2022 Impact

Educator Meranda Small is working with the Idaho Beef Council to update Beef Quality Assurance programming efforts for cattle producers in Idaho. Five trainings have been provided, four are scheduled and another three are being planned. The Idaho Young Cattle Producer Conference completed its sixth year, with participants learning from and engaging with representatives from all segments of the Idaho cattle industry. The conference is in conjunction with the Idaho Cattle Association summer meeting, a partnership that continues to grow as planning begins for 2023.

Educator Kirstin Jensen collaborated with Partnership for Community Health to offer a community walking program offered virtually through Facebook. She presented educational videos for the challenge and provided weekly feedback. Jensen offered four Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) courses, certifying 76 participants. She also worked with colleagues to publish the Five for Five – 5 Minutes to Better Health physical activity add-on curriculum. The curriculum is designed to be offered in just five minutes with an overall goal of increasing the rate of physical activity for all ages. She also planned and conducted nine events for PICH Extreme Adventure Club, reaching 332 participants.

The Idaho Master Gardner program was offered with classes held each week on different topics including landscaping, soils, fruit trees, plant disease and insect management.

4-H in Idaho County

Idaho County has 18 4-H clubs and at least one club in each of the county’s seven communities. Over 400 youth participated in 4-H clubs in 2022 with over 100 adult volunteers leading the way. The Idaho County 4-H program has two teen leadership development groups. The Ambassador Program is a group for teens in 9-12 grades. Ten teens are selected each fall to participate in monthly meetings to develop leadership, public speaking and organizational skills. The M.O.D. Squad (Members of Distinction) is for teens in 7-8 grades. This group meets three times during the 4-H year and is designed for those who are ready to expand their leadership skills outside of club activities. Members of this group have a leadership role in county activities held throughout the year. Fifteen teens participated in 2022.

In addition to overnight camp, three day camps are offered. Food Science Day, Creative Sewing Day and Day Camp are all free of charge with all materials provided. 4-H'ers are encouraged to explore new project areas and meet other 4-H members.

On the Horizon

Distribution and presentation of the Five for Five curriculum is taking place. Beef Schools are being planned, with a focus on herd health and BQA Certification. YCC planning is beginning, and a survey is being developed for alumni to gain data on impact of participating in the program. Small is also in the process of team program planning with Nez Perce and Lewis counties.