

# HARRISON COUNTY EXTENSION BOARD ANNUAL MEETING

**MARCH 13, 2025**

## Program Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Harrison County Educator Reports and Presentations
- Introduction of Current Extension Board Members and Candidates
- Presentation of Awards
- Extension Board Elections

**THANK YOU TO BLACKMAN FARMS FOR  
SPONSORING THE MEAL TONIGHT!**

2024-2025

# ANNUAL REPORT

## Ariel Camm-Wilson

County Extension Director  
Extension Educator  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

## Tara Beckman

Extension Educator  
Health and Human Sciences  
Community Development

## Anna Denny

Extension Educator  
4-H and Youth Development

## Katie Davidson

Community Wellness Coordinator (CWC)  
Floyd, Clark, and Harrison Counties

## Cindy Finerfrock

Nutrition Education Program Advisor (NEPA)  
Floyd, Clark, and Harrison Counties

## Mary Eve

Office Manager

## Sallie Carter

Extension Program Assistant

## Tammy Alcorn

Administrative Assistant

## Open Position

Administrative Program Assistant

## Acknowledgement

## THANK YOU!

Harrison County Extension would like to thank our community sponsors, partner organizations, volunteers, Extension Board members, advisory committees, 4-H Council, extension-based organizations, county officials, and the community at-large for the continued support, hard work, and dedication to Purdue Extension's mission. The ongoing contributions and efforts of these individuals and organizations make all of our high-impact, research-based educational opportunities possible.

We'd like to recognize and thank our current Extension Board members for their commitment to Harrison County Purdue Extension.

- Wanda Phillips- President
- Nathan McClure- Vice President
- Kendra Davis- Secretary
- Jake Blackman- County Council Representative
- Nicole Boone- 4-H Council Representative
- Maryland Austin- Member
- Ron Byerley- Member
- Pam Bennett Martin- Member
- Kathy Eschbacher- Timberlake- Member
- Kyle Nix- Member
- Debbie Schweitzer- Member
- Ken Tingler- Member
- Lisa Uhl- Member

## Impact of Extension Challenge Kits

What is an Extension Challenge Kit? Our monthly challenge kits provide instructions and most materials to do a DIY educational project or two on your own. The kits are geared towards ALL Harrison County community members, and focus on Extension education areas such as Agriculture and Natural Resources, Youth Development, Community Development, and Health and Human Sciences. Our kits are FREE, but come in limited quantities so be sure to check in with us at the first of each month. This has been a great addition to Harrison County Purdue Extension with over 365 kits given away since March 2024, this shows an impact that can be made indirectly at an offsite location with an Extension Impact.

### Past Challenge Kits:

April 2024- Building Legos/STEAM Activity  
May 2024- Community Capitals/Envisioning your Community  
June 2024- Fair Scavenger Hunt/Learning the Fair  
July 2024- Making Ice cream/Dairy Industry  
August 2024- Solar S'mores/Solar Energy  
September 2024- Popsicle Tractor/Farm Safety  
October 2024- Skelton Hands/Human Anatomy  
November 2024-Seed Craft  
December 2024- Soil Horizons Pudding/Soil Health  
January 2025- Milk Carton Bird Feeder/Birds of Indiana  
February 2025- Kindness Hearts/Spreading Kindness  
March 2025- Chicken Plate Craft/Poultry Industry

Thank you to Uhl's Feed and Grain and Harrison County 4-H Council for your sponsorship for the Challenge Kits!

# Agriculture and Natural Resources Report

## Impact Report: 2024-2025.

Direct County and Area Impacts with Harrison County ANR Involved:

Adult Direct Contacts-1,019

Youth Direct Contacts-1,081

Indirect Contacts- 245

Learner Minutes Total- 6,940

Client Consultations-132



### *Cattlemen's Field Day*

On Saturday, August 24th the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association, along with Purdue Extension Harrison County, hosted a Field Day at Churchill Farms. The event brought over 60 participants from 12 counties. The Field Day started out with Harrison County ANR Educator, Ariel Camm-Wilson, introducing the farm operators, sponsors, and Harrison County Cattlemen's Association members. Cameron and Devon Churchill, farm operators, discussed the history of Churchill Farms and how it became the operation it is today. They discussed how they implement rotational grazing with their beef cattle farm. They went on to talk about how they move between multiple farms and the successes they have had from rotational grazing. The day was then followed with lunch grilled by members of the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association. Mike Speaker, Kent Minerals Representative, gave a talk on the importance of keeping mineral around cattle all of the time as well as different types of minerals. The day rounded out with a talk from Cameron and Devon about cattle equipment they use such as waterers, mineral feeders, and fencing. At the conclusion, participants could have a look around the farm at the pastures and equipment. This was a great event for participants to learn about rotational grazing, beef safety, minerals, and equipment.



### *Ag Outlook Breakfast*

On Friday, January 31st, the 2025 Ag Outlook Breakfast and meeting was held at Beckort Auctions with over 45 people in attendance! The morning started off with a homemade breakfast by Purdue Extension Harrison County Office Manager, Mary Eve. The meeting featured Dr. Michael Langemeier, Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. Dr. Langemeier spoke about the grain markets for 2025 as well as carbon credits, and land values. The participants asked a lot of great questions. After the meeting concluded, everyone was able to socialize and have discussions. Thank you to Beckort Auctions, LLC for hosting and sponsoring the breakfast. It is great seeing the amount of the support for agriculture in Harrison County!



### *Private Applicator Recertification Program (PARP)*

Since March 2024, there have been 3 Private Applicator Recertification Programs (PARP) in Harrison County. This is a program to ensure private and commercial applicators have the necessary continuing education credits to assist with their operations and following state and federal guidelines with updates in regulations. There were 125 participants in the classes. In Harrison County, there are 109 private applicators and 24 commercial applicators who need to maintain certification. Topics with these programs have included soil fertility, soybean seed treatments, corn diseases, weed management, personal protection equipment, record keeping, licensing for businesses, and updates to laws.





## **Impact Report: 2024-2025**

Direct County and Area Impacts with Harrison County HHS/CD Involved:

Adult Direct Contacts- 1043

Youth Direct Contacts- 766

Indirect Contacts- 63

Learner Minutes Total- 8265



## *Building Resilient Paths to Recovery*



Over the past year, Tara Beckman spearheaded a new partnership with Hickory Treatment Center in Corydon, focusing on multiple dimensions of well-being to support individuals in their paths to recovery from substance use disorders (SUD). Hickory Treatment Center, known for its comprehensive 28-day alcohol and drug addiction recovery program for men, embraced this collaborative approach to address critical needs. The sessions covered essential topics such as nutrition, financial education, employability skills, and health-related subjects like the importance of sleep, providing valuable tools and insights for those on their journey toward renewed health and stability.

A total of 14 sessions were conducted throughout the year, with 367 participants engaging in these impactful sessions. This initiative emphasized the goal of building a community-wide recovery-oriented system of care (ROSC), while promoting comprehensive health and well-being programs for everyone involved.

## *Empowering Change: Building Stronger Communities Through Leadership Development*



Over the past year, Tara Beckman, as a member of Purdue's Community Leadership Team, has facilitated 9 sessions, reaching 112 participants across Daviess, Harrison, Knox, Orange, and Spencer Counties. Through her collaboration with local and state-wide colleagues, Tara has provided training on vital topics such as interpersonal communication, conflict management, team building, nonprofit board development, and leading effective meetings. These sessions have equipped individuals with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to become effective leaders, drive positive change, and contribute to the growth of stronger, more resilient communities throughout Indiana. Tara's commitment to fostering emerging changemakers continues to inspire individuals to engage deeply with their communities and make a lasting impact.



# 4-H Youth Development Report

## **Impact Report: 2024-2025**

Starting May 1st, 2024 - Current

Direct County and Area Impacts with Harrison County 4-H/Youth Development Involved:

Adult Direct Contacts- 298

Youth Direct Contacts- 3074

Indirect Contacts- 175

Learner Minutes Total- 7115



### *4-H Dairy Program*



4-H Educator, Anna Denny, with the help of 4-H volunteers, developed and grew a robust group of youth passionate about dairy. Whether it's dairy goats or cattle, showing, breeding, managing, making products, or just exploring something new, this new group had many hands-on and exciting experiences this year. Members explored the world of dairy goats with a milking demonstration led by Debbie Haeberlin of Karst Kreek Farms, emphasizing the importance of biosecurity. They also took a memorable field trip to the North American International Livestock Expo, gaining firsthand insight into the dedication required in the show ring. The 4-H'ers also made cheese and goat milk caramel from scratch. Their hard work and commitment paid off at the Area 2 Milk Quality Contest on February 4th, where the Senior Team earned 3rd place overall, the Junior Team secured 7th place, and Waylon Jones achieved first place as an individual. Congratulations to all the participants for their achievements and dedication to learning!

### *4-H Livestock Project to Plate Cooking Series*



From January 29th through March 5th, 4-H Educator Anna Denny led an engaging workshop series where youth explored different meat cuts and cooked with meats from the various livestock species 4-H'ers can show at the fair. Using a life-sized beef cut model, participants learned to identify meat cuts with hands-on experience. The series was made possible by generous donations of locally grown meat from K&B Liberty Farms, the Bickel Family, the Kopp Family, the Eschbacher Family, Wild Violets Farm, and the Byerley Family. Youth had the opportunity to cook with a variety of meats, including beef, pork, chicken, goat, lamb, and rabbit. In addition to mastering meat cuts, participants gained valuable kitchen skills and learned about food safety, making this series an educational and delicious experience for all!

### *4-H Teen Barista Workshop*



Over 20 teens grades 7 to 12 had a very special, one of a kind experience, hosted by KentJava Bar in Corydon. The teen participants learned how to tune into their senses to identify flavors of coffee. They learned how to pour espresso shots, froth milk, and created beautiful latte art, testing their skills and learning from the best. Thank you to KentJava Bar, owner Sherry Watson, and the talented Baristas for sharing their expertise and making this workshop such an engaging and fun learning opportunity!

# Community Wellness Coordinator

## **Impact Report: 2024-2025**

Policy, Systems, and Environment Change initiatives with Katie's involvement in her counties (Floyd, Clark, Harrison) in the NEP 2024 Program Year: 15.



## *Growing Together: A Collaborative Herb Garden Project at Genesis House*



When HHS/CD Educator Tara recommended a collaboration with Genesis House, NEP staff, Cindy and Katie, were eager to create something meaningful. After meeting with Genesis House staff, Cindy began teaching NEPA classes, and Katie worked on the idea of starting a garden space. When Cindy introduced fresh herbs in a class, the residents' excitement prompted them to create a small herb garden instead of starting with raised beds. This initiative would support Cindy's teachings on healthy eating by providing residents with easy access to fresh, flavorful ingredients for their group meals.

Katie visited the NEPA class to gather input, and the residents eagerly selected herbs to grow. Despite the ambitious request to grow all seven herbs proposed, we were able to make it happen with community support. Local businesses like Tractor Supply and Rural King donated supplies, and a local contractor built custom shelving using donated materials. A school garden club even contributed a hand-painted lavender plant, adding a personal touch. Katie created a set of educational cards with information on herb selection, storage, and QR codes to healthy recipes to help guide the residents' culinary endeavors.

The planting day, which was celebrated with a "garden party," was full of fun, collaboration, and healthy activities. Cindy brought a delicious watermelon pizza, and everyone worked together to plant herbs in pots. Some "ready-to-eat" pots were even provided for immediate use in their kitchen. Katie and Cindy shared care instructions for the plants. Going forward, Cindy tailored lessons around harvesting the herbs and creative ways to use them. This project brought such joy and excitement, and we look forward to hearing about the many ways the residents incorporate their fresh herbs into their cooking, all while watching both their skills and the plants thrive.

## *Indiana Food Vision Project*



The Indiana State Department of Health requested that CWCs host local focus groups to help inform their Indiana Food Vision project. Katie decided to hold them in-person in each of her 3 counties. She advertised them each a bit differently, depending on the county. The Harrison County focus group was a great session of learning and sharing among farmers/producers, Educators, and interested community members. Both Tara Beckman (HHS Educator) and Cindy Finerfrock (NEPA) assisted with notetaking for this session. Many participants said at the end of the session that they had never thought about the food system so expansively before, or that they really expanded their understanding or view of the food system by the end of the session. Katie is hopeful these participants will continue to be engaged in the food vision process as it continues. For more information, visit [IndianaFoodVision.org](https://IndianaFoodVision.org).



# Nutrition Education Program Advisor

## Impact Report: 2024-2025

NEPA Cindy Finerfrock serves 3 counties: Harrison, Floyd & Clark  
In 2024 the Purdue Nutrition Education Program Evaluation and Reporting System tracked her impact:

- Direct Ed Reach at 419 (609 Participant/279 sessions/388 hours)
- Indirect Ed Reach at 1188
- Completed Survey Responses at 494
- 12 of her 29 Program Activities served Harrison County Community Partners
- 50% of her Indirect Activities served Harrison County
- 100% of her Programs in Harrison County were held In-person.
- Finerfrock and the CWE installed an Outdoor Herb Garden PSE in Harrison Co.



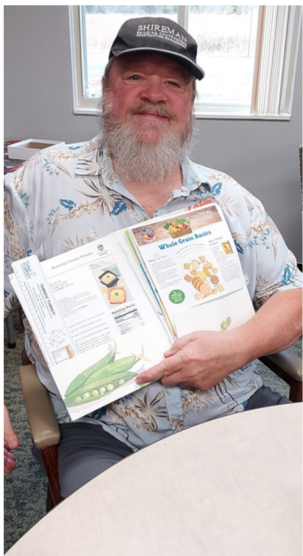
*Programs include: Eat Smart Move More for Adults, Eat Smart Live Strong for Seniors, TEEN Cuisine for Youth*

In 2024, Nutrition Education Program Advisor, Cindy Finerfrock, introduced community participants all over our county to finding ways to “make the healthier choice the easier choice!” She worked with adults & youth of all ages. She introduced nutrition programs that provided a series of classes held over the duration of the entire year.



Class sessions included: introduction to the USDA MyPlate, understanding nutrient values of food groups, meal planning, informed food shopping habits, label reading, cooking tips, food safety & storage, community support, ways to overcome obstacles & challenges, and remembering to easily add more movement to each day!

Each class focused on participants learning nutritional & physical fitness stress-reduction techniques, empowering them to make informed choices for their well-being as life-long learners! Knowing small changes lead to bigger changes forward!



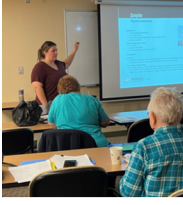
“Laughter and skills increased with each session that members of Harrison County attended!” Cindy said. “We learned together that food is fundamental and can be FUN as well!” “We enjoyed polite bites with taste tests at each class...and, no one ever Yucked someone else’s YUM!”

- Alternative Education Center / Harrison County
- Blue River CBI Industries Day Program / Corydon
- Blue River Pre-ETS (Pre-Employment Training Services) / Harrison-Floyd-Clark
- Capitol Court Housing / Corydon
- Genesis House / Corydon
- IEHA 2024 Holiday Workshop / Harrison County
- Joe Rhoads Center / Corydon
- LHDC Milltown Housing for the Elderly / Depauw
- SWAG - Seniors with a Goal / New Salisbury

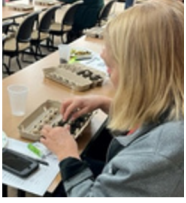


# Program Area Collaborations

## *From Seed to Table: Empowering the Community Through Grow It, Cook It*



This past year, the "Grow It, Cook It" program, led by Ariel and Tara, has connected the community to farm-to-table education, helping participants make informed decisions and sample fresh produce. In March 2024, 11 participants learned about onions, including varieties, pests, planting, and cooking tips, and planted their own onion sets to grow at home.



In April, 9 participants explored Brussels sprouts, focusing on cultivation and preparation. Tara shared cooking techniques and health benefits, while Ariel led an activity on planting Brussels sprout seeds. Thanks to Tractor Supply Company, each participant took home starters.

In October, the focus shifted to herbs, with Ariel teaching how to grow chives, parsley, thyme, and basil, while Tara explored culinary uses and prepared dishes like broccoli & chive stuffed peppers. This session, with 28 participants, was a collaboration with Harrison County Master Gardeners and open to the public.

These workshops have deepened participants' understanding of fresh produce and showcased the power of collaboration between educators and the community. "Grow It, Cook It" continues to inspire healthy eating and gardening, bringing people together to learn, taste, and grow. Stay connected to be the first to hear about upcoming sessions!



## *Harrison County 3rd Grade Ag Days*

On September 18th and 19th at the Harrison County Fairgrounds over 500 youth from Harrison County schools gathered for the 2024 3rd grade Ag Day. This was a great way for youth to be exposed to agricultural topics such as dairy, livestock, soil, grain bin safety, drones, pollinators, embryology, farm safety, horses, and parts of a plant.

The students moved around the fairgrounds from station to station throughout the day. Each student was provided lunch during the day and a goody bag to take home which was full of educational materials and fun ag items. It is vital that youth understand the agriculture industry and this is a great way for them to gain exposure.

At this event, ANR Educator Ariel Camm-Wilson provided offsite logistics with helping coordinate with FFA Chapters and volunteer management. She also provided onsite logistics such as coordinating school groups day and overall flow of the event. 4-H/Youth Development Educator Anna Denny, provided off site logistics such as communication with schools, scheduling groups, and contacting station leads. HHS/CD Educator Tara Beckman facilitated an educational station each day focused on healthy living, which included discussions on plant education and the foods we can grow, led by Master Gardeners. Youth then had the chance to use a blender bike to create smoothies, incorporating different parts of the plant as part of the booth activities.

We would like to say Thank You to all of our sponsors, guest presenters, volunteers, and everyone who helped to make this event a huge success! Ag Day would not be possible without your contributions.



## *Festive Flavors: A Collaborative Approach to Healthy Holiday Meals*

At the Harrison County Extension Homemakers' annual Holiday Workshop in November 2024, a successful collaboration between Educator Tara Beckman, NEPA Cindy Finerfrock, and the Extension Homemakers brought to life the session "Festive Flavors: Eating the Rainbow with Seasonal Produce." This partnership showcased practical tips for preparing budget-friendly, in-season meals while maintaining food safety and nutrition during the holiday season. By emphasizing the importance of colorful, nutrient-rich foods, the team demonstrated how a variety of dishes can highlight the wide range of nutrients available to guests. Participants had the chance to sample a delicious and nutritious Creamy Chicken Cranberry Roll-Up, which was demonstrated and then enjoyed at the group's pitch-in lunch. This session, attended by 53 adults and 5 youth, highlighted the power of collaboration in delivering valuable insights for creating healthy, festive meals. Additional recipes were provided through [eatgathergo.org](https://eatgathergo.org).





# Harrison County Budget for Purdue Extension- 2024

If you have additional questions regarding Purdue Extension Harrison County's specific financial information, please contact our office Monday through Friday from 8am to 4:30pm at 812-738-4236.

LINE ITEM	2024 COUNTY ALLOTTED FUNDS	AMOUNT SPENT IN 2024
Payroll-Wages (Full & Part-time & Intern) & Longevity	\$133,268	\$121,924
Office & Other Supplies	\$11,500	\$10,607
Postage	\$3,500.00	\$2,641
Communication & Equipment repair	\$2,416.00	\$1,984
Contractual Services	\$123,785	\$123,785
Travel, Dues, and Subscriptions	\$13,700	\$6,772
Computer maintenance	\$5,200.00	\$1,668



Extension - Harrison County

# Purdue Education Funds for Harrison County Purdue Extension- 2025

If you have additional questions regarding Purdue Extension Harrison County's specific financial information, please contact our office Monday through Friday from 8am to 4:30pm at 812-738-4236.

negative means credit		EOM Jan 2025
Row Labels		Sum of Actuals
<b>4-H</b>		<b>\$ (6,953.37)</b>
Council Funding	\$	(90.24)
Council flow-through	\$	(9.45)
Grant	\$	(435.82)
Kits / Supplies	\$	88.45
Workshops / Misc	\$	(2,274.54)
State fees	\$	(1,440.00)
TSC Clover Funds	\$	(2,791.77)
<b>HHS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(5,167.84)</b>
Workshops / Misc	\$	(570.89)
Beginner Grant Writing	\$	(82.92)
Canner Testing / Books	\$	(409.00)
Leadership Harrison County	\$	(480.00)
ServSafe	\$	(2,950.09)
Dining with Diabetes	\$	(674.94)
<b>ANR</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(9,654.73)</b>
Master Gardener	\$	(713.04)
Workshops / Misc	\$	(2,324.31)
PARP	\$	(1,378.85)
Farm Record books	\$	(437.62)
AG Outlook Program	\$	(311.67)
Sample Testing	\$	(489.24)
MG 2025 Registration fees	\$	(4,000.00)
<b>Gen Misc</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(1,735.10)</b>
Misc	\$	(383.27)
Plat Books	\$	(1,197.65)
Challenge Kits	\$	(154.18)
<b>PCARET</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(625.00)</b>
PCARET Dues	\$	(625.00)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(24,136.04)</b>



# We Value Your Input!

Our work and impact depend on quality feedback from the community. Please help us to better serve the needs of our community by answering the questions below.

## 4-H & Youth Development

- Civic Engagement
- College & Career Readiness/ Workforce Development
- Healthy Living
- Leadership
- Science/STEM

## ANR- Agricultural & Natural Resources

- Animal Science
- Farm Management
- Diversified Farming
- Natural Resources
- Field Crops
- Horticulture

## CD- Community Development

- Community Economics & Workforce Development
- Community Health
- Community Planning
- Leadership & Civic Engagement

## HHS- Health & Human Sciences

- Food
- Family
- Money
- Health

## NEP- Nutrition Education Program

- Nutrition & Health Improvement for Audiences with Limited Resources
- Local Policies
- Community Systems
- Environmental Changes

1. What do you like about the work happening with Purdue Extension Harrison County?

2. What audiences or locations do you believe are underserved in Harrison County?

3. What interests or opportunities, which fall within the scope of Extension work, do you see needing prioritized in our county?

*\*Please list thoughts below OR circle bullet topics under each educational area at the top of this page.*

4. Purdue Extension strives to be “Indiana’s Educational Partner for Life.” What specific programs/workshops would you like to suggest or see within Harrison County Purdue Extension (educational areas are listed at the top of this page to help with ideas)?

**Circle** the bulleted option that applies to you in questions 6-10. Your responses are voluntary and help Purdue Extension improve its programming. Thank you.

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**6. What township do you live in?**

- Blue River
- Boone
- Franklin
- Harrison
- Heth
- Jackson
- Morgan
- Posey
- Spencer
- Taylor
- Washington
- Webster

**7. What is your age range?**

- Younger than 18
- 18-25 Years
- 26-35 Years
- 36-45 Years
- 46-55 Years
- 56-65 Years
- 66-75 Years
- 76+ Years
- Prefer Not to Answer

**8. Please choose a race you most identify with:**

- White/Caucasian
- African American
- Asian
- Latino
- Native American or Alaskan Native
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- More than one ethnicity
- Other:
- Prefer not to answer

**9. Which of the following categories best describes your occupation?**

- Farm
- Agriculture: non-farm
- Government (local, state, federal)
- Education
- School Corporation
- Industrial
- Sales
- Engineering
- Finance/Accounting
- Utilities
- Medical
- Retired
- Stay-at-home parent
- Student: K-12th grade
- Student: College
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Which area of Purdue Extension are you most familiar with/use most often?**

- 4-H Youth Development
- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Community Development
- Health and Human Sciences
- Nutrition Education Program
- I have never used Extension before