4-H into a Career

Douglas-Sarpy 4-H alumnus Everett Henry spent his summer working with Nebraska Extension. Everett worked on his internship as part of his school work with Metro Community College’s Urban Ag program. He spent time assisting with urban farms, community gardens, home food production, and urban food systems. This is an example of why 4-H curriculum is so meaningful. It is purposely created to help youth develop skills and knowledge in career exploration while experiencing a variety of learning methods.

“4-H has helped me learn about animal science and agriculture, while raising animals has taught me responsibility.” – Quincy Jones, 2018 4-H Prince

SNAP-Ed staff member Laura recently taught at the Intercultural Senior Center where she showed Nepalese and Burmese refugee seniors how to use can openers instead of knives to open canned goods. This single example shows how Extension is committed to fulfilling the needs of our community. NEP staff member Topacio Ortiz, taught a series of classes to adult enrolled in the English as Second Language program at the Learning Community Center of South Omaha. The center works with community organization and school districts to provide programs to children and families in poverty. The programs have resulted in improved educational outcomes. After completing a series of six food and nutrition classes, the program participants demonstrated increased knowledge and confidence in feeding their families healthier foods on a budget.

“We know from their enthusiasm and attentiveness they really enjoy learning about nutrition during your visits, and we thank you and the Nebraska Extension Nutrition Program for providing this invaluable service.”
– Sandy Heather, Intercultural Senior Center

Gardening in the City

Extension is committed to helping Nebraskans know more about efficient landscapes, protecting and managing water resources and properly managing insects like the emerald ash borer and bedbugs. Whether it is mosquitoes, bed bugs, or other time-sensitive critters, our entomologist delivers a personally meaningful message to over 4,000 clients a year. 2018 provided the opportunity for Douglas-Sarpy Extension to teach “Refugee Women of Nebraska” about hands-on urban farming through our Agriculture Program at Cooper Farms. This program helped Extension reach out to the community and receive support from No More Empty Pots, Big Muddy Urban Farm, and Omaha Permaculture.

“Extension’s Master Gardeners not only saved my trees but also saved him a lot of money!” – Jim S. Omaha resident