State University serves 8 counties in southwest Missouri (highlighted).

Regional Highlights

\$15,900

Government contracts secured through the assistance of APEX (formerly MO PTAC)

\$15,900

Increase in sales for client companies through the assistance of the SBDC

Learn more about our latest programs and training

sbdc@mssu.edu

417-625-3128

www.mssutraining.com

Dade County

Business and Community

Profiles and Stories

Regional Economic Development Summit

Dade County Extension Council participated in Broadband Breakthrough during July and August 2024. Lisa Robinson, Field Specialist in Regional Economic Development worked closely with Council Chair Michelle Kleeman.

Collaboration with Benton Institute for Broadband and Society, REID Consulting Group, and Show Me Broadband focused efforts to ensure the county surveys accurately reflected current Internet accessibility throughout the county.

Dade County was one of three counties as a focus for a Regional Economic Development Summit that was held at the Southwest Research Extension and Education Center on September 3, 2024, and recorded the highest participation percentage of the of the twelve participating counties.

Sixty-nine individuals attended the Summit. They learned about Extension services available and met several Specialists who serve the county.

Collaborative presenters included USDA Rural Development, Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development, Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG), Crowder College Training and Development Solutions, Innovate SOMO and Codefi, Missouri Small Business Development Center from MSU and MSSU, Springfield Regional Economic Partnership, and chambers from the three counties.



2024 Regional Economic Development Summit

Missouri Good Neighbor Week 2024

Snapshot of Results



Named "Neighboring Program of the Year" in 2023 by Neighborhoods USA



82 +

Service Events

These groups — including 67 MU Extension county councils — worked together to serve their neighbors.



7891 +

Visitors to website

to learn more about what it means to be an engaged neighbor in Missouri.



5 Cities

were named the most neighborly

Based on points accumulated this week:

Houston, Excelsior Springs, Sikeston, Springfield and Ferguson.

122

People were nominated as one of Missouri's Most Engaged Neighbor.

Missourians really appreciate neighbors that go the extra mile.

31,129

Missourians Impacted

by acts of neighboring done & reported during Missouri Good Neighbor Week 2024. (Up from 19,853 in 2023)

2.6 million

Impressions from TV PSAs, interviews, radio, podcasts & 18 newspaper columns statewide.



13

proclamations done by towns and cities in support of Missouri Good Neighbor Week.

2896

People involved in an act of neighboring.

Everything from mowing yards to delivering cookies to first responders. Many times more than one person was involved.



<http://missourigoodneighborweek.com>

2023 Leader's Honor Roll

The Leaders Honor Roll program is intended to honor outstanding community leaders and volunteers who have excelled in supporting, educating, and advancing MU Extension or 4-H in their communities and Counties. They are those who's community leadership efforts support the University of Missouri Extension's strategic direction and program priorities to enhance economic viability, build strong individuals, families and communities, create and sustain healthy environments. Missy Netzer is Dade Counties 2023 recipients.



Missy Netzer 2023 Leaders Honor Roll



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU** through credible statewide programs **Continuing Education**



The programming from the **MU Fire and Rescue Training Institute** (FRTI) is available to all qualified fire and emergency first responders. Seventy percent of courses are held at the local departments or agencies. With most of the state's fire service personnel considered volunteer or part-time, this local access and flexibility assures training opportunities for all firefighters and emergency responders.

This **introductory course for new fire service personnel** acquaints participants with the basics of fireground duties. Discussions address fire service history, organization, fireground safety, and fire behavior. We will discuss and demonstrate basic hose practices, ground ladder practices, ventilation techniques and introduce proper procedures for using self-contained breathing apparatus and fire service hand tools. Practical evolutions designed to reinforce participants' skills are included. Dade county had 1 participant.

Large Area Search Team Training (L.A.S.T.) covers searching large areas quickly and utilizing all of the latest technologies available. Lessons include putting a face piece on a downed firefighter, transfill air to a downed firefighter, use of thermal imaging camera for quick searches of downed and lost firefighters, air conservation drills, and considerations for successful deployment of L.A.S.T. Dade county had 2 participants.

The University of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute's (MU FRTI) **Winter Fire School** has been the premier annual fire service event and consistently hosts the largest gathering of emergency professionals in Missouri. MU FRTI addresses the issues and challenges that are critical to all emergency services at Winter Fire School with in-depth workshops and courses for individuals in their profession. Dade county had 6 participants.

The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) **Electric Vehicle Safety Training Project** is providing firefighters and first responders with the information and materials necessary to respond to emergency situations involving electric vehicles. This training will help first responders identify electric vehicles and respond to common hazards. Topics include myths versus reality with regard to hybrid electric vehicles (HEV), plug-in hybrid electric (PHEV) and electric vehicle safety concerns (EV); basic electric concepts and hazards; vehicle systems and safety features; initial response procedures; and emergency operations. Dade county had 2 participants.

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being



MU EXTENSION **Serves MISSOURI and Delivers MIZZOU**
 through credible statewide programs
Health and Human Sciences



Stay Strong, Stay Healthy teaches older adults basic exercises to boost strength, balance and overall daily functionality. Participants also gain insights into nutrition and wellness for healthy aging and active living.

After eight weeks, Stay Strong, Stay Healthy participants significantly IMPROVED their STRENGTH, BALANCE and SLEEP QUALITY.



Chronic Disease Self-Management programs offer evidence-based information for individuals and their caregivers to boost self-confidence in managing symptoms, enhancing quality of life and even reducing health care expenses.

These programs have undergone rigorous evaluation and are proven to be effective tools for individuals dealing with chronic conditions like arthritis, fibromyalgia, depression and diabetes.



Policy, systems, and environmental (PSE) changes encourage residents to improve community health by making healthy choices easier and more accessible. Residents design strategies around local needs, assets, and interests.

HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY leaders decided pantry clients needed access to healthier foods. Review of food procurement and display practices led to a new policy allocating **\$1,000** of pantry discretionary spending for **LOW-FAT DAIRY OR FRESH PRODUCE.**

Legend



Agricultural Growth & Stewardship



Economic Opportunity



Educational Access & Excellence



Health & Well-Being

Local Impact

Healthy Aging in Southwest Missouri

Jamie Eggerman, Nutrition and Health Education Specialist

Relevance

Falls are the leading cause of injury and death among adults aged 65 and older, as reported by the CDC. In Southwest Missouri, approximately 167,828 individuals (18.31% of the population) are aged 65 or older. This highlights the critical need for fall prevention programs and initiatives that support independent living within our communities. Motivated by this, I sought opportunities to engage with local residents and provide them with the tools necessary to reduce the risk of falls and promote healthy aging.



Information display table

Response

Through a variety of outreach efforts, I was able to impact over 250 individuals, ages 65 and older, through 50 sessions. A key event was the Freeman Health Fair, where I reached more than half of these individuals, focusing on fall prevention. During the event, I conducted balance assessments and discussed the importance of strength training in reducing fall risk. As a result, 20 participants committed to incorporating balance exercises into their weekly routines.

The Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program is an in-person strength training class that spans eight weeks and includes 16 sessions. The program is designed to engage participants in exercises that are proven to enhance muscle strength and help individuals maintain their independence for longer. Together with my colleagues, Hannah Whittaker and Eden Stewart, we facilitated several Stay Strong, Stay Healthy classes. Participants were highly motivated and committed to their personal progress throughout the course. By the final weeks, many participants were brainstorming ways to continue the practices they had learned and expressed interest in additional classes. We have received multiple requests to schedule more sessions in the future.

Results

All participants in the Stay Strong, Stay Healthy program completed pre- and post-surveys, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. However, the most rewarding aspect was hearing firsthand accounts of their personal growth. Participants shared stories about improvements in everyday activities, such as tying their shoes with greater ease, and expressed statements like, "I feel stronger." These personal experiences not only highlighted the success of the program but also fostered a sense of community among participants. Some individuals even discussed the possibility of carpooling to a future class in a neighboring area.

Educating over 200 individuals on the value of strength training for maintaining independence has been an incredibly fulfilling experience. It has reinforced the importance of the work we do within the Health and Human Sciences department at MU Extension and its impact on the lives of older adults in our region.



Stay Strong Stay Healthy class

Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/72/wr/mm7235a1.htm>

https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/acs/acs_general_handbook_2018_ch01.pdf

Local Impact

SNAP-Ed Public Value Statement 2024

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Education or SNAP-Ed) brought \$11,145,237 in federal funds to Missouri. The funds support engagement with 74,864 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients and eligible citizens of Missouri who learned about being active and healthy eating on a budget. This year we had 1,164,143 indirect educational contacts through newsletters, health fairs, food pantries, and the Show Me Nutrition helpline.

793 direct and 8169 indirect contacts were made in Dade County.

Participants in SNAP-Ed learn the importance of making healthier meals and snack choices, eating breakfast more often, are more willing to try new foods, increase their physical activity, and make healthier food choices. Those who practice healthy eating and are physically active are more likely to contribute to a healthy labor force and enjoy a high quality of life throughout the lifespan.

This vital programming effort also reduces healthcare costs over the participant's lifetime, saving taxpayer money in reduced public healthcare benefits and insurance premiums.

As I teach in the schools I hear from parents, teachers, and children as I see them again in the community. I had taught in a class where several of the children expressed their dislike of vegetables. We tasted sugar snap peas and cherry tomatoes in that class. After the series was completed, a parent emailed with the following statement: "We rarely get Jonsie to eat meat, and she mainly only eats raw carrots or fresh spinach or fresh tomatoes. Jack was eating frozen peas, she saw him and said "I love those! Mrs. Heather had us try them for our taste in nutrition class and I love them" Now she has another vegetable she'll eat thanks to your program!"

We began a community garden at OACAC in Dade County. We used the produce from the garden in part, for tastes in the programming I did. One gentleman, who has been resistant to using more fruits and vegetables, began try items he had planted and picked from the garden. By the end of the season, he approached me and informed me, he was making a large pot of soup each week filled with vegetables. He reported he feels better and has lost weight. He also reported he can tell when he slides back into his old eating patterns, because "I don't feel nearly as well as when I am eating fresh vegetables".



Show Me Nutrition – sugar snap peas



OACAC – community garden

Local Impact

Human Development and Family Science programming has focused on 6 distinct areas: aging well, families/parenting, childcare provider professional development, sense of belonging, mental health & well-being, emerging program: Sowing and Growing Hope. In 2024, 80 programs (123 sessions) were taught and reached 3,337 educational contacts in 73 counties and City of Saint Louis through direct Extension education teaching.

Aging Well in Missouri

The aging demographic in Missouri is large with a population statewide being 1,062,483 over the age of 65 with a population of 167,828 (18.31%) in the Southwest Region of Missouri (US Census Bureau). Given the significant number of those over 65, it is crucial to address their specific needs and challenges. Therefore, the University of Missouri Extension plays a vital role in this effort by providing education programs focused on healthy aging. These programs help to improve the quality of life for Missouri's aging population through the promotion of social engagement and overall well-being.

To enhance the quality of life for Missouri's aging population through education programs collaborations and various learning modalities were necessary. A total of 28 aging well programs (62 sessions) were conducted with 537 educational contacts.

The programs focused on promoting aging well, fall prevention, brain health, and aging in place. The programs used were Boost Your Brain and Memory, Chronic Disease Self-Management, Keep Your Keys, A Matter of Balance, and Alzheimer's programming. The programs implemented created connections which are illustrated below:

This program made me trade in my flip flops for better shoes. I will get a grab bar for my shower. I learned to slow down and take my time before getting up and turning." - Matter of Balance Participant 2024

"The Alzheimer's Association greatly values the partnership with MU Extension. I know that when Amber Allen is presenting one of our programs, that it's going to be great and impactful to the community. Amber recently presented for Adult Protective Services and the feedback I received was that it was "phenomenal". That says a lot! When we are asked to present in any community, I think of MU Extension first because I know it will be a high-quality presentation." - Program Manager, Alzheimer's Association, Greater Missouri Chapter

"I learned more about the brains activities, and how it effects me in daily life. Loved the trainer!"-Boost Your Brain and Memory Participant 2024

Dade County had 14 participants.

Abilities Awareness - The University of Missouri Extension, Missouri AgrAbility and ECHO Autism partner to bring expert advice and a place to connect those caring for or teaching someone with a developmental disability. The goal is to work together to build a support system connecting families and offering expert advice in rural Missouri. This program is free and open to anyone wanting to learn more about any developmental delay and those looking to find or provide support. Dade County had a total of 38 participants.

100 Miles, 100 Days – Is a no-cost movement program that helps motivate people to increase their physical activity throughout the 100 days of summer. Starting June 2024, people can start moving in whatever way they enjoy- biking, dancing or even strength training. Participants are asked to keep a log of their progress and set whatever goal they'd like that keeps them moving. Participants will receive weekly reminders and motivators. Dade County had 6 participants.