

# EXTENSION TRENDS: LATAH COUNTY

University of Idaho Extension, Latah County • [www.uidaho.edu/latah](http://www.uidaho.edu/latah)



## 2021 By the Numbers

- 8,100 direct contacts
- 600 youth participants
- 93 volunteers
- 791 volunteer hours
- \$26,527 extramural funding

## Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who inform the work we do for UI Extension in Latah County: Jodi McClory, Suvia Judd, Deb Berman, Susan Fluegel, Cathy Perillo, Guy Spencer, Sue Weaver, Linda Dewitt, Jonalea Hanson, Carla Wesson, Mark Heinlein, Tina Bass, Michelle Reynolds, Tammi Johnson, Stephanie Fletcher, Jennifer Ashmead, Jennifer Wallace, BJ Swanson, Kim Vogel, Marlys Wilson, Jenny Ford, Rusty Schatz and Barb Morris

## UI Extension Educators



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## 2021 Impact

The 2021 Pollinator Summit provided research-based information to over 200 stakeholders in small farming and horticulture. Educator Iris Mayes worked with community members and Master Gardeners at the community garden in Troy on various topics such as composting, transplanting and irrigation. The Harvest Heroes program was impactful for U.S. military veterans engaged in small acreage farming. The [Tuesday Community Market](#) is assisting economic growth for beginning farmers.

Mayes and Educator Sara Fluer delivered a Mental Health First Aid program to community members, furthering UI Extension's efforts to address mental health needs across the state.

Educator Karen Richel reframed how financial wellness programs were offered. Along with live conferences and classes she also eased stakeholders back into accepting and using financial information to help in real-time. This was a trial-and-error year with many planned events requiring modification or cancellation. Much of this was due to the pandemic and current economic conditions, however, more people have been asking for Extension help.

## 4-H in Latah County

The 4-H program expanded to reach new audiences with the addition of a quarter-time AmeriCorps member. Program highlights include a new partnership with the City of Moscow Parks and Recreation Kids Camp program; STEM programming offered countywide, reaching new youth audiences and community partners; the traditional summer overnight 4-H camp successfully returned, in cooperation with Nez Perce, Lewis, Clearwater and Idaho counties, to a brand new location at Camp Sanders; and multiple certified 4-H volunteers were brought on board to expand high-demand areas such as beef, sewing, horse, sheep, goat and robotics.

Mayes worked with teachers and students at the Moscow Middle School on the school garden program teaching horticulture topics in alignment with seasonal changes and factors. She also began implementation of the 4-H Healthy Habits program with MMS students in 2021.

## On the Horizon

Mayes will utilize the Tuesday Community Market to connect UI Extension with new stakeholders in the community. There is interest for pollinator habitat and Bee City USA and Mayes is working with several youth on various pollinator garden projects.

Our Financial Conference was held virtually in 2020 and 2021 and live in 2022. Financial organizations and businesses are thrilled with the event and an improved version of the conference is slated for April 2023. Richel has held financial education classes for pre-K-2 grade in the past and teachers have now asked her to create classes for 3-6 grade to bring financial training full circle (7-12 grade are educated with the That's Life simulation).

In the year ahead, the 4-H program will receive 12 LEGO Robotics Spike Essentials kits and tablets to provide engaging, curriculum-based STEM programming to youth. These kits are made possible through Idaho 4-H ARPA funding and will allow UI Extension, Latah County to reach early elementary age youth in a new capacity and build a robotics program from the ground up.