



Licking County

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2007 Impact Statements

- 323 first-time juvenile traffic offenders participated in 4-H CARTEENS, learning effective strategies for safe driving. Facilitated by nine 4-H teen leaders in partnership with Licking County Juvenile Court and local law enforcement, surveys show that participants agreed that the information presented in the program will assist them in becoming better drivers.
- Thirty-nine teen community leaders who were selected to serve on the Junior Fair Board volunteered, on average, more than 300 hours to serving the more than 1,600 junior fair exhibitors and their families involved in the junior fair program and the 200,000 members of the general public that visited the fair and participated in its activities. Evaluation forms indicated that 78% of these teen leaders learned to better plan programs, 92% learned how to deal with conflict more effectively, and 91% learned how to better plan and facilitate events.
- Through programs such as Junior Fair Board, Camp Counselor Training, Junior Leaders, 4-H CARTEENS, and public speaking programs, 75 teens were provided with training and then asked to put into practice the skills that had been gained in the following areas: leadership, public speaking, program planning, mentoring, conflict management, lesson plan development, community service, program evaluation, and effective communications. On average, each of these youth leaders contribute more than 100 hours of volunteer service to county and community-based events and activities. Many of these youth leaders are given credit through their high schools for the service learning work that they complete through the 4-H program.
- Livestock Quality Assurance programs were presented to approximately 1,100 participants during the 2007 program year. This program, which utilized 18 adult volunteers and 2 teen leaders, was presented to 714 youth members, 344 parents, and 106 community club advisors. This program educates youth and their families on the humane care and handling of livestock, appropriate record keeping methods, and how to carry out health care activities in a manner that will maintain the wholesome condition of the food products derived from the project animal.
- Through the offering of four residential 4-H camping programs in Licking County, 265 youth ages eight to eighteen participated, 50 teens served as counselors, and 12 adults supervised programming as volunteers. The youth who served as counselors received an average of 30 hours of training and in turn donated more than 150 hours of their time to assisting other youth within their community. Youth participating in these camps gain training and involvement in leadership activities, experience in public speaking activities, involvement in experiential learning opportunities that build their decision-making and reasoning skills, as well as the opportunity to interact and learn from their peers from throughout the county with varying experiences and backgrounds. Six community partner organizations supported camping activities through providing financial support for 23 children who would not have been able to participate otherwise.
- Participating in the county's 72 4-H community clubs were 1,349 youth ages 8 to 19 and 122 Cloverbuds in kindergarten through second grade. These youth enrolled in 2,800 group and individual projects that were in turn supervised by 135 adult club advisors. Through these community-based clubs, youth were able to establish a positive relationship with a caring adult, master a set of skills based upon their interests, be an active participant in preparing for their future, engage in both learning and service opportunities, and experience an environment that is safe and welcoming.
- 4-H School Enrichment programs helped 49 teachers of 3,210 students address Ohio's Academic Content Standards and acquire additional science proficiency through hands-on classes and demonstrations from the following curricula: *Breads of the Harvest*, *Chick Embryology*, *Go Plants*, *Rockets Away*, *Invent and Weather Together*.
- *Real Money, Real World*, a financial literacy program for youth, was introduced to 350 students in eighth and twelfth grades at Johnstown Adams Middle School, Johnstown Monroe High School and Pataskala Middle School. Students spent a week learning the impact of education on their potential income as adults, budgeting and the importance of saving money. Each program culminated with a real world simulation where community business partners and volunteers assisted students in meeting their monthly expenses from a net income.
- The annual Cloverbud 4-H Day Camp featured a partnership with the City of Newark, Division of Litter Prevention and Recycling with 37 campers directed by 13 volunteer teen counselors. Day camp provided campers the opportunity to explore the outdoors and engage in activities; a first-time camp experience for many of the children.
- Licking County was one of twenty statewide recipients of an *Acres of Adventures* kit. This kit contains lessons and materials for use in after-school programming centered on science and agriculture. Two sites with 38 children used the kit. One site director reported that all or nearly all of the children participating learned something new about agriculture.
- The Grandletters program concluded its second year (2006-07 academic year) with twenty fourth grade students from Newark City Schools corresponding with their senior citizen "grandpals." Students improved their writing and literacy skills. This academic year will engage more than twice as

many students with the addition of two fourth grade classes from the Licking Heights School district.

- The USDA grant funded Family Nutrition Program provides information to low-income families of Licking County. The ultimate goal is to increase their food security by offering information about nutrition, food safety and thrifty shopping. During FY 2007, 1,600 individuals attended classes at local agencies that provide services to low-income residents. After attending classes, participants reported such behaviors as cutting down on sugary beverages, using price matching when shopping, making a grocery list before going shopping, and listening to the news for any new food recalls.
- **2.6 million dollars** ... This is the savings to the state and county as a result of the 2007 Dining with Diabetes program in Licking County. (According to American Diabetes Association, it takes \$13,243 (2002) to care for each person in our state with diabetes).
- **917 pounds** ... This is the total weight loss reported this year from those attending the Dining with Diabetes classes. Research reports that even a small weight loss (5%) is attributed to *prevention* of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes. With over \$8,500 awarded in local grant funding for 2007, we also saw a 45% increase in the number of participants in this class.
- Over 450 people participated in skin analysis screenings which is used to detect skin damage caused by sun's harmful rays. The program grew this year to include several university wellness programs (Denison Univ. and OSU Newark), Longaberger (golf, corporate and physical plant), health fairs.
- Since the 1970's the percentage of children ages 6 to 11 (classified as obese), has tripled. The Activate Youth program was developed in 2007 in response to this health crisis and to assist families to respond to this growing epidemic. The Activate Youth program is a collaborative effort between the Licking County Family YMCA, local pediatrician, Licking Memorial Hospital nutrition services and Ohio State University Extension. To date, there are approximate 30 kids (and families) enrolled in the biweekly 12-week program, with significant percent having lost weight or maintained their weight and 100% are more physically active.
- The agriculture in the classroom program is to educate county elementary students about the importance and influence of agriculture in our society. The program partnered with 79 teachers and taught 3,325 students at least one of the programs. This is an increase of 1,266 students reached through the program.
- 1,089 students in the county received the series of four economic lessons as a part of agriculture in the classroom. The economic lessons provide hands on learning activities for the state required social studies benchmarks. These lessons help make students in the 3rd to 6th grade aware of the food industry.
- Licking County offered a pilot class for the Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN) program during March, April,

and May. The mission of the program is to promote awareness and citizen stewardship of Ohio's Natural Resources through science-based education and community service. Seventeen members of the OCVN program completed 40+ hours of training and passed the examination. Class members have one year to perform at least 40 volunteer hours to complete their certification as Volunteer Naturalists. Volunteer hours in 2007 alone have amounted to more than 450 hours benefiting the organizations and communities of Licking County.

- Thirteen grain producers successfully completed a three-hour graded course in grain marketing and risk management securing more than sixty hours of instruction. An evaluation of the course generated an average of a 9 on eight exit questions presented to the participants. The "nine" is on a rating scale of one to ten on the value and learning obtained from the class. Many of the class participants indicated at a follow-up meeting that they had used options, hedges, and crop insurance programs to enhance their income opportunity and manage their risk better.
- Three hundred and forty crop producers, industry personnel and crop consultants participated in agronomy programming offered during 2007. This included participants in a pest management technology field day program held during the 2007 growing season, receiving the 20 issue East Central Ohio Agronomy Report that was emailed to 120 individuals. The authoring and editing of this newsletter is a local initiative. Editing and participating in the Crop Observation and Recommendations Network newsletter in 2007 was a significant portion of this effort. Thirty-eight issues were completed in 2007. The Annual Central Ohio Agronomy School held in December of each year brings regionally respected experts to Licking County where more than 125 agronomy professionals and grain producers receive 6.5 hours of timely information and industry updates.
- Thirty-five community leaders and local government officials participated in a three-hour seminar exploring how communities "get ahead" by collaborating and thinking regionally. Successes in Ohio communities where these efforts have been accepted were shared. The program that was facilitated by OSU Extension examined how Licking County could benefit by acting more regionally. County officials committed themselves to initiating efforts to develop Licking County council of governments that would provide ongoing dialogue and sharing among the county's communities.
- Eighty Master Gardeners in Licking County contributed more than 1,850 hours of volunteer service to the community. Projects such as the junior gardener program that attracted twenty-five youth, the horticulture hotline, farmer market programs, and demonstration gardens provided a series of service and educational opportunities in our communities. The Master Gardeners engaged in 760 hours of educational opportunities to better their understanding of gardening practices in 2007.

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