

Washington County 2024 Impact At-A-Glance

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Extension Master Gardener volunteers dedicate their time and expertise year-round to cultivating the community donation garden, ensuring it thrives and provides fresh, nutritious produce for those in need.



Washington County Extension has made a significant impact on addressing local food insecurity and promoting healthy food access by donating fresh produce to the local food pantry through two innovative efforts. Through the Growing Together Nebraska community donation garden, 605 pounds of produce was donated—supported by 263 Master Gardener volunteer hours—demonstrating the community's commitment to this initiative. “This partnership has opened the door to talking about nutrition and making healthier food choices with our patrons,” said Denise Cada, Strategic Director of the Washington County Food Pantry. Additionally, the Washington County 4-H Gives Back project contributed 62 pounds of fresh produce. This initiative repurposes 4-H entries from the Washington County Fair, preventing food waste while raising awareness about food shortages in the county.

Programs At-A-Glance

- 833 youth attended the Washington County Ag Literacy Festival in Arlington.
- 90% of youth who participated in 4-H summer workshops felt a sense of belonging through acknowledgment and involvement in programming.

412

Extension Master Gardener volunteer hours, or approximately \$12,800 equivalent labor.

520

acres of equine grazing land assessed for weed control and forage variety selection.

1777

unique youth reached through 4-H programming.



STRENGTHEN NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

INSPIRE NEBRASKANS & THEIR COMMUNITIES

ENHANCE THE HEALTH & WELLBEING OF ALL NEBRASKANS