



Western Extension Directors' Awards of Excellence

Monterey, California
July 12, 2006

Multi-state Program Winner

Germ City: Clean Hands, Healthy People Program

Team Members: B. Susie Craig (Washington), Guendoline Brown (West Virginia), Sandra McCurdy (Idaho), Lynn Nakamura-Tengan (Hawaii), Donnie L. Cook (Alabama), Allison Nichols (West Virginia)

The Germ City: Clean Hands, Healthy People Program is a unique, interactive Extension, education, and research program addressing hand hygiene, food safety, and health leading to improved hand washing behaviors. The focal point of the program is a large, accessible lightproof tunnel equipped with black lights. Participants traverse the tunnel seeing a germ simulation on their hands. After washing, participants revisit assessing effectiveness and interacting with Extension educators in a variety of community settings. Education curricula and evaluation programs have been developed for fairs and festivals as well as classroom lessons for K – 8. The objectives of the Germ City Program are to enhance awareness of the importance of hand washing using science-based education, improve effectiveness and frequency of hand washing, facilitate cognitive-behavioral change, and generate a data/research base for future study and evaluation of hand washing education programs. Our program has reached more than 400,000 participants since 1998.



State Program Winner -- Nevada

MAGIC (Making A Group & Individual Commitment)

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension
Team Members: Marilyn Smith and Bill Evans



comprehensive, innovative design of the program.

Crime among youth continues to be an enormous problem for families and communities nationwide, with Nevada one of the leading states in per capita rates of youth incarceration. MAGIC (Making A Group & Individual Commitment), a national award winning program, targets juvenile offenders who are on probation and not in jail. It was developed based on community needs and requests by county commissioners and other collaborating partners. MAGIC is an intensive after-school program that focuses on youth, community, school and parenting components. The power of peer discussion groups is used to create documented behavior changes that result in the juvenile offenders building life skills leading to the reduction of juvenile recidivism rates and large savings to taxpayers. Parent programs are designed to help parents build skills to guide their teen to a more productive life. Current research guided the

State Program Winner -- Colorado

DARE TO BE YOU, BRIDGES PROGRAM

Colorado State University Cooperative Extension

Team Members: Jan Miller-Heyl, David MacPhee, Susan Sidinger, Rose Woody, Deborah Belone, Dana Cox, Mari Martin, Renee Podonovich, Susan Blair, Jennifer Hay Preston and Lisa Henry



The DARE to be You (DTBY) Bridges program focuses on children in kindergarten through 2nd grades. Parents, children and teachers participate together in 11 weeks (20+ hours) of community based workshops to (1) enhance the relationships between school and family to improve children's educational success and reduce potential future problem behaviors, (2) enhance family and classroom management skills for better learning environments, (3) enhance efficacy, self-management skills, relationships through improved communication and enhance the developmental level of participating children. The project and its concurrent research occurs in two culturally diverse sites: Montezuma County in southwest Colorado, with Caucasian, Hispanic and Native American families and rural Navajo communities in three states served by the Northern Navajo BIA Education Department in New Mexico, Arizona and Utah. In both sites poor relationships and lack of trust between families and schools often have created barriers that affect the cognitive and emotional development of children.

Regional Qualifying Programs

Arizona 4-H Military Partnership

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension

Team Members: Lisa Lauxman, Curt Peters, Darcy Tessman, Amy Parrott, Bryan Chadd, Pam Verble, Jennifer Lotton, Richard Brown, Debbie Wambaugh, Grady Lester, Cheryl Cotton, Pat Sweeney, Connie Reeves, Debbie Frazier, Kathy Sands, Angie Frazier, Wendy Ozmet, Ted Morris

Creating and fostering collaboration with county extension 4-H Youth Development faculty, stateside and overseas military installations, and the state 4-H office allows for a unified thrust toward providing consistent programming and support for all involved. This inclusive 4-H Military Partnership provides two basic components, training and communication, to support the Arizona 4-H Military Partnership.

Chefs for Kids Nutrition Education Program

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

Team Members: Susan Lednický Carolyn Leontos, Robin Collins, Crystal Momii, Christine Stanish, Tara Spann, Terry Garcia-Cahlan

Chefs for Kids is a nutrition education curriculum targeted to primary-aged school children in “high needs” schools in the Clark County School District of Nevada. A collaborative venture of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, The ACF (American Culinary Federation) Chefs of Las Vegas, and the Clark County School District, the program educates and motivates children to apply knowledge gained to engender a healthy lifestyle and develop sound eating habits, the basis of a lifelong healthy body weight. Presently, twelve schools take part in the intensive, in-school nutrition education program. An average of 91% of students in these schools qualifies for the free and reduced-price meal programs. Using age-appropriate techniques, Extension Educators teach students to make healthful food and physical activity choices. The curriculum is tailored to the needs and abilities of the children. Now in its fifteenth year, the program has reached over 18,750 children.

Eagle’s Nest/Owl’s Roost Environmental Discovery Day Camp

Colorado State University Cooperative Extension

Team Members: Tom Mason, Barbara Fahey, John Canuel, Jeff Goodwin, David Mosch, Karen Sitoski, Ray Child, Tabbi Kinion, Dustin Van Nieulande, Clark Baker, Connie Williams, JoAnn Sanders, Resa Moerbe, Bob Eriksson, Ken Grimes, Suzie Moore, Jessica Schneider

Eagle’s Nest/Owl’s Roost (ENOR) is a nationally recognized, award-winning program that has offered quality environmental education and experiences since 1974. A licensed childcare provider, the program offers students entering 4th and 5th grade a chance to explore Colorado’s natural and cultural history. Campers attend the program for one week and have the opportunity to visit a new site each day, learning about such things as local water resources, outdoor survival skills, map and compass techniques, energy uses, plant and tree identification, gold panning, the mining industry, geology, glacier formation and alpine environments. ENOR has been developed with objectives on five levels. These are awareness, knowledge, skills, attitude, and participation. The objectives are assessed through a series of 23 measurable outcomes. The objectives support the standards of Jefferson County Schools and are intended to facilitate the cultivation of knowledgeable, responsible, and critical thinking participants in the local and global environmental community.

Kinship Kare of Northern Arizona; Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension

Team Members: Beth Knisely Tucker, Michele Lytle, Bobbie Anderson, Jean Richmond Bowman, Miriam Drorr, JT Francis, Phyllis Hawley, Jim Molessa, Scott Neuman, Mary Pachter, Natalie Randolph, Michelle Ratner, Ann Silva, Stephanie Sivak, Jan Skaggs, Dorothy Staskey, Rose Ann, Bob Strenge, Joanne Stucjis, Fran Thal, Loria Trujillo, Marie Tsosie, Cathy Vandenberg

Many children in the Southwest are in the custody of relatives because of substance abuse and other handicapping conditions among biological parents. There are 1700 grandparents caring for grandchildren in Coconino County. Kinship Kare of Northern Arizona, KKONA, a program of the University of Arizona Coconino Extension, is in its fourth year of successful programs in education, support and advocacy for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. KKONA provides programs for any relative raising a family members' child. The purpose of KKONA programs is to: prevent homelessness or foster care; relieve stress; teach grandparents to navigate services; build healthy family relationships and change attitudes about the assets of grandparent households. KKONA trains Grandparent Mentors to assist, advocate and provide peer support for other grandparents; promotes local and statewide agency collaboration and improvement of services to grandparent households; and is alert to policy and education needs to improve the conditions of grandparents and grandchildren.

Kitchen Creations: A Cooking School for People with Diabetes and Their Families

New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service

Team Members: Linda Wells, Martha Archuleta, Karen Halderson

Nearly ten percent of the population of New Mexico is afflicted by incurable diabetes, and many of the state's citizens are at particular risk, because diabetes is more prevalent in minority populations, such as Hispanics and Native Americans. In response to an increasing demand for food and nutrition information pertaining to diabetes, the New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service developed *Kitchen Creations: A Cooking School for People with Diabetes and Their Families*. *Kitchen Creations* promotes nutrition education and skills development through participation in nutrition education activities, food preparation activities, and food tasting. Extension Home Economists and local diabetes health professionals facilitate the sessions, incorporating group learning, discussion, and skill building. Learning is further enhanced by the social support of others in the classroom. Statewide evaluations illustrate *Kitchen Creations'* success and continue to be overwhelmingly positive as the program grows.

Pesticide Best Management Practices at the Watershed Scale Oregon State University

Team Members: Jeffrey Jenkins, Steven Castagnoli

The Hood River basin is habitat for threatened winter steelhead and a major tree fruit production region. Organophosphate insecticide detections in Hood River tributaries exceeding water quality standards led to a four year monitoring program and the development of pesticide best management practices. This community-based effort included Hood River Grower-Shipper Association, Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District, Hood River Watershed Group, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, ODA, and DEQ. OSU partnered with DEQ and SWCD, and sought stakeholder input in developing the monitoring plan. Monitoring data was a focal point of stakeholder forums and grower meetings. This effort resulted in: reduced chemical inputs; improved stakeholder communication; partnership with DEQ in outreach; emphasis on BMPs rather than strict regulation. This success story has been presented locally, nationally, and internationally. The approach is now employed in other Oregon watersheds and is a model for a FAO-sponsored monitoring/farmer-field-school effort in West Africa.

Urban IPM and Pesticide Safety Education

Washington State University Extension

Team Members: Carol A. Ramsay, Carrie Foss, Becky Hines, Joan Halsey, Extension Program Collaborators, WSU Extension Specialists and Agents, WSU Extension Information Department, Washington State Department of Agriculture, Stakeholder representatives

The Urban IPM and Pesticide Safety Education Program is largely self-sustaining and services the educational demands of a very diverse audience including landscape, golf course, rights-of-way managers, structural pest inspectors, farmers, foresters, public health professionals, master gardeners, etc. We service clientele at four different levels: training resources (manuals, pest databases, online courses), introductory training prior to clients taking a state pesticide examination, continuing education lecture/online series, and in-depth workshops on turf and landscape integrated pest management. Currently we are building a hands-on training facility for home inspectors. To meet the needs of this vastly diverse audience, we hold ongoing planning meetings with our stakeholders to estimate their needs, develop partnerships for individual programs/resources, and seek grant funding to develop specialized programs. User fees/grants (83% of salary/operations) support ongoing program offerings and future growth. Long-term outcomes include increased protection of pesticide applicators, public health, and environmental health; short-term includes job advancement.