2022 Impact

FCS Educator Lorie Dye taught classes on pressure cooker meals, a five-week food preservation course and nutrition classes in local elementary schools. She also presented a demonstration and hosted Mealtime Inspirations, an Eastern District FCS evening cooking event where FCS educators give a cooking, nutrition or food safety presentation. Dye contributes to a monthly newsletter on a nutrition or food safety issue. Many phone call questions were answered concerning food safety. Dye was awarded a $135,000 Idaho Community Program Grant (ARPA) addressing learning loss. Five interns were hired to teach 4-H curriculum-based programs at Harwood and Roberts Elementary Schools. These programs have been very successful reaching youth we have not been involved before.

For Educator Joseph Sagers, agricultural education was the main focus for University of Idaho Extension in Jefferson County. In-person classes were held for agricultural producers to learn more about forages, cereals, pest management, weed control, beef production and gardening. Jefferson County experienced several significant issues, such as drought and pest pressures. Sagers helped farmers navigate these issues through various research projects, consultation and letters of support to necessary entities. UI Extension is committed to helping agricultural producers in Jefferson County.

4-H in Jefferson County

UI Extension, Jefferson County has a strong 4-H program. The horse project has always been popular and is the largest horse program in the state. It is also the largest traditional 4-H project in the county, due to 4-H Assistant Sue Walker’s passion for youth to have a positive experience.

The shooting sports program continues to grow. 4-H Assistant Amanda Hickman coordinates the program in Jefferson County and is involved in the district program. She supports leaders in their training and helps establish clubs with needed equipment.

On the Horizon

Dye will continue teaching classes in food preservation, nutrition and cooking trends. She will continue to test pressure canning gauges and provide food preservation information to the county.

Sagers will continue providing educational opportunities to farmers in Jefferson County and respond to local needs as they arise.

The 4-H program will continue to grow and expand through the strong leadership and vision of 4-H assistants Walker and Hickman.