

Cooperative Extension Program

PROGRAM IMPACTS AND ACTIVITIES



Effective design, delivery, evaluation, and interpretation are essential to CEP Extension educators. Outstanding educational programs include a strong foundation in program development, a comprehensive educational plan, appropriate teaching methods, and well-designed evaluation instruments. County agents develop programs through local planning groups, needs assessment data, leadership advisory boards, program area committees, youth boards, and task forces.

CEP New Initiatives:

- Homeless Veterans Project and Workforce Development Program
- Medicinal benefits of sorrell
- Mental health first aid for farmers, adults, and youth
- Workshops for youth on igniting sparks and connecting student's interest and talents to classroom success
- Adult leader trainings on 4-H essential elements
- Veterinary gun trials to reduce horseflies

Snapshot of CEP Outreach Plans:

The present and emerging needs such as Global Food Security and Hunger, Childhood Obesity, Climate Change, Food Safety, Human Development and Family-Well Being, Youth Development, and Individual and Family Resource Management provided the direction for development and implementation of educational outreach methods in 35 counties for 2018.

- Reports show that 309 applications were submitted for home loans and rehabilitation, 91 of which were approved for funding renovations totaling \$507,456.
- Clients were assisted in first-time home buyer and low mortgages totaling over \$1,136,418. Sixteen homes were saved from foreclosure.
- Individuals enrolled in the Business in Development certification program submitted approximately \$425,320 in bids for State of Texas contracts.
- County agriculture agents assisted 69 farmers and producers who submitted direct loan applications to USDA-Farm Service Agency. Total awarded was \$4,624,820.
- 4-H and Youth Development agents and specialists involved 112,091 Texans between the ages of 5 and 19 through various activities and programs. Activities and contests allow youth decision-making, communication, and problem-solving skills.
- The Heroes 4Health initiative reports 2,504 underserved youth who adopted behaviors that lead to a healthy lifestyle, such as eating breakfast every day or most days and increasing fresh fruit and water consumption.
- Sullivan Elementary School in Cameron County is one of six sites implementing the Growing U program. Due to the success of the program, the school has changed its name to the Environmental Science Academy for the district and will implement an environmental curriculum during school hours.
- The Cancer Cooking School led by Family & Community Health staff reached an audience who are never or rarely screened for cancer and 232 participants received cancer screenings.
- Parents of young children and elementary youth participated in a series of six nutrition education classes with 951 adults and 3,165 youth receiving completion certificates.
- Zavala County Community & Economic Development agent assisted a local business with loan restructuring to prevent foreclosure. Thus, saving 20 jobs and a payroll of \$600,000 from leaving the county.
- Collaborations with Texas Parks and Wildlife, Fort Bend Master Naturalists Volunteer Group, and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS)
- Extension agent reports the capture of 572 feral hogs.