

EXTENSION TRENDS: **GOODING COUNTY**

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2022 By the Numbers

- **32,558** direct contacts
- **13,082** youth participants
- **61** volunteers
- **2,353** volunteer hours
- **\$206,240** extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Gooding County: Cindy Bigler, Mark Bolduc, Cooper Brossy, Ricky Fritz, Kay Hults, Donna Jensen, Carol Johnson, Daniel Knapp, Rebecca Larsen, Judi Lethlean, Marsha Neibling, Jamie Price, Chris Pruett, Priscilla Ruiz, Arlene Shaw, Jaren Wadsworth, Larry Walton, Karen Wisniewski, John Wright and 3-Gooding County 4-H members.

UI Extension Educators



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2022 Impact

The Idaho Sustainable Initiative for Dairy (ISAID) project generated data on dual crops with corn silage and two field days showcased research to producers. The Extension Collaborative on Immunization Teaching and Engagement (EXCITE) program engaged 1,547 Idahoans across 14 counties with vaccination clinics and educational presentations on immunization, work health and safety. Six agricultural environmental management applied research and demonstration trials were conducted.

Youth STEAM programs expanded to in-and-afterschool throughout the county, including the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind, summer camps and monthly family events. Science Fair evaluations reported increased knowledge of STEM careers, food science, biology and environmental systems. A total of 223 students participated at the county Science Fair. Students advanced to state and national levels with three FFA National Bronze Awards, two Gold Level projects, two Best in Category projects and four special awards at the Eastern Idaho Science and Engineering Fair. One project went on to the International Science and Engineering Fair and another participated in the International Plant the Moon Challenge.

4-H in Gooding County

Gooding County's 4-H program involved 33 volunteers managing 14 clubs with 170 youth members. The 2022 Gooding County Fair served as the platform for the presentation of 206 projects in a variety of areas. Classes were held for projects in leathercraft, cake decorating, dog performance and showmanship, and quilting. Animal science events included education days for dairy and small animals.

Gooding County 4-Her's hard work earned some the opportunity to represent the county and state at national events. One member attended National 4-H Congress, a five-day event in Atlanta, Georgia that engages 4-H members in leadership, civic engagement, global awareness and inclusion. Four members competed in the Livestock Skill-A-Thon, a team event where participants solve problems and identify breeds, meats, equipment, and feeds related to beef, sheep, swine, and goat production. Four members participated in the Livestock Quiz Bowl, answering questions related to beef, sheep, swine and meat goat topics. Four members participated in Livestock Judging, a process of evaluating, selecting, placing and learning various livestock species.

On the Horizon

Research and Extension programs related to the ISAID grant continue to generate data to develop solutions for Idaho dairy and crop producers. The EXCITE project entered phase two, with immunization, health and farm safety clinics to be delivered in the upcoming months. Educator Cindy Kinder continues to work with and evaluate three applied Extension research studies, which include outreach to local science classes, evaluation of the youth livestock program and survey of volunteer leaders in the district.

In addition to spring break activities, a beginning quilting series of classes will be available to 4-H members to assist them in completing the Quilt Quest project for fair. The temporarily funded STEAM coordinator has developed relationships and successful programs with schools countywide, working with underserved and new audiences not reached by other youth programming. The search for funding to make the coordinator position permanent is an ongoing priority. This is necessary to meet the needs of the county and fulfill a goal identified during the last two Gooding County Extension Advisory meetings.