

EXTENSION TRENDS: **ADA COUNTY**

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2022 By the Numbers

- 11,277 direct contacts
- 5,624 youth participants
- 125 volunteers
- 9,751 volunteer hours
- \$2,971,081 extramural funding

UI Extension Educators



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2022 Impact

Educator Ariel Agenbroad provides leadership for the Harvest Heroes program that provides training and experiential education to U.S. military veterans and their families interested in home and community food production and small farm entrepreneurship. In 2022, nine veterans and their families from Ada, Canyon and Gem counties participated. Harvest Heroes grew and harvested 1,662 pounds of produce at an approximate value of \$3,311. The produce was distributed in the neighborhood surrounding the garden and to veteran serving organizations in the Treasure Valley. 632 pounds was donated to the Nampa women's and children's shelter and 162 pounds to WICAP in Caldwell. Participants packaged and distributed over 250 pounds of fresh produce to the Traveling Table mobile food pantry, serving 35-65 families each month. Harvest Heroes also established a vegetable garden with residents at Valor Pointe Veteran's Housing in Boise.

Educator Bridget Morrisroe-Aman is the Idaho lead for the National Diabetes Prevention Program. From 2017-22, the program was delivered in 11 counties, reaching over 260 participants at an estimated health care savings of \$278 per participant per year. The program was the first provider in Idaho, and one of the first in Extension nationally, to be delivered virtually.

Morrisroe-Aman also leads a multi-county first year and Advanced Master Food Safety Advisor program. In 2022 she taught the seven-week, first-year program in a hybrid format. She also organized and facilitated eight trainings for the Advanced Master Food Safety group and trained and supervised 10 first year advisors while supporting 25 advanced advisors. Volunteers made 1,178 contacts in 2022.

4-H in Ada County

A youth-adult partnership with Project Filter resulted in a statewide peer-to-peer anti-vaping education campaign.

Youth in the Treasure Valley explored STEM circuitry through a new hands-on activity with positive learning outcomes and attitudes toward STEM. The six-session program was attended by 80 youth. The majority of participants were female (54%) and 38% were Hispanic/Latinx. Youth indicated that they learned new things about STEM (80%); are interested in learning about STEM (83%); would like a job that uses STEM (67%); and would like to study STEM after high school (76%).

Morrisroe-Aman worked with colleagues to deliver the Outreach to Military Youth program, delivering 11 weekend day camps for children of Idaho National Guard members. Morrisroe-Aman also provides statewide leadership for the 4-H Yoga program. The program was held at 15 sites in Ada and Canyon Counties from 2018-2022, reaching over 400 youth.

Nearly 350 youth attended 4-H Adventure Camp where they engaged in activities including archery, air rifle, water sports, crafts, cooking and various other activities. The cost of the camp had previously been a barrier to many campers who were able to attend for the first time due to scholarships provided by ARPA grants. The Ada County 4-H Outdoor Education team has reached over 1,000 youth through experiences centered around environmental and outdoor education. Youth have learned to ride and maintain mountain bikes, navigate using a compass, identify local birds and tracks, cook in a Dutch oven, create sustainable community change and more.

On the Horizon

The Harvest Heroes program will expand to sites in Boise in 2023, allowing for the program to reach additional participants.

A new program, Creating a Spark, is being developed to reach underserved and diverse youth in Ada and Canyon counties. This program will address educational learning loss due to the pandemic, provide behavioral health support and expand access to services.