

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Grand Challenges

K-State Research and Extension develops and delivers practical, research-based solutions to challenges faced by all Kansans, which includes the grand challenges:

- Global Food Systems
- Water
- Health
- Community Vitality
- Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

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Grand Challenge: Community Vitality

Title: The Local Leaders of Extension

Why is this issue important?

One of the missions of Extension is to develop local leaders. Many people know our 4-H program and how extension develops leadership in youth. Extension also seeks and develops adult leaders to oversee the programs that are offered in Shawnee County. The Extension model requires our leadership to come from the community, so the specific needs of our area are being met.

How did Extension address this issue?

At our Annual Meeting, held in Rossville this year, nine elected Program Development Committee members were sworn in as the 2024 Shawnee County Extension Board.

This board meets monthly to conduct the business of the Extension Office. They also receive monthly board training to develop their skills in Reaching New Audiences, Generational Differences, Kansas Open Meetings Act, Professional Development and Risk Management.

What was the impact?

Our office programs in the areas of Agriculture, Horticulture, Nutrition, Family Finance, Youth Development and Community Vitality. From October 2022 to September 2023 our office had 12,823 direct educational impacts. We also achieved parity in 2023, meaning the clients we served accurately represented Shawnee County.

These impacts are meeting the needs of Shawnee County because of the direction we get from our local leaders on the Shawnee County Extension Board and Council.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

Our 2024 Extension Board
Left to Right: Christi McKenzie, Sherri Scheideman, Laura Moore, David Anderson, Mary Tyler, Rick Miller, Mary Blubaugh, Jill Rice and Angela Dailey.

