



**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension  
Johnson County

**JOHNSON**  
**COUNTY**  
KANSAS

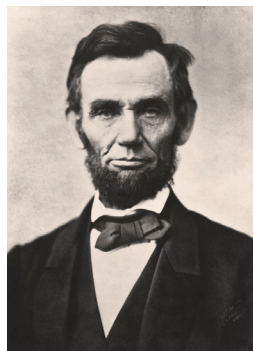
In partnership together

**2016**  
ANNUAL REPORT



## Creating a National Cooperative Extension System

On July 2, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act, providing each state with 30,000 acres of Federal land to be sold by the states. The proceeds from the sale were to be used to fund public colleges that focused on agriculture and the mechanical arts.



This action was in response to the burgeoning industrial revolution and the changes in social class; making higher education available to the masses. The first land-grant institution created under the Act was the Kansas State Agricultural College, established on February 16, 1863 in Manhattan, Kansas.



In 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed the Smith-Lever Act which created the Cooperative Extension Service. University faculty (called agents) relocated into rural areas to help bring the results of agricultural research to the end users.

Over the last century, Extension has adapted its original mission to address changing times and needs. The Extension service still plays a significant role in modern American life. With offices in or near most of the nation's approximately 3,144 counties, Extension agents across the country are the best source for research-based, unbiased information.

In an era of growing misinformation, citizens can trust their local Extension agent to deliver to them best practices *based on scientific fact*, and help them apply the information to their individual need.

## Dear Friends,

Cooperative Extension has been serving the residents of Johnson County for 99 years. Our goal, in union with our citizens, is to work together to find personalized solutions to individuals' needs. As an extension of the land grant university system our access to unbiased resources allow our staff to create a bridge between academia and the public. The factual educational content provided by this service helps contribute to Johnson County's vibrancy and growth.

For nearly a century county residents have counted on Cooperative Extension to be a trusted resource for information ranging from safe food preparation, tax preparation, low yielding crops, horticulture expertise to youth development. The breadth and depth of programming this local Extension office provides is a cut above the rest. Our six agents, eleven support staff, and 961 volunteers generate a relevant and purposeful impact.

As an active community partner we work with many county government and local city departments to collaborate on innovative and scientific programs. As residents of Johnson County, Extension agents and staff are mindful of the rhythm and pulse of the county citizens and their needs, engaging them through a wide variety of programs. These programs are built based on input from the public, our extension volunteer leadership and our community partners. The sole purpose of our educational outreach is to improve the well-being of individuals, businesses, families and communities. The integration of teaching, research and extension utilizing this national network of land-

“... one of the most significant and far-reaching measures for the education of adults ever adopted by the government.”

*President Woodrow Wilson,  
signing the Smith-Lever Act, May 18, 1914*

grant universities allows us to help Johnson County citizens solve problems, develop skills and build a better future.

We could not accomplish all we accomplish without the critical contribution of our impassioned volunteers. Our “Masters” are residents technically trained to provide ongoing and engaging education in the community. The Extension Master Gardeners, Extension Master Food Volunteers, and the Extension Master Naturalists are a core group of dedicated individuals who love their community and want to give back. We are a proud partner in facilitating and supporting these programs for our citizens. The 4-H Youth Development volunteers are also a critical group of individuals who have gone through extensive background checks and training. They are committed to providing quality youth development programs and curriculum.

It has been a privilege and honor to serve the Johnson County community for nearly a century. We celebrate our past and build our future. We value our partnership with Johnson County and look forward to playing a key role in helping our citizens flourish for the next 100 years.

Sincerely,



Tara Markley,  
County Extension Director

## Grand Challenges and Johnson County

During a strategic planning process, K-State Research and Extension met with stakeholders across the state.

With their input, K-State Extension identified five “grand challenges” facing every Kansan:

- global food systems,
- water,
- health,
- community vitality, and
- developing tomorrow’s leaders.

Since then the university’s efforts in research and extension focus on addressing these challenges to help better our state, country and world.

It is the role of Johnson County K-State Extension faculty educators (agents) and staff to balance this grand challenges mission with the strategic plans of Johnson County Government, melding the two missions to best serve the needs of the county, its municipalities, its businesses and its people.

Johnson County Extension agents synthesize complex university and government research, breaking it down into information that applies to the personal needs of every individual who contacts our office seeking guidance.

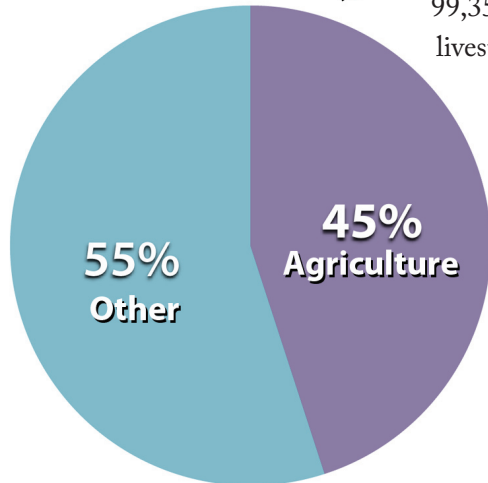
It is this educational outreach of trusted, practical information combined with the county’s mission to serve its citizens and advocate for the public good that makes Extension a valuable partner in developing healthy families and communities in Johnson County.





# Global Food Systems *in Johnson County*

Land Use in Johnson County, KS



**A**griculture is the largest employer driving Kansas' economy. In Johnson County, 45% of the land use is agriculture, including cropland, woodland, farmsteads and buildings, and permanent pasture and rangelands. Johnson County's 571 farms account for 99,354 acres and generated \$24.4 million in crop and livestock sales.

But crops and livestock are just two areas of the total economic impact the Agriculture, Food and Food Processing Sectors bring to Johnson County. In 2016, Johnson County's 43 agriculture, food and food processing sectors generated \$1.6 billion, or 3.97% of the gross regional product (GRP) through personal income, business income, and taxes.

Sectors include:

- landscape and horticultural services;
- wholesale trade;
- dog, cat and other animal food manufacturing;
- greenhouse, nursery, and floriculture production;
- tree, vegetable and fruit farming; and
- wineries and distilleries, to name a few.

The output of these sectors supported 16,185.4 jobs, or 3.55% of the entire workforce in Johnson County. The landscape and horticulture services sector was the top employer with 3,235.3 employees and a total output of \$239,694,240.06.

When agriculture's total economic contribution to Johnson County's economy in 2016 is measured it was approximately \$4.9 billion, or roughly 11.60%.



“ I live on 20 acres in Johnson County with about 5 – 6 acres used for brome hay. I burned the field to remove some weeds, but inadvertently made the weed issue worse when it grew back. Consequently, no one wants the hay. I am considering how best to use / restore this field and would like your advice. ”

*Chuck, Extension client*



## What We Are Doing

Johnson County Extension agents help producers and processors be more profitable, sustainable and efficient. They provide direct assistance in the latest research and technologies, and help residents apply this information to their individual needs. Agents consult with producers, growers, businesses, entrepreneurs and citizens; visit production sites; and help residents address the issues they face.

### 2016 Highlights

#### Local Food Systems In Johnson County

People are becoming increasingly more concerned about the origin of their food. This growth in the local food movement is driven by people wanting to know more about their food, but also by an increase in concerns for nutrition, the environment and food safety. By buying local, Johnson County residents can engage with local growers and learn more about how their food is grown.

- In Johnson County, local farmers sell their products to local restaurants, grocery stores, farmers' markets and through direct-to-consumers farm sales. Growers can be found in Shawnee, De Soto, Olathe, Mission, Edgerton, Gardner and Stillwell offering a variety of products including fresh eggs from free-range chickens, apples, peaches, strawberries, honey, herbs, tomatoes, peppers, melons and more.
- Johnson County Government is a local foods producer through its Women, Infant and Children's (WIC) garden. Johnson County benefits from Extension's hands-on horticulture expertise and labor, providing in-depth instruction on best practices in plant species selected for this region, planting techniques, weed control, fertilization, watering, and harvest methods, all with the overall goal of increasing yield to feed more citizens.

- The Extension Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens provide learning opportunities for residents to learn how to grow fresh fruits and vegetables in their home gardens or at one of the county's many community gardens. In addition to providing this educational mission, the demonstration gardens also donate produce to local food pantries.

#### Urban AG Education

Extension helps people also understand from where their food comes and the variety of ways it can be produced. With the help of local farmers, agents educate residents through the media and at events, sharing our agrarian story.

- Touch a Truck
- Slice of AG
- Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop-Farm



Agent Dennis Patton provides horticulture expertise and labor to the county's WIC garden.

To date 7,880 lbs of fresh produce has been supplied to families in the program.



Provided  
technical  
assistance to  
15,397  
contacts



# Health *in Johnson County*

**A** vibrant economy starts with a healthy population. Behavioral risk factors such as obesity and lack of exercise impact absenteeism and health-care costs in the work force.

County residents are overweight or obese, and more than 60% of deaths are related to behaviors such as diet, physical activity, smoking and alcohol consumption.

## Leading Causes of Death

Age-adjusted rate per 100,000 people, 2014

	Johnson Co.
Cancer	134.9
Heart disease	109
Stroke	32.1
Chronic lower resp. diseases	31.0
All other accidents	21.8
Alzheimer's disease	17.1
Kidney disease	14
Suicide	13.3
Pneumonia & influenza	12.5
Digestive diseases	12.1

MARC Research Health Status Data

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, working with the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, released its 2016 County Health Rankings. In Kansas, Johnson County ranked No. 1 in quality of life and in health outcomes among the state's 105 counties.

Cancer and heart disease are the leading causes of death in the county. Obesity and diabetes rates continue to rise. Study after study shows a correlation between basic lifestyle behaviors on health. According to the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease: If Americans were to stop smoking, exercise regularly, and eat well, they could prevent up to 80% of heart disease and stroke, 80% of type 2 diabetes and 40% of cancers.

But despite this first place ranking, our county still has some health issues. Six in 10 Johnson

## What We Are Doing

Johnson County Extension delivers university research-based programs, many not offered by other agencies in the county. These programs educate residents and help them adopt healthy behaviors that improve their quality of life. We define health as a person's physical, mental and emotional well-being. Improving eating habits, controlling portions, and increasing physical activity can prevent diabetes and other health issues that affect productivity and financial stability.

“My doctor loves that I'm in this program!”

*Stay Strong Stay Healthy class participant*



The Stay Strong Stay Healthy strength building program is modeled after one developed by researchers at Tufts University.



## 2016 Highlights

### University-developed Exercise Programs

Regular exercise strengthens the heart muscle, helps lungs function, and reduces the risk for coronary heart disease. It reduces the chances of having a heart attack. Studies suggest it also reduces the risk for many cancers.

- **Walk Kansas** is a team-based Kansas State University state-wide program that encourages participants to lead a healthier life by becoming more active, making better nutrition choices, and learning ways to deal with stress. In 2016, more than 1,400 residents and county employees participated, dedicating 8 weeks to developing healthy physical activity and nutritional habits.
- **Stay Strong Stay Healthy (SSSH)** Physical activity that includes strength training allows older adults to stay in their own homes and live independently. SSSH is an evidenced-based eight-week program for older adults that meet the recommendation for healthy muscle strength. Participants complete pre and post program surveys as well as pre and post fitness assessments. Reported program benefits include:
  - increased muscle mass and strength,
  - restoration of balance and flexibility,
  - improved bone density, and
  - decreased arthritis pain.

### Nutrition Educational Outreach

The suburbanization of poverty continued in Johnson County in 2016. County statistics show an increase, particularly along the I-35 corridor. To help combat this growing trend Extension aggressively increased its educational outreach.

- **Food Demonstrations at Local Food Pantries**  
Nearly 37,000 Johnson County residents live below the federal poverty line. That's nearly 1 in 15 county residents, many of them women and children. Access to healthy foods and knowledge of healthy food preparation is important for this population. Extension Master Food Volunteers host free cooking demonstrations at local food pantries every month. This includes the county's two WIC offices that offer access to free fresh produce from the WIC gardens.

Managers of the WIC garden had reported the WIC clients weren't taking the produce because they didn't know how it tasted or what to do with it. Our cooking demonstrations are helping to combat this issue.

- **Four Course Living** Once students with developmental disabilities age-out of school-based programs access to formal support decreases. This program helps adults with developmental disabilities discover the importance of nutrition, safety, meal planning and preparation through a series of hands-on cooking classes. Each class is designed to meet the students' individual needs so they may continue living a healthy, cost effective and independent life.

Arcare, Inc., a certified 501(c)(3) organization based in Overland Park, supports this program through its charitable fund.



Four Course Living is a hands-on nutrition/food safety/cooking class for adults with developmental disabilities.



Provided  
technical  
assistance to  
5,940  
contacts



# Developing Tomorrow's Leaders *in Johnson County*



More than 30,417 youth participated in Johnson County Extension's Youth Development programs.

**B**ased on a number of surveys with leading corporations and professional organizations, the top skills employers want in an employee include:

- the ability to express your ideas clearly and confidently in speech;
- work confidently within a group;
- gather information systematically to establish facts and solve problems; and,

- act on initiative, identify opportunities and proactively put forward ideas and solutions.

Our increasingly complex global society requires employees and leaders that can embrace teamwork, communicate effectively and assume responsibility. Developing leaders of all ages not only benefits our county's economy but also our community.

## What We Are Doing

Businesses, municipalities, non-profits and charitable organizations utilize Johnson County Extension's adult leadership development programs. But the county's younger residents also benefit from Extension's strong guidance through the 4-H Youth Development program.

In 2016, Johnson County 4-H youth participated in a state-wide *4-H Grows Here Impact* survey. Our local youth overwhelmingly declared that they'd gained confidence, improved their decision-making processes, developed connections and grew their citizenship skills through their participation in our youth programs. The survey also indicated communication and leadership skills were improved.

### LEADERSHIP

Strong leadership skills allow youth to analyze their own strengths and weaknesses while maintaining the confidence, motivation and skills to achieve their goals. In 4-H, youth grow as leaders through identifying and carrying out projects that benefit themselves, their families and communities. Youth lead various committees, projects and events to share their knowledge.

96%

of youth reported an increased effort to allow everyone to have a voice

96%

treat everyone fairly and equally when they are in charge of a group



### MAKING RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS

93%

reported being comfortable with making their own decisions

94%

can successfully adapt plans in response to changes

90%

don't succumb to peer pressure

Strong decision-making skills enable a young person to effectively navigate life. One of 4-H's principles is viewing youth as active participants in learning and addressing their own needs and interests. Youth create goals, show progress and work with mentors.





## 2016 Highlights

### Leadership Development

**4-H Youth Development** is a national program for young people ages 7 – 18 to learn leadership, citizenship, and life skills. Youth acquire these skills and knowledge to become self-directing, productive, contributing members of our community through projects, events and activities.

- **Focus on STEM** According to the U.S. Department of Education youth today need the critical thinking skills to gather and evaluate evidence, process information and solve problems. Extension's youth programs educate and train youth in these disciplines, exposing them to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) so that they are better able to meet the growing demands of global employers.

4-H projects are unique in the breadth and depth of STEM content they provide. Projects engaging youth in STEM learning is at the heart of the 4-H curriculum. Entomology, Energy Management, Geology, Plant Science and Space Tech are some of the STEM-based programs Johnson County has to offer.

- **Education Scholarship Opportunities** According to the U.S. Department of Treasury, people with a bachelor's degree earn more and have a lower likelihood of being unemployed. Education significantly increases a child's ability to move up the economic ladder.

Several scholarship opportunities recognizing 4-H'ers for their leadership skills and positive contributions to their communities are available to Johnson County youth. The State 4-H scholarship program offers over

half a million dollars annually in donor sponsored scholarship opportunities for accomplished 4-H youth.

**Grant and Mentor Scholarships with Johnson County Livestock Association** With funding from corporate sponsors, experienced 4-H'ers are paired up with new youth showing and raising beef, sheep, swine and goats. Funds help grant winners support their livestock project while funds for mentors often go towards college costs. Mentors and grant winners meet throughout the year to share best practices and ensure new members have a successful learning experience.

The **Extension Master Gardener Scholarship Program** provides \$5,000 annually to Johnson County college-aged youth enrolled in the horticulture field.

### Board Leadership Program

- K-State Research and Extension developed a Board Leadership series to help community board members enhance their leadership skills. Local participants explore topics of vital importance for effective leadership:
  - Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members/ Effectiveness
  - Understanding Fellow Board Members, Conflict Management
  - Financial Responsibilities, Fundraising, Legalities, and Ethics
  - Strategic Planning



4-H'er Kayley Brethour owns her own bee business; received a grant from Monsanto; presented a program to youth on bees at the Olathe Library; and, earned a full ride scholarship to the Kansas State University School of Business.



Provided  
technical  
assistance to  
17,214  
contacts



# Community Vitality *in Johnson County*

Cooperative Extension Services across the country are working with the federal agencies to tackle the issues of declining communities.

Critical to a community's long-term vitality and growth are strategic leadership, workforce development, entrepreneurship, civic engagement/volunteerism, community planning and disaster preparedness. Some would say it's the quality of life a community offers that helps determine its destiny.



While Johnson County does not face many of the challenges experienced by rural communities in the state, retaining a strong and vibrant dynamic is just as important to county leaders, businesses and residents. Budget tightening across the state has forced community leaders to do more with less while maintaining the same quality of life citizens have come to expect.

The United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture recognizes the important role the county's Land-Grant University and Cooperative Extension System plays in working to build strong, vibrant, and sustainable communities.

Communities decline because of the lack of jobs and economic growth. But in order to attract families and business to put down roots, there has to be more to a community than just the prospect of employment.

“The County Extension program has been a blessing to our country and its development. The education you've provided to thousands is a treasure.”

Curious guests watch as an Extension Master Gardener waters the vegetable garden at Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead.



Extension Master Food Volunteers prepare for a nutrition class.

*Lynn Sidman*  
*Facebook comment*



## What We Are Doing

Johnson County Extension agents promote community and economic development through evidenced-based leadership programs, entrepreneurship and small business skills development and training, Hispanic outreach to serve new audiences, and citizens engagement to enhance our region's economic stability and prosperity.

### 2016 Highlights

#### Our Volunteers

Johnson County Extension's 961 volunteers improve the delivery and quality of educational public services and enhance the management of Johnson County's public finances through their generous donation of talents, skills and services. Extension volunteers are passionate, informed and committed to improving the quality of life for the residents of Johnson County.

- Volunteers participating in Extension's Master programs receive intensive program-related training from university and industry experts and are required to serve a minimum number of hours in order to become certified.

To maintain their certification, volunteers must continue advanced training and maintain a minimum number of service hours annually. Many volunteers far exceed their required hours of service.

- **Educating and Mentoring Johnson County Residents**  
In 2016, Extension volunteers performed 67,683 hours of service for the county. The dollar value of this service was approximately \$1.6 million.

Extension volunteers worked to:

- process state and federal income tax returns;
- teach adults with developmental disabilities nutrition, food planning, cooking skills and food safety;
- maintain 8 county demonstration gardens, devoting hours of labor;
- assisted municipalities within the county, providing labor in cleaning and preserving natural resources;
- educated citizens, speaking at numerous clubs, civic events and schools.

**Extension's volunteer programs include:**

- Extension Master Food Volunteers
- Extension Master Gardeners
- Extension Master Naturalists
- Financial Education and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- 4-H Youth and Adults



**Johnson County Sunset Drive Office Building  
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**

- 778 total returns completed
- \$194,500 saved in preparation fees
- \$1,069,658 in refunds, credits, and taxpayer savings returned to Johnson County
- SDOB is the second largest VITA site in the Metro
- There are only 2 VITA sites in Johnson County





Preventing nutrients from reaching water sources will help prevent blue green algae outbreaks such as those that occurred at Hillsdale Lake and Milford Lake in 2016.

In 2016, agents processed 1,117 soil tests — 995 of which were grant eligible.

## Water *in Johnson County*

Johnson County is blessed with ample quantities of water. Public water supplies are obtained from wells in Johnson County and from wells in the Kansas River valley in adjacent Wyandotte County. Additional water is supplied by two surface reservoirs.

The real issue in Johnson County is not water quantity but quality. Increased urbanization results in more residential, commercial, and industrial developments. Urban,

industrial and agricultural land uses affect the water quality of streams and lakes.

Water quality in the county is impacted by excessive nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), sediment, indicator bacteria including pet, livestock and wildlife waste, and organic compounds, which include pesticides, petroleum products, and many household chemicals.

### What We Are Doing

According to the USGS Kansas Water Science Center, Johnson County experiences its largest amounts of sediment, nutrients, and indicator bacteria during stormwater runoff. Stormwater runoff is a leading contributor to contaminants in our county's streams and lakes.

Most Johnson County citizens are not aware that water that flows from paved or hard surfaces into the storm drains is not treated water. It flows directly into the nearby stream which eventually makes its way to the Kansas and Missouri Rivers, our main source of drinking water.

Johnson County Extension works with Johnson County Government to educate the public through a strategic marketing campaign on ways residents can help reduce nonpoint sources of contaminants during stormwater runoff.



Water that flows into stormdrains is not treated. It drains directly into county streams.



## 2016 Highlights

### Extension's Role in Water Quality Education

Extension's mantra is "If it's on the ground it's in our drinking water." The function of a healthy lawn is the retention of chemicals and fertilizers in the turf layer — acting as a sponge, helping to soak up and keep chemical and organic materials from reaching a water source.

- **Soil Testing to Reduce Nutrients in Waterways**  
Nutrients are essential for proper plant growth. But excessive amounts can lead to eutrophication, algal blooms, fish kills, taste and odor problems, and problems in aquatic ecosystems. Typical nutrient sources include fertilizers.

Years of testing have shown that Johnson County's residential soils have sufficient levels of potassium and phosphorus. Agriculture nutrients vary. But many residents continue to apply products containing nutrients they don't need, that cost more money and that end up in our waterways.

Johnson County Government funds free soil tests for county residents through Johnson County Extension. Kansas State University's soil testing laboratory analyzes the soil samples, but it is Johnson County agents who review the results and make personalized recommendations. Residents receive accurate, unbiased information about the type and amount of fertilizer or amendment to apply.

- **Application Best Practices**  
It's not enough to just reduce the application of un-

necessary or excessive nutrients. They must be applied correctly. But another source that most residents don't associate with water quality is leaves and grass clippings that break down in waterways and release nutrients such as nitrates and phosphorus.

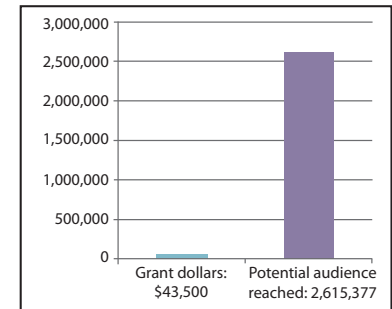
Extension promotes best practices like the blowing of grass clippings, leaves and chemicals off hardscapes and back onto lawns. Getting them out of the gutter prevents their flow into the storm drains and into streams.

### Water Quality Management and Erosion Prevention

- **No Till Seed Drill and Seed Cost Share Program**  
Permanent vegetation slows rain runoff. Slowing runoff helps prevent erosion and the deposit of sediments, and allows nutrients to be absorbed before they pollute water supplies. A challenge with establishing permanent vegetation is seed placement. Broadcasting seed reduces germination and delays establishment.

Extension oversees the county's no-till grass drill and seed cost sharing program. The drill and seed is available to residents for a nominal rental fee. Studies show placing the seed in direct contact with the soil and at the correct depth increases germination rates. Unmowed vegetation near ponds and streams act as buffer strips, preventing unwanted materials from reaching the water source.

### Water Quality Marketing Campaign



Working with Johnson County Stormwater Management, Extension received \$43,500 in grant dollars for educational outreach to citizens, to improve water quality. Using traditional and digital platforms, the marketing campaign had a potential reach of 2.6 million people.

Provided technical assistance to 15,397 contacts



# Collaborations *and* Partnerships

**W**e have the privilege of working with a large number of individuals, county departments, agencies, non-profits and corporations who are dedicated to serving the citizens of Johnson County. With the help of these 48 entities, Johnson County

Extension is able to extend its educational outreach far beyond its initial capacity of a local office with 17 employees. Through these combined efforts, we strive to make Johnson County the best it can be.

ADM Cares  
 Arcare  
 Blue Valley School District  
 Catholic Charities  
 Catholic Diocese Schools  
 Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead  
 El Centro Inc.  
 Evergreen Living Innovations, Inc.  
 City of Fairway  
 The Goddard School  
 Growing Futures Early Education, Inc.  
 Hen House Market  
 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Hospice House – Olathe Health  
 HyVee  
 Johnson County Conservation District  
 Johnson County Emergency Management  
 Johnson County Extension Education Foundation  
 Johnson County Fair Board  
 Johnson County Farm Bureau  
 Johnson County Food Policy Council  
 Johnson County Health and Environment (WIC)  
 Johnson County Library  
 Johnson County Manager's Office

Johnson County Noxious Weed  
 Johnson County Parks and Recreation  
 Johnson County Public Works  
 Johnson County Sheriff's Department  
 Johnson County Stormwater Management Advisory Council  
 Kansas State University – Olathe  
 K-State Research and Extension Horticulture Center – Olathe  
 City of Lenexa  
 Mid-America Regional Council MARC  
 City of Olathe  
 Olathe Unit – The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Kansas City

Olathe Head Start  
 Olathe Latino Coalition  
 Olathe Public Library  
 Olathe School District  
 City of Overland Park  
 Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Garden  
 Overland Park Convention Center  
 Santa Fe Waystation Food Pantry – St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
 City of Shawnee  
 Shawnee Mission School District  
 Southwest Dairy Farmers  
 Spring Hill FFA  
 WaterOne



# Funding

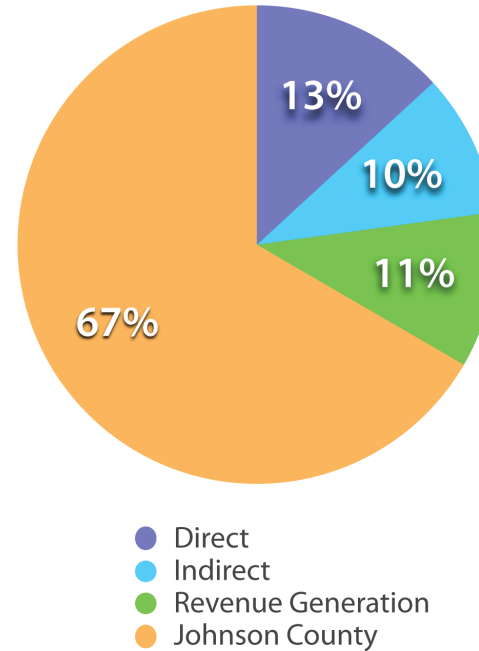
Johnson County K-State Research and Extension is funded by annual appropriations from county, state and federal governments. Grants, program participation fees, product sales and private contributions augment our core government funding.

This funding partnership provides an educational outreach system that links our residents, businesses and communities with research and education from Kansas State University and the nation's land-grant university system.

Our Johnson County Funding is essential to maintaining this unique Cooperative Extension partnership between the county, the state and federal governments, and Kansas State University, which is Kansas' land grant university.

## 2016 Sources of Support

SOURCE	ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION
Direct Kansas State University and Federal Government	\$147,778.00
Indirect Kansas State University	\$108,587.00
Revenue Generation*	\$118,345.00
Johnson County	\$748,296.00



\* Revenue Generation: Grants, participation fees, product sales, and private gifts and donations.



# Our Volunteers...

**W**e couldn't do what we do as successfully as we do without our cadre of passionate volunteers.

Extension volunteers are unique. They are selected from a number of qualified applicants. Our selection process takes into account subject experience, volunteer experience, overall enthusiasm for public service, and the mission of Extension and the desire to serve Johnson County.

Depending on the program, most volunteers must undergo hours of basic training, instructed by university and industry experts. They then are required to serve a

minimum number of hours during their first year of training in order to become certified. Once a volunteer is certified they are required to continue with a minimum number of hours of advanced training and service in order to retain their certification. All volunteers working with youth must undergo background checks and rigorous screening.

So you see, Extension volunteers are county residents committed to giving back to their communities to keep them vital and thriving.



## Our Volunteer Programs

### Extension Master Gardeners

Number of volunteers: 477

Volunteers hours: 52,624

### Extension Master Food Volunteers

Number of volunteers: 62

Volunteers hours: 8,231

### Extension Master Naturalists

Number of volunteers: 57

Volunteers hours: 2,027

### 4-H Youth Development

Number of volunteers: 345 (adult and youth)

Volunteers hours: 1,971

### Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

Number of volunteers: 20

Volunteers hours: 2,830

**Total Number of Volunteers: 961**

**Total Volunteer Hours: 67,683**



# and their contribution

Last year, our 961 volunteers provided 67,683 hours of service to the citizens of Johnson County through the various programs Extension offers.

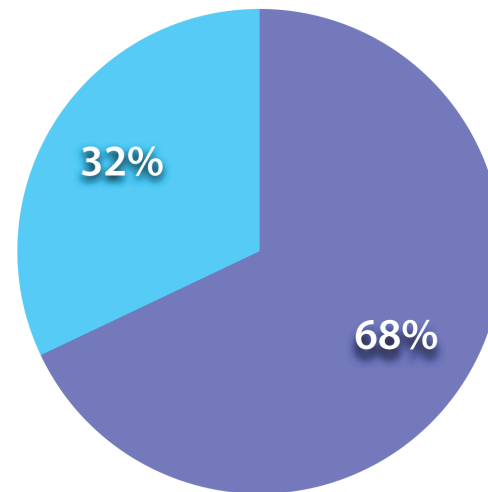
When a dollar value is applied, per hour, to the total number of hours donated to the county, that amounts to \$1.63 million worth of labor, or the equivalent of 31.59 full time employees the county did not have to pay for. That equates to double the number of full-time paid staff at Extension.

“ A treasure trove of information. A professional staff coupled with knowledgeable volunteers provide local gardeners helpful hints. ”

*Patrick O'Malley  
Facebook comment*

## Dollar Value of Extension Volunteer Service to Johnson County

SOURCE	ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION
Extension Volunteers	\$1,633,867.00 *
Johnson County Gov.	\$748,296.00



● Extension Volunteers — 67,683 hours  
● Johnson County Gov. source: Independent Sector

\* Equivalent to 31.59 Full-time Employees

---

## Key Stakeholders

---

### **Kansas State University Research and Extension**

**Richard B. Myers**  
President

**April C. Mason**  
Provost and Senior Vice President

**John Floros**  
Dean, College of Agriculture,  
Director, K-State Research and Extension

**Daryl D. Buchholz**  
Associate Director,  
Extension and Applied Research

#### **Headquarters**

K-State Research and Extension  
123 Umberger Hall  
Manhattan, KS 66506  
785.532.5820  
ksre.k-state.edu

#### **Johnson County**

K-State Research and Extension  
11811 S. Sunset Drive  
Suite 1500  
Olathe, KS 66061  
913.715.7000  
johnson.k-state.edu

### **Johnson County Board of County Commissioners**

**Ed Eilert**  
Chairman

**Ron Shaffer**  
First District Commissioner

**James (Jim) P. Allen**  
Second District Commissioner

**Steven C. Klika**  
Third District Commissioner

**Jason Osterhaus**  
Fourth District Commissioner

**Michael Ashcraft**  
Fifth District Commissioner

**John Toplikar**  
Sixth District Commissioner

### **Johnson County Managers**

**Hannes Zacharias**  
County Manager

**Penny Postoak Ferguson**  
Deputy County Manager

**Maury Thompson**  
Assistant County Manager

**Joe Waters**  
Assistant County Manager

### **Johnson County Extension Council**

**Larry Justice**  
Chair

**Caylon Huckabay**  
Vice Chair/Treasurer

**Nancy Chapman**  
Secretary

**Angela Parks**  
**Pete Goetzmann**  
**Kim Romary**  
**Jean Porter**  
**Earle C. "Bud" Smith**  
**Kevin Tomka**

### **Extension Program Development Committees (PDCs)**

**Agriculture and Natural Resources**  
James L. Brashears  
Mike Epler  
Ted Guetterman  
Pete Goetzmann  
Larry Justice  
Jim Walton

#### **Community Development**

Michele Janson  
Pam McConnell  
Michael McDermott  
Deb Settle  
Rick Sheahan  
Earle C. "Bud" Smith

#### **Family and Consumer Sciences**

Maggie Baker  
Renee Bryant  
Susie Mize  
Jean Porter  
John Peine  
Rhonda Retting

#### **4-H/Youth Development**

Michael Lemon  
Whitney Livengood  
Stephanie Marks  
Meredith Mense  
Angela Parks  
Kim Romary



## Extension Staff

As the local branch of Kansas State University Research and Extension (Kansas' land-grant university), this Extension Office has served Johnson County citizens since 1917.

We have access to the latest science, research and technology on subjects in five program areas:

- 4-H Youth Development
- Agriculture
- Community Development
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Horticulture

Our agents are university faculty. Their role is to encourage the application of this research-based information to help improve the quality of life for our residents.

We make the university's expertise available to you and help you apply it to your needs. You can trust that the information we provide is

- research-based,
- expert and
- presented without bias.



Front row: (L – R) Nancy Carr, program coordinator/4-H School Enrichment; Tara Markley, county director and Community Development agent; Christin Bartels, office professional/4-H and office manager.

Second Row: Suzi Shepherd, office professional/Horticulture; Angie Huber, program coordinator/Family and Consumer Sciences; Denise Dias, Family and Consumer Sciences agent; Nicia Gdanski, program coordinator/Extension Master Gardeners; Crystal Futrell, Family and Consumer Sciences agent.

Third Row: Tom Good, Horticulture assistant; Janice Wendel, bookkeeper; Adele Wilcoxon, public information coordinator, Dennis Patton, Horticulture agent.

Back Row: Amanda Fraunfelder, program manager/4-H; Rick Miller, Agriculture and Natural Resources agent; Joni Kelsey, office professional/Family and Consumer Sciences; and Lee Sigley, 4-H/Youth Development agent. (Not pictured: Lin Coad, office professional.)

# Johnson County *K-State Research and Extension*

Serving Johnson County, Kansas since 1917



**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension

Johnson County

**JOHNSON**  
**COUNTY**  
KANSAS

In partnership together

913.715.7000 | [johnson.k-state.edu](http://johnson.k-state.edu)

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service  
K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.