2021 Impact

A partnership with a local volunteer resulted in fundraising of $3,600 from local businesses and individuals to host Family Fun Night at the Lemhi County Fair. The event’s annual funding source was gone, and it would have been canceled if not for the partnership with a passionate parent who wanted to help make the event happen. Family Fun Night attracts nearly 800 youth and adults to the only alcohol-free evening event at the fair and is one of the top three attended fair events. The Salmon Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition matched the raised funds to cover the rest of the costs and keep the free, family-friendly event going. Over $6,500 was raised in total to host the event.

UI Extension teams up with University of Idaho Nancy M. Cummings Research, Education and Extension Center to host Salmon Pioneer 5th graders for a beef production field day each year during Agriculture Week. Students rotate through hands-on workshops on genetics, beef nutrition, beef digestive system, technology and how a rancher cares for a newborn calf. For the past two years, students have completed a pre and post quiz. The average pre-quiz score for 2021 was 46.32 and the average post-quiz score was 75.26. This is a 62.48% increase in knowledge.

4-H in Lemhi County

The UI Extension, Lemhi County 4-H program has worked hard this year to continue to expand projects outside of traditional livestock programming. One of the best ways found to introduce youth to non-animal projects is through day camps. These camps are short-term, usually three hours and explore a different topic each month. Camps are held the first Friday of each month when youth in the community are out of school. Some of the most popular classes are those focusing on candy making, cake decorating and cooking classes. Seeing what classes are popular can also help determine which projects will do well as long-term projects. Families can also get more experience in 4-H without having the longer commitment. Camps also have some sort of STEM component for youth to explore and find out about the science behind their project. In the coming year 4-H program plans to offer more popular classes such as rocketry twice a year for more youth to participate. Plans are also underway to expand some of the classes like cooking into a series of classes to expand what youth participants are learning.

On the Horizon

UI Extension, Lemhi County is excited to expand STEM projects to youth in Lemhi County. With the assistance of grants from the state 4-H office, supplies and equipment will be purchased for projects. For 2022, UI Extension and partners will have access to the “think, make, create” trailer for summer programs.