

Fast Facts

Talking Points

Improving Health and Nutrition

For every \$1 spent to provide the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) \$10 is saved in health care costs.

310 adults participated in EFNEP and 96% of those who graduated from EFNEP report making healthier food choices.

In 2010, 182 adults and 983 Youth were enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

60 participants enrolled in courses for hot water bath pressure canning and freezing and drying foods properly to prevent food borne illness.

In 2010, 273 child-care business owners attended Early Care and Education programs that enabled them to maintain licensure, in compliance with DHS rules and regulations. Additionally, 203 unregulated providers or Relative Care Providers were trained in the "Great Start to Quality" orientation class that included First Aid and CPR.

In 2010, 166 residents attended Alternatives to Anger Education.

Agriculture and Agribusiness

Nearly 500 Certified Master Gardener volunteers are at work in Macomb County. In 2010, approximately 14,265 volunteer hours were committed to Macomb County. These volunteer hours are valued at approximately \$304,700.

1,317 residents were assisted with gardening issues, either by visiting the MSUE office or calling the Gardening Hotline.

2010 marked the second year of variety trials of specialty heirloom tomatoes for farm markets and vegetable gardens.

40 fruit and vegetable producers from Macomb County attended production and food safety seminars.

In 2010, fifty four entrepreneurs in food, agriculture or natural resources received business counseling or specialized services related to new business ventures.

Greening Michigan

In 2010, 961 residents participated in Financial and Housing Education and Housing Counseling programs. Using the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) evaluation tool at the beginning and end of the series :

- 71% increased their ability to be good financial managers
- 73% became more financially stable
- 69% were able to build assets to achieve their educational and financial goals

In 2010, over 10,500 students, teachers and residents participated in Water Education Programs including Great Lakes Education, Water Conservation, Understanding Groundwater, Summer Discovery Cruises and COSEE professional development.

In 2010, 883 homeowners attended foreclosure education and intake, 764 continued with one-on-one counseling. Initial follow-up survey results:

- 40% received a loan modification. Of those, 76% said the modification was still working for them
- 25% used an option to give up their home and for 44%, this stabilized their financial situation
- 5% are still working on a loan modification
- 20% indicated no resolution in their situation yet

Children and Youth

Over 14,000 youth ages 5 – 19 participate in the MSUE Macomb County 4-H Youth Development Program annually.

Approximately 900 adults work annually as volunteers with youth in the 4-H Youth Development Program.

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Improving Health and Nutrition

Nutrition and health programs are delivered throughout Macomb County. Staff work in schools, senior centers, childcare facilities, WIC clinics and in many other settings, including individual homes, where teaching and coaching are provided one-on-one with individuals on topics including basic nutrition, the health benefits of breastfeeding, food safety and developing a budget to ensure food security. Shopping at local farmers markets and other sources of locally grown produce is encouraged.

Macomb County offers services to families needing help dealing with anger issues through the Alternatives to Anger classes. This program supports campus research in the area of anger management. The Early On Service Coordination provides service to families and children with Part B special needs. Educational classes and services are offered on personal financial management, credit management, and home ownership. Child Care classes and resources are also available on topics such as: choosing quality childcare, information on both licensed and non-licensed childcare providers, and classes to improve childcare workers' skills.

Greening Michigan

Macomb County is a prime target for MSU Extension's educational programs in water quality and other environmental stewardship programs and activities. The Great Lakes Education Program (GLEP), Water Conservation, and Groundwater programs promote K-12 student Great Lakes and Science Literacy and conservation, while Summer Discovery Cruises enhance participant knowledge and stewardship. The Lake St. Clair Water Trail project will enhance coastal ecotourism. Educational programs for pesticide applicators, which reach 200 individuals annually, stress water quality protection.

Foreclosure assistance through MSUE provides education about the foreclosure process, timeline and homeowner options. MSUE also provides one-on-one counseling for homeowners seeking to find a solution to their mortgage issue. Macomb MSUE is part of the United Way Foreclosure Collaborative of SE Michigan and the Michigan State Foreclosure Task Force to leverage resources and promote statewide assistance.

Intergovernmental Agreements are an option that communities are exploring to balance budgets and leverage resources. As part of the Greening Michigan Public Policy Work Group, MSUE will provide educational and technical assistance to communities considering these agreements through local and statewide staff resources.

Agriculture and Agribusiness

MSU Extension's Master Gardener Volunteer Program began in Michigan in 1978 as a way to extend the educational reach of Extension through the work of well-trained volunteers. Local residents interested in sharing their knowledge in their communities participate in 40 hours of training and then volunteer 40 hours educating others.

Combining gardening, kids and nutrition education creates extraordinary learning experiences. During 2010, MSUE in Macomb County is engaging kids, parents and community organizations in Warren, Clinton Township and New Haven to develop "Youth Gardens and Farm Stands." Kids will plant and maintain gardens, learn about eating healthy, develop business plans and open farm stands in various locations around the county.

Children and Youth

MSU Extension 4-H Operation Military Kids (OMK) has joined forces with U.S. Army Children and Youth services to provide a coordinated response to the issues that may affect "suddenly military" children of the National Guard and Army reserve. Macomb County 4-H collaborates extensively with TACOM and Selfridge Air National Guard Base to provide community support networks, recreational, educational and emotional support programs for youth and their families "in our own backyard" that are impacted by deployment.

The 4-H Youth Mentor program provides youth at risk aged 8-16 a one-on-one professionally supported relationship with caring adult volunteers. The mentor program focuses on meeting youth's basic developmental needs through mentoring and life skills training. Youth are diverted from the Juvenile Justice system and other costly levels of care. Peer mentor programs are also offered whereby high school students mentor elementary students in school or after-school.

FACT:

- **EVERY MICHIGAN COUNTY HAS A MSU EXTENSION OFFICE**
- **MSUE BRINGS THE KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH BASE OF MSU TO INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES**
- **MSUE IS A NON-PROFIT WITH FUNDING ALLOCATED FROM THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT AND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
- **THE SMITH-LEVER ACT CREATED THE EXTENSION SERVICE IN 1914**
- **MSUE IS ENGAGED IN A RESTRUCTURING PROCESS. FIVE REGIONS WERE REPLACED WITH THIRTEEN DISTRICTS. MACOMB COUNTY IS PART OF DISTRICT #11 WHICH INCLUDES WAYNE, OAKLAND AND MACOMB COUNTY.**