Extension’s Local Presence Strengthens Services

Cooperative Extension’s current county and locally-based Extension delivery system offers many advantages to families, youth, businesses and communities. For more than 75 years, UW Extension has partnered with County government and communities to provide a valuable, accessible and responsive educational resource in each of Wisconsin’s 72 counties.

This partnership is so effective because:

Locally-based staff are more informed about community issues. They are better positioned to develop and deliver comprehensive and tailored educational responses. They also are able to work proactively, serving as a catalyst.

Extension's work often relies on personal relationships and trust developed over time between local educators, clientele and communities.

The knowledge and insight gained through a local presence is essential to meet local needs.

Educational needs often are addressed over an extended period of time, with follow up and a local contact/resource necessary for success.

Volunteer resources are better coordinated and maintained through local leadership.

Extension's education role extends beyond sharing information and technical transfer. A local presence enhances the potential for scholarship, discovery, integration and application of research.

The local presence of faculty and staff in each county ensures access to both the statewide county cooperative extension network and the research and knowledge of the UW System.

Ongoing professional development opportunities for staff provide local expertise to address rapidly emerging issues.