

WAYNE COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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With the Support of Warren C. Evans, Wayne County Executive and Wayne County Commissioners



Message from the District Director

The 2024 programming year was a productive year for MSU Extension. Our staff continued the work of bringing a wide variety of programs to the residents of Wayne County. During this reporting year we increased our community partnerships to more effectively deliver Extension

programs to a broader number of community-based organizations. However, because of challenges with our U.S. Forestry Service partner, our overall program reach decreased during this reporting period. We also saw a modest decline in our Master Gardener efforts.

MSU Extension continued to create more programs and opportunities for learning while fostering public interests in healthy lifestyles, child development, homeownership and money management, cultivating sustainable agriculture and building a strong future for our youth. Our MSU Product Center innovation staff member supported 120 clients and generated more than 1,000 hours of counseling individuals in starting, managing, and growing food-based businesses in Wayne County. Her efforts informed individuals as they made strategic decisions about the use of their personal resources as they pursued their passion in entrepreneurship.



United States Representative Rashida Tlaib visits a class at Snow Elementary in Dearborn with an MSU Extension community nutrition instructor to see MSU Extension programs in action as well as to learn more about how our programs impact our communities.
(Photo credit: MSU Extension)

The staff at MSU Extension is dedicated to maintaining a viable connection within our community and we are grateful for the support from local volunteers, supporters, and our partners within Wayne County government.

Overall Impact



25 community coalitions in Wayne County included MSU Extension staff members.



22,540 participants from the county attended programs.



1,603 programs (across the state) attended by participants from Wayne county.



29,264,562 contacts through social media, web activity, e-newsletters, and handouts.



54 Nutrition and Physical Activity Policy System and Environmental sites receiving PSE education within the county.



108 policy, systems, and environmental changes with those PSE sites. **8,045** participants were impacted positively by these changes.



1,142 client consultation hours.



Counseled **120** food-based businesses.



Jodi Schulz, Co-Director, MSU Extension Children & Youth Institute, State Representative Reggie Miller, and Dr. Quentin Tyler, Director of Michigan State University Extension proudly display the new Michigan 4-H license plate that debuted in 2024. Available at the Michigan Secretary of State, the plate prominently displays the signature 4-H clover and part of the proceeds from every sale and renewal will go to support Michigan 4-H youth. (Photo credit: MSU Extension)

Economic Development, Environmental Conservation, and Agricultural Productivity



67,320 participants in community, food, and environment programs from across Michigan.



470 virtual programs related to Financial Education, Food Systems, Water and Environmental Quality, Government and Businesses.



781 participants from Wayne County participated in horticulture programs.



\$246.5 billion of annual impact of food and agriculture on Michigan's economy.

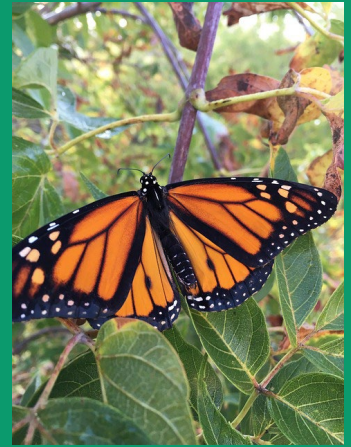
Program Descriptions

- **Nutrition and Physical Activity Education** are a means to prevent obesity and decrease chronic diseases among residents. We deliver high-quality, no-cost education to serve the needs of low-income adults, children, families, and senior citizens through fun, interactive classes.
- **Food Safety** classes teach participants how to reduce chances of foodborne illness; information about the MI Cottage Food Law; how to preserve food by water-bath canning, pressure canning, freezing or drying using researched based information and safe techniques; classes on food safety related to emergency preparedness and clean drinking water; and classes for participants to earn their ServSafe® Manager Certification.
- **Money Management and Financial Literacy** programs provide sessions that focus on helping consumers gain confidence and skills related to their personal finances. Participants attend classes to understand their money values; how to communicate about money; how to develop spending plans; SMART goals; manage debt; improve credit and how to create plans for saving and investing.
- **Social-Emotional Health and Well-being** programs strive to increase personal competencies such as emotional resilience, self-esteem and interpersonal skills. These skills help to protect against risks relating to exposure to toxic stress stemming from social and economic disadvantage, poor parenting, abuse, family disruption, relationship violence and other adversities in life. Our programs target people who are at risk for a wide range of physical, psychological, social, emotional, cognitive, financial and spiritual health challenges.
- **Early Childhood Education** programming is designed to increase the knowledge of the basic concepts of early childhood development, including how to keep children socially, emotionally and physically safe as well as the techniques that support school readiness and academic success.
- **MSU Detroit Partnership for Food, Learning and Innovation (DPFLI)** focuses on programs and research that support urban agriculture through fruit crop management, food systems education and food preservation. The center also provides neighborhood-based Extension programs in Northwest Detroit.
- **MSU Extension 4-H** programs allow youth participants to learn life skills that prepare them for the workforce – especially for highly sought after jobs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Extension programs help children develop early literacy skills that support school readiness. Participating youth learn leadership and decision-making skills in 4-H that will increase their likelihood of becoming civically active.
- **MSU Extension Michigan Sea Grant** facilitates or assists with numerous projects in Wayne County including Aquatic Invasive Species Education, which centers on education and outreach programs at various locations throughout the county. Safe & Sustainable Fisheries – workshops that are intended to bring together anglers with fisheries managers and other subject matter experts to provide information about the status and trends of fishing in the Great Lakes and connecting waters. Also, Harmful Algal Bloom Education providing annual webinars about how to recognize, report, and stay safe around blooms.
- **Consumer Horticulture** serves home-gardeners, community gardens, non-profits, and community groups, seeking information to improve gardening practices. To become a **Certified Extension Master Gardener**, trainees must first complete the “Foundations of Gardening” ten-week class to learn about horticulture and research-based practices, volunteer onboarding and 40 hours of educationally focused volunteer service to the community.

Program Highlights

Native Plants for Michigan Gardeners

Last March, an MSU Extension Consumer Horticulture Educator (CHE) held a one-day presentation at the Plymouth District Library. The presentation was called “Native Plants for Michigan Gardeners” and was meant for local homeowners. In this presentation, she explained what defines a “native plant” and how these plants can enhance home gardens by adding beauty and supporting wildlife. Drawing from her own home garden and the Smart Habitat Garden at the Western Wayne office, the CHE highlighted species native to Wayne County and discussed key design considerations. She explained that many insects have evolved to feed exclusively on native plants, making them essential for a thriving ecosystem. For example, monarch butterfly caterpillars can only consume milkweed—without it, monarchs would vanish. Another example is songbirds depending on insects to feed their young. Native plants are so important because without them we would not have as many insects, which would mean that there would not be as many birds. This presentation brought in over 20 participants, many of whom were beginners in planting and they left feeling well informed and ready to add to their existing gardens.



Providing Quality Programming for Everyone

Academy of the Americas in Detroit—a school composed primarily of Spanish-speaking students—partnered with a MSU Extension 4-H Program Instructor (4-H PI) to bring teen Mental Health First Aid (tmHFA) programming to their school.

For many teens, managing mental health and well-being can be challenging. At Academy of the Americas, students face additional layers of complexity as immigrants or children of immigrants from Spanish-speaking countries, often navigating cultural, linguistic and emotional hurdles alongside typical adolescent pressures.

When the school initially reached out, the National Council for Mental Wellbeing did not offer a Spanish translation of the teen Mental Health First Aid curriculum. After persistent dialogue and advocacy, the Council ultimately developed and released a Spanish-language version of the program.

The 4-H Program Instructor played a key role in this effort—working diligently to secure the translated curriculum and laying the groundwork to successfully implement teen Mental Health First Aid for Spanish-speaking students. Thanks to this commitment, Academy of the Americas is now equipped to provide culturally and linguistically relevant mental health education for years to come.



Partnerships

- 21 Century IPA
- A2G Grandport
- Above and Beyond Child Care Center/Learning Academy
- Academy of the Americas
- ACCESS Allendale Elementary
- ACCESS Dearborn
- ACCESS Detroit
- ACCESS Earhart Elementary
- ACCESS Oakman Elementary
- ACCESS Ralph J Bunche School
- ACCESS Roberto Clemente Academy
- Adams Middle School
- Allen Park Community Center
- Allendale Elementary School
- Allison Keesen
- Almont Fruit Garden
- Alternatives For Girls Team
- Annapolis High
- Arukah Restores
- Audreys Little Love Bugs
- Barth Elementary School
- Belle Isle Nature Center
- Belleville High School
- Bennett Elementary School
- Block's Farm Market
- Bright Futures - Edison
- Bright Futures - Taft
- Brightmoor Artisans Co-Op: Community Summer Markets
- Brightmoor Collective
- Brilliant Detroit
- Bunche Elementary School
- Cadillac Urban Gardens
- Catholic Charities of Southeastern Michigan (CCSEM)
- Chapel Hill Baptist Church
- Charles Wright Academy of Arts and Science
- CHASS Clinic
- Children First Learning Center
- City Year Detroit
- Coleman A. Young Elementary
- Corewell Health Corktown
- Corktown Health Center
- Cornerstone Academy
- Covenant School
- Creative Hearts Daycare
- Dearborn High School
- Dearborn Senior Center
- Detroit Association of Retired Personnel(DARP)
- Detroit Leadership Academy
- Detroit Means Business
- Detroit Phoenix Center
- Detroit Public Library (Main & Douglass Branch)
- Detroit Youth Boxing Gym
- Dickinson West Elementary
- Dove Academy
- Downriver Co-op
- Downtown Boxing Gym
- DPFLI Council
- DPL Redford Library
- DTE Energy
- Ecorse Parks and Recreation
- Ecorse Public Library
- Elmhurst House
- Elmwood Library
- Elyton Missionary Baptist Church
- EMU Bright Futures
- ESCOT Youth Development
- Ferndale Upper Elementary
- Field Elementary School
- Flat Rock Community Center
- Flat Rock Public Library
- Ford Senior Center
- Foreign Language and Cultural Studies School
- Friends of the Detroit River
- Friendship Child Care Center
- Full & Fabulous
- Garden City Tower Apts.
- Gateway Family Worship Center
- Gathering Place Clubhouse
- Genesis House III
- Gilda's Club Metro Detroit
- Giving Grove
- Grandparents on the Move(GTMO)
- Grandport Elementary
- Grant writing partnership with MSU Food Science Department
- Greater Faith Missionary Baptist Church
- Greenwood Villa Apartments
- Harper Woods School District
- Hegira Health
- Heilman Community Center
- Henderson Academy
- Henry Ford Elementary
- Hope Care and Beyond
- Hope of Detroit Academy
- Hope Village
- Hopewell Missionary Baptist
- In the Business of Food
- International Child Care Center
- Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center
- John Glenn High School
- Joy Baptist Church
- Keep Growing Detroit
- Keppen Elementary Middle School
- Kiddos Village Academy
- Knapp Library
- L.A.C.C. Childcare Academy
- Lafayette Elementary School
- Lennon Pregnancy Center
- Lincoln Library
- Livonia Parks and Recreation
- Long Elementary School
- Mapache Medicine Forest School
- MDHHS- Wayne County
- Melvindale High School
- Mercy Education Project
- Methodist Children Home Society
- Metro Detroit Youth Day
- Michigan Humane Society
- MiSide (East McNichols site)
- Molina Health
- Motor City Match and Detroit Means Business
- MSU - Detroit Partnership for Learning and Innovation (DPFLI)
- MSU PC and MDARD partnership
- Munger Elementary Middle School
- Naomi's Nest
- New Directions Clubhouse
- NEW LEAF
- New Light Recovery Center
- New St Paul Head Start Agency
- Noble Elementary School
- Nowlin Elementary
- Oakman Elementary
- Palmer Park Preparatory Academy
- Parkman Library
- Parkview Place - Senior Apartments
- Pasteur Elementary School
- Pathways Academy Detroit
- Patton Recreation Center
- Peace Tree Parks
- Peggy's Place
- Peterson Warren Academy
- Pingree Farms Foundation
- Positive Images
- Pregnancy Aid
- Priority Health
- Racquet Up Detroit
- Redford Charter Township Parks and Recreation
- Redford Township District Library
- Regent Park Early Learning Center
- Repair the World
- Revival Tabernacle
- RicanStruction
- Rio Vista Co-op
- River Rouge Public Library
- RYSE Detroit - Henry Ford Hospital
- Salvation Army Booth
- Salvation Army Recovery Shelter
- Salvation Army Respite
- Schulze Elementary School
- Holy Cross Lutheran Church
- Shelters Elementary School
- Sister Friends Detroit
- Snow Elementary School
- Someplace Else Learning Factory
- Spain Elementary School
- Squiggles and Giggles
- St. Clements Manor
- Stallworth AFC Home(Linwood/East Grand Blvd Site)
- Sugar N Spice Nursery School
- Summer Programming at Brilliant Detroit
- Taylor Post High School
- TechTown Detroit Partnership
- Terry Adult Foster Care
- The Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services
- THE ARC GROSSE POINTE HARPER WOODS
- The Children's Corner
- The Dearborn Academy
- The Konnection Klub
- The U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)
- The Youth Connection
- Thirkell Elementary Middle School
- Thomas Jefferson Elementary School
- Trenton Veterans Memorial Library
- Tweakie Bird's Child Care and Developmental Center
- Unify Detroit
- Tyler Elementary School
- UNI HealthCorps
- United Children and Family Headstart
- University Prep Math and Science Elementary
- Village Stars - Sonya Hickey
- Vista Maria
- Warren Plaza
- Wayne County Community College District, Ted Scott Campus
- Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services
- Wayne County Fair Association
- Wayne County Farm Bureau
- Wayne County Healthy Communities
- Wayne Memorial High School
- Wayne Metro Community Action Agency - Accelerate to Great
- Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency
- West McNichols Business Association
- West Village Academy
- Westfield Charter Academy
- Westminster Church of Detroit
- William P. Faust Public Library of Westland
- Willis Wonderland Home Childcare
- Wonder Years Child Development
- Youth Connections
- Zaman International



MSU Extension community nutrition instructor and a graduating participant.

Photo Highlights



Budgeting and spending workshop by Extension educator at Kerry Brothers Truck Repair.



Master Gardeners volunteering at Farm City Detroit.



A 4-H program coordinator showcases an authentic Aboriginal Australian boomerang, adorned with traditional dot art, during the 'Crafts Around the World' event at Oakman Elementary.



Wayne County 4-H members engaged in hands-on learning and leadership activities during the 2024 4-H Exploration Days at Michigan State University.



Extension and Michigan Sea Grant educator hosting Watershed Game training at Focus Hope.



4-H Family Game Night at Emanuel Stewards Champions of Tomorrow (ESCOT) Youth Development.

Wayne County 2024 Programs

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- 4-H Crafts Around the World
 - 4-H Family Night
 - 4-H Jr. MANRRS
 - 4-H Livestock Showmanship Clinic
 - 4-H Power Hour STEM Activities
 - 4-H Program Summer
 - 4-H Skillathon Practice
 - 4-H Urban Ag Program:
 - Agriculture Art and Textiles
 - Garden to Table
 - Garden Salsa Workshop
 - Germs and Biosecurity
 - Homemade Butter Workshop
 - Honeybees and Pollination
 - Water Pollution Workshop
 - Aboriginal Dot Painting
 - Adult Immunization Update
 - Agriculture and GMO's
 - ARPTA: American Rescue Plan Technical Assistance Investment
 - Art of Listening Training
 - Arts and Crafts
 - Backyard Insects and Making the Garden Attractive to Them
 - BEES Train the Trainer
 - Begin with a Breath
 - Belle Isle Nature Center: Pollinators
 - Birds, Bugs and Plant Walk
 - Bomba Potluck
 - Budgeting and Planning
 - Budgeting your Benefits
 - Changing Negative Self Talk
 - Common Fruit Pest and Management
 - Congress of Communities, Screen Time
 - Conservation Stewards Program
 - Cookie Mining
 - Cooking for One
 - Cooking Matters Kids
 - Covering the Crop
 - Detroit Black Farmer Cooperative
 - Detroit River Water Festival
 - DPFLI Overview
 - Eastern Market and Detroit Means Business Client Consultations
 - Eat Healthy Be Active
 - Family Mealtime Healthy Swaps
 - Family Medicine Case Studies
 - Family Medicine Immunization Update
 - Farm Beautification Workdays
 - Financial Capability Series
 - Food Preservation
 - Forest Bathing & Bonfire Release Experience
 - German Students at DPFLI
 - Good Cookies Educational Recipe Development
 - Grandparents on the Move
 - Great Lakes Leadership Advancement Program Greening of Detroit: Forestry Training
 - Greenwood Pets and Plants
 - Growing Healthy Kids
 - Health and Wellness Fair
 - Health Fair March 2024
 - Healthy Choices Everybody
 - Affordable Meals
 - Better Beverage Choices
 - Food Safety
 - Fruits and Vegetables
 - Grains
 - Meal Planning
 - Protein
 - Internships at DPFLI
 - Intro to Embryology
 - Intro to Urban Birding
 - Introduction to Co-Manufacturing
 - Jr. MANRRS STEM Pathways
 - Jump into Food and Fitness
 - Lafayette-CSFS-Oct
 - Macroinvertebrate Sampling
 - Making Your Voice Heard to Benefit Bees and Beekeepers
 - Mental & Emotional Effects of Bullying
 - Mental Health First Aid
 - MHFA Awareness to Action
 - Mindful Movement
 - Mindfulness
 - Mindfulness at Work
 - Mindfulness for Middle School
 - Money Management
 - Financial Capability Series
 - Spending Plans
 - For 7th & 8th Grade
 - MSU Honors College STEM Day
 - My Plate
 - Native Plants for Michigan Gardeners
 - Ob/Gyn Immunization Update Session
 - Parenting Class, Screen Time
 - Partner Drawing
 - Passport to Procurement Conference Panel
 - Pesticide Training and Review Class
 - Pollinator Urban Farm Research Orientation
 - Pollinators and Chemicals in the Garden
 - Pollinators and the Food System - National Actives
 - Positive Discipline
 - Program and Tour for MSU Extension State Leadership Team
 - Pruning Workshops
 - Real Colors
 - RELAX - Recognizing your Anger Triggers
 - Rethink Your Drink
 - Revival Tabernacle Culinary Retreat
 - Rock Painting
 - Salt Sugar Fat CUT IT
 - Seed Starting for Beginners
 - Serve and Preserve Workshops
 - ServSafe®
 - Sewing SPIN Club
 - Shirt Painting
 - Show Me Nutrition
 - Show Me Nutrition Kids
 - Smart Finances
 - Southeast Michigan Fisheries Workshop 2024
 - Spring Detroit River Water Festival
 - Start Simple with MyPlate
 - STEM Lab
 - Stress Less: Be Kind to Your Mind
 - Stress Management
 - Sugar N Spice
 - Summer High School Counselors Professional Development
 - Summer Seed Starting for Beginners
 - Teaching Science Outdoors – Urban Partnerships
 - Teen Cuisine
 - They Took What? Paycheck and Taxes
 - Vaccinating with Confidence - Vaccine Hesitancy
 - Water Exploration
 - Watershed Game Training
 - Winterizing Your Garden
 - WISE- Recognizing the Changes Associated with Aging
 - Young Franciscans: Protecting God's Creation
 - Youth Mental Health First Aid

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www.canr.msu.edu/outreach/ask-an-expert



Wayne County 4-H educator accepting the MSU Extension Excellence in Teaching Award for 2024.



Wayne County commissioner Tim Killeen and Michigan Extension community nutrition instructor at the Free Community Health Fair.

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