

## Beef Programming Focus on Animal Well-Being



A focus has been on the Well-Being and Care of Livestock and has been accomplished by several methods.

- Quality Assurance trainings certified 204 adults and 84 youth about animal health, food safety, and product quality.
- The Feedlot Roundtable reached 68 producers on disease management and animal nutrition with an estimated profitability of over \$20/head.
- Heat Stress is a significant risk for cattle feeders during the summer. A survey was conducted with 19 feedlot managers regarding mitigation strategies. Cattle handling is avoided by 100% of operations, over 82% provide water application, over 60% utilize shade; and 24% provide bedding.
- Proper manure management also provides animal comfort. Land Application Training certified 44 producers who estimated the program value at over \$4,000/farm/year.

*“The Quality Assurance class is so valuable for our youth to learn about the care of livestock. Our child has learned a lot over the years.” – 4-H Parent*

## Nutrition Programming Targets Family Approach

In order to establish a stronger impact in nutrition programming, an entire family approach has been initiated including programs that target youth as well as adults. Targeting youth through school enrichment programs has provided an opportunity for children to learn about a healthy diet. These programs include Kids in the Kitchen, Veggie IQ, and an online program entitled Eat, Move Win. To bring this impact home, it is also necessary to educate adults who are purchasing the groceries. Food in the Field was developed to help educate how to meal plan, prep, and pack healthy meals for adults, children, and farmers in the field. Instant Pot 101 was adapted to increase healthy, homemade meals at home, and increase consumer confidence in using kitchen equipment while practicing food safety.

*“This is information that I can use.” – Food in the Field participant*



## 4-H Youth Development



Cuming County 4-H continues to work towards positive youth development by reaching 404 youth through traditional 4-H activities with twenty organized clubs. Cuming County 4-H has reached over 707 youth through special interest and short-term programs where they have learned valuable life skills. Over 460 youth have been reached through School Enrichment programming. Topics included: GPS/Navigation, Conflict Resolution, Robotics, Agricultural Literacy, Embryology, and Healthy Living. These programs help to build youth skills in teamwork, leadership, and public speaking.

*“The most beneficial aspect of 4-H was the opportunity to escape my comfort zone and try new things. 4-H allowed me to become comfortable by hard work and determination. If I had not challenged myself at a young age, I would have lost out on valuable life skills later on like responsibility, confidence and communication.” – Graduating 4-H Member*