



Extension Education in Maverick County

Making a Difference

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and its partners have long been dedicated to educating Texans. Extension education evolved nationwide under the 1914 federal Smith-Lever Act, which sought to extend university knowledge and agricultural research findings directly to the people. Ever since, Extension programs have addressed the emerging issues of the day, reaching diverse rural and urban populations.

In Texas, all 254 counties are served by a well-organized network of professional Extension educators and some 100,000 trained volunteers. Extension expertise and educational outreach pertain to the food and fiber industry, natural resources, family and consumer sciences, nutrition and health, and community economic development. Among

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE ***Providing Solutions***

those served are hundreds of thousands of young people who benefit annually from Extension's 4-H and youth development programs.

Texans turn to Extension education for solutions. Extension agents and specialists respond not only with answers, but also with resources and services that result in significant returns on the public's investment. Extension programs are custom-designed for each region of the state, with residents providing input and help with program delivery. Here are just a few highlights of Extension impacts on this county and its people.

Maverick County – Summary of 2013 Educational Contacts

- **4-H Clubs - 6**
- **4-H Club Members - 290**
- **4-H Adult Volunteers - 14**
- **AgNR LBB Report Total All Contacts - 34,246**
- **LAB and Youth Board Meetings - 6**
- **4-H Newsletters posted on maverick.agrilife.org - 12**
- **FCS LBB Report Total All Contacts - 24,312**
- **Adjunct Faculty Agreement - 1**

Agriculture and Natural Resources

2013 General ANR Plan for Maverick County

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

One of the most important tasks of the Maverick County Extension Agent is to maintain a constant relationship with ranchers and farmers in the County. The Maverick County Extension Agent attends phone calls and travels around the County to visit and observe the different necessities of the agricultural and ranching business. All these activities determine the programs that the ranching community needs the most, and the County Extension Agent develops a proper plan of action to assist the ranchers.

Response

According to common activities of the ranchers and farmers, they all use chemicals to control undesirable weeds and plants and to fertilize crops. The Maverick County Extension Office developed a program to provide Pesticide Applicators Trainings to ranch and farm workers. We also provided CEUs (continuing education units) to ranch workers that have their Pesticide Applicators Licenses up to date and would like to keep it for another year.

Results

The Maverick County Extension Office provided a set of 3 Pesticide Applicators Trainings and CEUs, at the beginning of the year. The trainings and CEUs were announced in the local newspaper. The trainings were coordinated with the Uvalde Extension Office schedule of testing with the Texas Department of Agriculture. The Pesticide Applicators testing is offered every other month, and we provided the trainings a week before the testing dates. The Maverick County Extension Office also provided a special Pesticide Applicator Training to High School senior students in the FFA class. After the training, a Texas Department of Agriculture Official provided the examination to the students. The majority of the students were successful in passing the exam and obtaining their license.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Future Plans

The Maverick County Extension Office will continue providing agricultural education to the community, which includes Pesticide Applicators Trainings, CEUs, Webinars, and Workshops.



The Maverick County Extension Agent during the Pesticide Applicators Training to the High School Students.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

2013 Maverick County Rangeland Management Plan

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

The County Extension Agent performs weekly tours around the County to assess the different necessities of the ranchers. Depending on the comments of the ranchers and other citizens of the community, different programs were coordinated to assist them. The primary question that arises during conversations with ranchers and farmers is in reference to gaining financial support for their ranch. Based on this need, we planned on a workshop to assist the local ranchers.

The County Extension Agent developed an Agricultural Demonstration and Applied Research Project at the Black Ranch in Maverick County. The project consisted in testing the effectiveness of the herbicide Sendero in Huisache and Mesquite. The application of the herbicide was on April of 2012 and the final part of the project was to allow the local ranchers to observe the results of the project. A Field Day was conducted on May of 2013 one year after the application of the Sendero herbicide. These types of activities are necessary to educate the ranching community about new chemicals available in the market and also to provide additional information on different types of equipment and how to use it properly.

There are some other groups of younger people which require educational support on agricultural issues. The County Extension Agent assisted with educational presentations different groups of people in the County, to develop their knowledge in animal science as well as agriculture. These groups of people were the Border Hope Juvenile Boot Camp and a youth group at the Kickapoo Indian Reservation Community.

Response

The County Extension Agent in coordination with the USDA Texas Mexican Border Coalition and USDA NRCS programmed a workshop to provide information to the local ranching community on financial assistance to improve their operations. The event was highly marketed in the local media, and many ranchers contacted the office to obtain information of the event. The event was able to gather up to 10 different financial institutions that provide financial assistance to the ranchers and farmers. We had the privilege of having Ms. Judy Canales, State Director of FSA. She provided a very important presentation to the audience. We also had some regional FSA Agents, as well as USDA NRCS Agents that positively complemented the workshop.

Agriculture and Natural Resources

The County Extension Agent organized an Agricultural Field Day at the Black Ranch, to provide information on the Sendero herbicide results Agricultural Demonstration and Applied Research Project.

Dr. Lyons Texas A&M Agricultural Specialist of the Uvalde Extension Office offered his services, and provided a workshop on Pesticide Applicator Equipment use. The workshop included information of different types of equipment to apply chemicals and the calibration of the nozzle to minimize drifting. The manager of the ranch also mechanically extracted some roots of the treated plant to observe the effects of the product in the roots.

The County Extension Agent provided a series of presentations at the Border Hope Juvenile Boot Camp of Maverick County. This group of kids are part of the DAP of the Eagle Pass ISD. Maverick County developed a camp with a dormitory for male kids, in which they can spend up to 6 months depending on the misconduct charges. The presentations provided to the juveniles were; Animal Science, Texas Native Flora, Texas Native Fauna, What is the 4-H in Pictures, Entomology I, and Entomology II. At the Kickapoo Indian Reservation, the County Extension Agent also provided a series of presentations that included, Texas Native Flora, Texas Native Fauna, What is the 4-H in Pictures, and Animal Science.

Results

The Maverick County Agricultural Workshop results were positive, providing the audience important information on financial institutions that provide assistance to the agricultural businesses. Also, the different processes to acquire the grants, or loans from these institutions.

The results of the Agricultural Field Day were satisfactory. Dr. Lyons' presentation positively educated the audience in pesticide applicators management. Also the Results Demonstrations presentation of the County Extension Agent provided valuable information to the attendees, on the new herbicide Sendero effectiveness.

The presentations provided to the youth of the Kickapoo community and the kids of the Border Hope Program provided positive educational new knowledge in different field of agriculture. The results were optimistic, with a very high involvement of the audience.

Future Plans

The County Extension Agent will continue providing educational workshops and presentations to the ranchers and farmers of Maverick County depending on their needs. The events might be coordinated with other government institutions to improve the quality of the information. The County Extension Agent will also take advantage of the different agricultural specialists of Texas A&M, for the presentations and agricultural events. Also the County Extension Agent will continue providing agricultural presentation to our youth in Maverick County and the objective is to initiate more young people in the agricultural field.

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**2013 Agricultural Field Day with;
Dr. Lyons Texas A&M Agriculture Specialist
Zerafin Aguirre of USDA and
Jordan Haslocher Black Ranch owner**



Maverick County Border Hope Boot Camp

Agriculture and Natural Resources

2013 Maverick Youth ANR and Livestock

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

The Maverick County ANR plan is focused in developing greater skills in agriculture in our youth. One of the most important activities is to guide, educate, and train them to successfully conclude their animal projects. The Maverick County Junior Livestock Show is the most popular 4-H and FFA activity in the County, and many of these exhibitors participate at the major livestock shows. These young exhibitors are the future farmers and ranchers that will lead the country in to a better place to live. The Maverick County Extension Office is also devoted to educate other sectors of the community in different field of agriculture.

Response

The Maverick County Extension Agent in coordination with the different Validation Committees and the Maverick County Junior Livestock Show Association were able to validate the different species for the local livestock show, including out of town exhibitors. The County Extension Agent coordinated efforts with the South West Junior College and educational personnel of the Kickapoo Indian Reservation to provide agricultural presentations at these locations.

Results

This year we were able to validate 90 swine's, 80 goats, 78 lambs, and 17 steers for the next 2014 Maverick County Junior Livestock Show season, these numbers include 4-H and FFA. Some of the validated animals will show at the major livestock shows. In the 2013 Maverick County Junior Livestock Show the 4-H participated with 51 goats, 49 rabbits, 45 sheep, 60 swine, and 17 steers. At the South West Texas Junior College the County Extension Agent provided different presentations in agriculture to college students of Biology. Also at the Kickapoo Indian Reservation, the County Extension Agent was able to assist the community with presentations. The presentations titles the County Extension Agent provided to the SWTJC and the Kickapoo Indian Reservation were; Animal Science, Texas Native Flora, and Texas Native Fauna.

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Future Plans

The Maverick County Extension Office is committed to continuously assist the community with the different needs in agricultural education, not only for the 4-H members but other educational institutions that require this kind of presentation.



**South West Texas Junior College Biology Students
and the Maverick County Extension Agent**

Agriculture and Natural Resources



2013 Steer Grand Champion and a 4-H member



2013 Goat Grand Champion and a 4-H member



2013 Lamb Grand Champion and a 4-H member



The County Extension Agent and some Kickapoo Indian youth

Agriculture and Natural Resources

2013 Quality Counts - Maverick County

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

One important factor for our 4-H youth major show exhibitors, is to possess their Quality Counts number in order to show at any major livestock show. They must pass the exam, and familiarize with the information provided by the Quality Counts Program. The County Extension Agent provides a workshop for those out of town exhibitors, to prepare them with the necessary information to pass the exam. Also to educate them on the different illegal drugs prohibited in show animals, and how to conduct their projects properly.

Response

The Quality Counts Program submitted a list of Maverick County 4-H major show exhibitors that changed age category, and had to retake the Quality Counts test. The County Extension Agent contacted these exhibitors as well as some other new major livestock show exhibitors, and a Quality Counts workshop was scheduled for these individuals. The response was positive, due to the importance of the subject.

Results

The results were positive, thanks to the parents and the participation of the 4-H kids. All of the 4-H major livestock show exhibitors that attended the workshop were able to pass the Quality Counts exam, and obtained their number to register in the different major livestock shows of Texas.

Future Plans

The Maverick County Extension Office will continue providing workshops and training to the 4-H youth in order to comply with their projects as mandated by the 4-H. Quality Counts is an important aspect for our young 4-H major livestock show exhibitors, and the County Extension Agent will support the necessary education to fulfill this project.

Family and Consumer Sciences

**2013 Maverick County
Live It! Real Life Nutrition for Teens
Nutrition Program
Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent
*Meeting Needs, Changing Lives***

Relevance

The Maverick County Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) committee has identified obesity and diet related diseases as a top priority for programming in this county. Overweight and obesity rates among Texas adults, age 18 and over, follow: (1) 65.9% of adults were overweight, with a Body Mass Index of 25 or greater, and 31.0% of adults were obese, with a Body Mass Index of 30 or greater. Adolescent overweight and obesity rates for Texans in grades 9 through 12 follow: (2) 15.6% were overweight, (> 85th and < 95th percentiles for BMI by age and sex) and 13.6% were obese (> 95th percentile for BMI by age and sex). Finally, overweight and obesity rates among Texas children, age two to less than five (3) follow: 16.8% were overweight, (85th to <95th percentile BMI-for-Age) and 15.3% were obese (>95th percentile BMI-for-Age). Diet related diseases include coronary heart disease, hypertension and stroke, type 2 diabetes, and certain types of cancer (4,5). Poor health and diet related illness have a devastating impact on households due to lost income and medical cost. The annual cost associated with excess weight in Texas is approximately \$15.6 billion in 2010 and could increase to \$39 billion by the year 2040.(6) Families in Maverick County experience economic limitations, as noted in the US Census Bureau.(7)

Maverick County Poverty - 2010 (Census Bureau)

Percent of Population in Poverty:	39.9%
Percent of Population under 18 in Poverty:	53.2%

Response

Live it! Real Live Nutrition for Teens is a nine lesson program that provides technical and educational information to limited resources families and individuals to help them understand the importance of nutrition and diet. The program was conducted in February and May 2013 and 2217 educational contacts were made throughout the series. The lessons heighten awareness of the relationship between high calorie food consumption and lack of exercise to health status.

Nutrition lessons were offered in a classroom setting to promote healthy eating habits.

Marketing efforts included newsletters, Maverick County AgriLife Extension website, flyers, and outreach to community partners.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Program was planned and coordinated with the Eagle Pass Independent School District and the Texas Department of State Health Services. Retrospective post evaluations were completed for the nutrition classes.

Results

Number of Participants: 210; Percentages based on 69% responded to the survey.

82% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the activity.

Demographic data on educational contacts for series February & May 2013

White	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Female	Male
14	2143	60	0	1195	1022

Anticipated Changes & Economic Impact:

73% of respondents plan to take actions or make changes based on the information from this activity. Changes include increasing home cooked meals, increase fruit and vegetable consumption, increase exercise time and increase exercise frequency and more food variation in their diet.

57% of respondents think what they learned from this Extension activity will help them make more money or reduce their expenses in the future. This would total a combined average savings of \$59,508.00 per year in grocery bills by these families cooking more at home and eating less fast food.

Interpretation efforts include compiling a commissioner's report on a monthly basis and reporting participation and results to stakeholders in the community, to include County Judge, County Commissioners, and State Representative Poncho Nevares, Congressman Pete Gallegos's local case manager, Melina Castro and Senator Carlos Uresti's staffer Helen Martinez. In addition, reports will be provided to FCS Committee and local partners such as Eagle Pass Independent School District, Wesley Nurses, Methodist Ministries and South Texas Rural Health Services.

Future Plans

Nutrition programs will continue to be offered in Maverick County throughout schools in the Eagle Pass Independent School District.

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2013 Maverick County Live It! Real Life Nutrition for Teens Nutrition Program

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2013 Maverick County Live It! Real Life Nutrition for Teens Nutrition and Exercise Program Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent *Meeting Needs, Changing Lives*

Relevance

The Maverick County Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) committee has identified obesity and diet related diseases as a top priority for programming in this county. Overweight and obesity rates among Texas adults, age 18 and over, follow: (1) 65.9% of adults were overweight, with a Body Mass Index of 25 or greater, and 31.0% of adults were obese, with a Body Mass Index of 30 or greater. Adolescent overweight and obesity rates for Texans in grades 9 through 12 follow: (2) 15.6% were overweight, (> 85th and < 95th percentiles for BMI by age and sex) and 13.6% were obese (> 95th percentile for BMI by age and sex). Finally, overweight and obesity rates among Texas children, age two to less than five (3) follow: 16.8% were overweight, (85th to <95th percentile BMI-for-Age) and 15.3% were obese (>95th percentile BMI-for-Age). Diet related diseases include coronary heart disease, hypertension and stroke, type 2 diabetes, and certain types of cancer (4, 5). Poor health and diet related illness have a devastating impact on households. The annual cost associated with loss of income and medical costs due to excess weight in Texas is approximately \$15.6 billion in 2010 and could increase to \$39 billion by the year 2040.(6) Families in Maverick County experience economic limitations, as noted in the US Census Bureau.(7)

Maverick County Poverty - 2010 (Census Bureau)

Percent of Population in Poverty: 39.9%

Percent of Population under 18 in Poverty: 53.2%

Response

Live it! Real Live Nutrition for Teens is a nine lesson program that provides technical and educational information to limited resources families and individuals to help them understand the importance of nutrition and diet. The program was conducted in June and July 2013 and 603 educational contacts were made throughout the series. The lessons heighten awareness of the relationship between high calorie food consumption and lack of exercise to health status.

Exercise/Zumba classes were offered in conjunction with the nutrition series for children and adults to promote fitness and exercise along with healthy eating habits at each session. Sessions were held Mondays and Thursdays.

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A *Ciclovía* was also conducted at the inauguration of the Border Bi-national Health Week with over 500 Maverick County residents, city and county dignitaries present. A *Ciclovía* is a term which translates from Spanish into English as "bike path" and is now used worldwide to describe either a permanently designated bicycle route or a temporary event or the closing of the street to automobiles for use by others. The purpose of this endeavor is to promote lifestyle behavior changes through sustained physical activity and to create an environment which is supportive of a community's need for ongoing recreational activity.

Marketing efforts included radio interviews, newsletters, Maverick County AgriLife Extension website, newspaper ads, flyers, and outreach to community partners.

Nutrition programs were planned and coordinated with community partners that are members of the HOPE-K Tri-national health Council. HOPE-K THC is a community group formed in the 1960s and composed of health professionals, social workers, promotoras, epidemiologists, public health officials, and civic leaders. The HOPE-K THC serves communities from Eagle Pass, Texas, Piedras Negras, Mexico and the Kickapoo Nation. Its mission is to improve health along the Eagle Pass-Piedras Negras border, by identifying and addressing health problems and promoting community advocacy. Collaborators assisted in advertising, and securing locations, materials and participants to programs. South Texas Rural Health Services donated their facilities as well as additional food for recipes and assisted with logistical support.

Retrospective post evaluations were completed for the nutrition and exercise classes.

Results

Number of Participants: 90;

Percentages based on 70% responded to the survey.

81% of respondents were mostly or completely satisfied with the activity.

43% of respondents plan to take actions or make changes based on the information from this activity. Changes include increasing home cooked meals, increase fruit and vegetable consumption, increase exercise time and increase exercise frequency and more food variation in their diet.

48% of respondents think what they learned from this Extension activity will help them make more money or reduce their expenses in the future. This would total an average combined savings of \$21,600.00 per year in grocery bills for those families who will be cooking more at home and eating less fast food.

Future Plans

Nutrition and exercise programming will continue to be offered in Maverick County in June and July 2014, and *Ciclovía* will be offered in October as part of the Border Bi-national Health Week. Monthly mini *Ciclovías* have been coordinated with the City of Eagle Pass and Maverick County at the Maverick County Lake.

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**2013 Maverick County
Live It! Real Life Nutrition for Teens
Nutrition and Exercise Program**

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2013 Maverick County
Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent
Bullying: Stop Bullying Now!
Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Plan: OUTPUT/Stop Bullying Now!

Relevance

Conflicts among youth and bullying have been increasing. School districts have been mandated by the Texas Legislature through two bills (House Bill 212 and 283) to adopt and implement a dating violence policy and a discipline management policy. Both bills require training for teachers/staff as well as training/curriculum for youth to address these issues. Currently, there is no standard curriculum being utilized by school districts. Stop Bullying Now is a program that addresses bullying issues for youth, educators and school administrators.

Response: Stop Bullying Now Program was conducted by Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent. Hosting agencies and volunteers assisted with logistics by securing location and announcing the series via the Maverick County AgriLife Extension website, flyers, e mails and phone calls. The bullying program was conducted in four schools within the Eagle Pass Independent School District with grades ranging from third grade to eighth grade. It was also conducted Our Lady or Refuge Church Youth Group, at five sites with the Eagle Pass Housing Authority with youth and adults participants and with three 4H clubs that included youth and adults participants. Program addressed school bullying, cyber bullying and conflict resolution for adults and youth.

Results: Onethousand,onehundred and thirty eight individuals participated in the Stop Bullying Now Program in Maverick County. Individuals learned to identify bullying behaviors, consequences for bullying to the victim, bully and bystander, forms of cyber bullying, peaceful conflict resolution strategies and ways to address and report bullying at school and in their community.

Demographic information on educational contacts for bullying program:

White	Hispanic	American Indian	Male	Female	Adults	Youth
36	1138	19	528	665	91	1102

When asked, "What is the most valuable information you learned from this presentation?"

Remarks included, "I Thought I was the only one who had gone through that.", "Now I know what to do when I get bullied." and "I didn't know that I had been a bully sometimes."

Future Plans

The Cooperative Extension Program will continue to offer bullying programs throughout Maverick County with the continued assistance of community partners and in the Eagle Pass Independent School District in efforts to increase bullying awareness and prevention amongst youth and adults.



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2013 Maverick County

Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent

Food Protection Management

Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Relevance

Each year, an estimated 1 in 6 people become ill from the food they eat. Common symptoms of foodborne disease include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramping, fever, and headache. While some people may view this as a mere case of “food poisoning” foodborne illness has serious health and economic consequences. In fact, foodborne illnesses from five pathogens alone (Campylobacter, Salmonella, Listeria monocytogenes, E. coli O157:H7, and E. coli non-O157:H7 STEC) cost more than \$6.9 billion in medical expenses, lost productivity, and even death. All of us are at risk for foodborne illness, but older adults, pregnant women, young children, individuals with chronic disease, and those with a compromised immune system are at an increased risk. Because nearly half of our food dollars are spent on foods eaten away from home, it is imperative that employees who work in retail food service handle food safely.

Response

To meet the need for quality food safety education in Texas retail food establishments, the Food Protection Management (FPM) program was developed. Our two-day certified food manager program prepares food service workers to sit for the state Certified Food Manager exam. Our 2-hour food handler program, which is accredited by the Department of State Health Services, trains front-line food service workers on the basic principles of food safety. Both programs are conducted at the county level by Extension agents.

Results

During 2013, 33 people in Maverick County participated in the FPM program and completed the food handler program. Change in knowledge (pre vs post) was used to evaluate the food handler program. In addition, client (customer) satisfaction surveys were collected from participants.

Food Handler Course – participant characteristics

Most participants were female (90%), Hispanic (97%) and from a variety of age groups and educational backgrounds. A large percentage (70%) identified English as their preferred language. Twenty-four

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participants reported working in food service and 13 (39% of the total participants) reported receiving training in food safety.

Mean score and % score were both rounded to the nearest whole number.

There **was** a statistically significant increase in test scores (comparing pre vs post) suggesting an increase in knowledge regarding food safety.

Mean score pre: 62

Mean score post: 87

Percentage of respondents who answered survey questions correctly, pre and post.

Question	% correct pre*	% correct post
1. Which of the following statements about serving food is true?	39	97
2. Which of the following best describes proper hand and arm washing?	88	100
3. The removal of dirt, soil, food or grease is known as:	58	85
4. Which of the following statements about a hand washing sink is true?	91	97
5. Which of the following people is most likely to contract a foodborne illness?	18	88
6. Which of the following foods would not be considered potentially hazardous?	49	82
7. Cross contamination happens when safe food comes into contact with:	88	94
8. Which of the following statements best describes the temperature danger zone?	39	76
9. Which of the following is an example of cross contamination?	88	88
10. All of the following are acceptable tools for handling ready-to-eat foods except:	73	88
11. Which of the following food service employees must wear a hair net/restraint?	82	82
12. Which of the following is the best example of maintaining personal hygiene?	45	73
13. A foodservice employee should immediately tell his/her supervisor if he/she has:	52	85
14. Generally speaking a foodborne outbreak involves how many people?	30	82
15. Food can be contaminated by:	94	94

*Percent rounded to the nearest whole number

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Client satisfaction with Food Handler course instruction

		Average Score (n=33)**
Client satisfaction with instructor's knowledge of the subject.		1.1 ± .24
Client satisfaction with instructor's presentation of course material.		1.1 ± .24
Client satisfaction with instructor's response to questions.		1.1 ± .24
Client satisfaction with instructor's involvement in discussion and questions regarding course material.		1.0 ± .00
Overall client satisfaction with instructor performance.		1.0 ± .00
Overall client satisfaction with the program.		1.0 ± .00

** Based on participant surveys received and entered as of 10/1/2013. The client satisfaction survey was given at the end of the training while the survey that assessed client characteristics was given separately (at the beginning).

Instructor satisfaction scores are based on a 5-point Likert Scale (1 = very satisfied to 5 = very dissatisfied). **In other words the lower the number, the more satisfied the participant.** Scores of 0 (not applicable) or 6 (no response) were not included in the analysis.

Summary: The food handlers program was successful in helping participants (foodservice employees) increase their knowledge about food safety as it pertains to the retail setting.

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2013 Maverick County

Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent

Money Management – Welcome to the Real World

Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Plan: OUTPUT/Money Management – Welcome to the Real World

Relevance

Welcome to the Real World is curriculum developed to help youth make smart financial decisions and maintain financial stability. Welcome to the Real World is an experiential learning program that allows young people the opportunity to learn about personal finance through real-life learning experiences without the real-world consequences. The interactive, hands-on, real-life simulation gives youth the opportunity to explore career opportunities and make lifestyle and budget choices similar to those adults face on a daily basis. According to a 2008 nationwide survey conducted by the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, high school seniors, on average, correctly answered only 48.3 percent of questions about personal finance and economics. That was even lower than the 52.4 percent in the previous survey in 2006 and marked the worst score out of the six surveys conducted so far. According to a 2011 Teens and Money Survey, 86 percent of teens say that they would rather learn about money management in a class before making mistakes in the real world. Basic money-management skills are crucial building blocks for future economic self-sufficiency, yet research shows that many students are unable to effectively manage their finances when they graduate from high school.

Maverick County Data:

- Unemployment rate in Maverick County is 14.4%
- 39% of households in Maverick County are living below the poverty line.

Response: Program series is being conducted by Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent. Hosting agencies and volunteers are assisting with logistics by securing location and announcing the series via newspaper, flyers and phone calls. The Money Management program is a six lecture series offered to youth in a classroom setting at Memorial Junior High.

Demographic information on educational contacts for lecture series participants:

White	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Female	Male	Youth
10	369	20	0	239	160	399

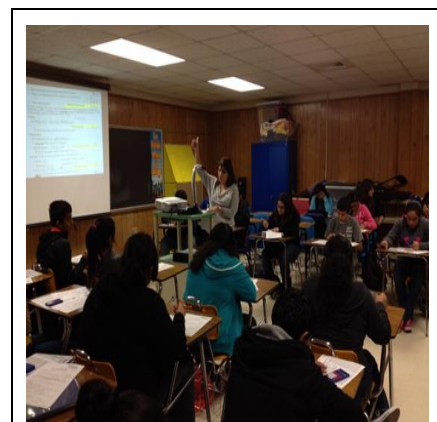
Series Modules:

- Explore careers
- Investigate how career choices can be influenced by education and other factors.
- Make consumer choices related to future independent living.
- Learn skills needed to manage their finances.
- Evaluate their success in managing their monthly income and expenses.
- Explore alternatives to balance a budget.

Results: Onehundred-eighty individuals are participating in the Welcome to the Real World series. The series is still being taught and the evaluation process is pending.

Future Plans

The Cooperative Extension Program will continue to offer money management education programs throughout Maverick County with the continued assistance of community partners and in the Eagle Pass Independent School District in efforts to increase knowledge about personal finance and career exploration opportunities.



Family and Consumer Sciences

2013 Maverick County

Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent

Parenting Education – Strengthening Families

Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Plan: OUTPUT/Parenting-Strengthening Families

Relevance

The Strengthening Families Program is a six module parenting education series designed for parents of school-aged children. This research-based educational program was developed to help parents strengthen their relationship and equip them with the skills needed to effectively raise their children. Researchers have identified several factors that are common to strong families, including effective parent and child communication, problem-solving skills, and a sense of purpose. Successful families frequently consider their strengths and weaknesses and take steps to improve their home and family environment.

Between 2006 and 2010, 33% of households in Maverick County were comprised of single parent families. That percentage accounts for 5,888 families in Maverick County.(1) The poverty rate of children under 18 has been estimated at 53.2%. (2)

By: Program series conducted by Monica Aguirre, Maverick County FCS-CEP Agent. Hosting agencies and volunteers assisted with logistics by securing location and announcing the series via Maverick County AgriLife website, flyers, letters and phone calls.

Response: The Parenting-Strengthening Families program is a lecture series offered to parents of students enrolled at the Eagle Pass ISD, Discipline Alternative Education Program (DAEP) and parents working with Child Protective Services.

- Parenting-Strengthening Families is a parenting curriculum that uses interactive methodologies to reach parents via PowerPoint presentations and discussions.
- Parents of children enrolled at the Eagle Pass ISD, Discipline Alternative Education Program (DAEP) and parents being serviced by Child Protective Services were presented with materials including handouts to help facilitate successful parenting programs that will prove to be effective for parenting.

Demographic information on educational contact hours of lecture series participants:

White	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian	Female	Male	Youth	Adults
0	172	0	0	122	50	0	172

Series Module:

- Developmental Expectations and Stress Management
- Goals, Objectives, and Rewards
- High Risk Kids and Communication
- Communication II, Problem Solving, and Giving Directions
- Limit Setting
- Implementing the Behavior Plan and Maintaining Good Behavior

Results: Onehundredseventytwo combined educational contact hours were provided to individuals who participated in the Parenting-Strengthening Families. The series will be repeated with parents of the Eagle Pass Independent School District, Discipline Alternative Education Program and with parents working with Child Protective Services.

- Parenting programs increase participants' knowledge, skills and abilities, which are essential to a child's development.

Parents who are consistent, respectful, involved and serve as positive role models increase their children's potential for success and help prevent delinquent behavior during the adolescent and teen years. The fines for students at the Discipline Alternative Education Center (DAEP) range from \$250.00 to \$2000.00, depending on the offense they committed. There are approximately 45 students enrolled at the center at any one time. Reducing or eliminating delinquent behavior can have a significant impact on the families and legal system. Parents working with Child Protective Services have had their children removed from their custody and active participation in parenting education is one of many recommendations they must fulfill before regaining custody of their children.

- Parent testimonials include: "I am learning how to cope with stress and not let it affect my behavior with my children."

Family and Consumer Sciences

- “I am happy to learn how to handle my child’s behavior when it is negative.”
- “I finally took a class where they explain things in a way I can relate to the information”

Future Plans

The Cooperative Extension Program will continue to offer parent education programs throughout Maverick County with the continued assistance of community partners and in the Eagle Pass Independent School District in efforts to increase parental knowledge, strengthen parent/child relationships and equip parents with the skills needed to effectively raise their children.

References:

1. County Health Ranking and Road Maps. <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/node/2819/82>
2. The County Information Program, Texas Association of Counties. <http://www.txcip.org/tac/census/profile.php?FIPS=48323>

4-H and Youth Development

2013 Maverick County 4-H Program Administrator

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

The Maverick County 4-H Program is an important resource for our youth to develop new educational opportunities in animal projects, archery, food and nutrition, fashion show, photography, and many more activities. The 4-H year runs from September to August. In 2012, the Maverick County 4-H had 259 youth members with an increase this year to 287 youth members. Adult Leaders are an important factor that supports the 4-H program. In 2013 Maverick County had 11 registered Adult Leaders. The Maverick County 4-H has 6 4-H Clubs. These include; the Eagle Pass 4-H Club, the Quemado 4-H Club, the Riverside 4-H Club, the South Side Exhibitors 4-H Club, the 4-H Council of Maverick County, and the 4-H Club Managers Club. Each 4-H Club conducts a monthly meeting, and the Adult Leaders offer different activities and programs for the kids. The 4-H Council of Maverick County is an important structure of the 4-H, because they decide on the most important 4-H issues County wide. The 4-H Club Managers, the Adult Leaders, and the County Extension Agent supervise the actions of the 4-H Council of Maverick County. The Maverick County Extension Office publishes the 4-H Newsletter on a monthly basis and it is posted on the Maverick County website for access and availability to the community. It contains important information such as 4-H Club meeting dates and events.

4-H and Youth Development

Response

The response of the community to 4H in Maverick County has been positive. Membership in 4-H youth and Adult Leaders increased in 2013. The 4-H promotion of the Extension Office was intensive this year; with 4-H banners throughout town, the participation of the 4-H in the 4th of July parade and the participation in the Back to School Fair of the Eagle Pass ISD. More Adult Leaders and 4-H youth members expressed interest in other 4-H activities like archery and food show.

Results

The results were highly optimistic; in the 2013 Maverick County Junior Livestock Show. The 4-H obtained Steer Grand Champion, Lamb Grand Champion, and Goat Grand Champion. Most of the 4-H animal projects were able to make the sale at the MCJLS, obtaining good earnings for the 4-H families. The 2013 Archery Project was a great success as well, even though it was the first year. Approximately 20 youth participated in the project. At the 2013 Archery Competition in Benavides, Texas we were able to obtain on 3rd place at the 3D Archery Match. The 2013 Food Show was also an excellent project, and the Maverick County 4-H was able to participate at the District 12 level. The Maverick County Extension Office also conducted the 2013 4-H Photography Project, and we participated at District 12 and State level. 4-H Fashion Show was another 4-H activity in which the Maverick County 4-H participated locally and at the District 12 Fashion Show.

Future Plans

The Maverick County Extension Office will continue supporting the 4-H activities. At this time we are in the process of starting a new Shooting Sports 22 Rifle Project. The Maverick County 4-H already has 2 Certified Shooting Sports Coaches for the 22 Caliber Rifle Project and we are looking for a place to shoot. The goal is to increase the participation of the 4-H in all the different activities.

4-H and Youth Development



The Eagle Pass 4-H Club



The South Side 4-H Club



The Riverside 4-H Club



The Quemado 4-H Club

4-H and Youth Development



**The Maverick County 4-H Archery Team
That Competed in District 12**



**Part of the Maverick County 4-H Archery
Project**



Participants of the District 12 Food Show



Participants of the District 12 Fashion Show

4-H and Youth Development

2013 Leaders for Life Outcome Plan - Maverick County

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

The 4-H Council of Maverick County is the most important structure of the local 4-H organization. They are the ones that decide how to use the moneys we receive from donations and fund raisers by the Adult Leaders. Some of these kids are natural born leaders, and they are willing to withstand all the challenges that might be related to their positions. They need to be guided and trained in Parliamentary Procedures, and how to manage different situations that might arise during their period as 4-H Council members. The 4-H Council operates under the supervision of the 4-H Club Managers, Adult Leaders, and the County Extension Agent. The County Extension Office is determined to provide all the necessary trainings and workshops to the members of the 4-H Council, and other 4-H members to properly conduct the 4-H Council meetings.

Response

The 4-H Council members of the previous year conducted the last meeting in May 2013. They shared with other 4-H members the great experience they had as 4-H Council members. The members of the previous year 4-H Council were able to obtain valuable trainings in Parliamentary Procedures, and they had the opportunity to resolve important issues of the Maverick County 4-H.

The current 4-H Council was elected in September and at the same time we provided the list of responsibilities and what is expected from them. In the October meeting the County Extension Agent provided the training on Parliamentary Procedures on how to conduct a meeting, and to cautiously decide in the items on the Agenda.

The Agenda for the 4-H Council is previously prepared by the 4-H Council President under the supervision of the County Extension Agent, the 4-H Club Managers, and Adult Leaders. The items to be discussed in the Agenda are previously published in the monthly 4-H Newsletter, and only the items in the Agenda are subject for discussion.

With the established 4-H rules, regulations, By Laws, and internal procedures; the 4-H Council of Maverick County was prepared with the necessary trainings to function properly.

4-H and Youth Development

Results

The 4-H Council of Maverick County members at the present time is prepared to function as a cohesive group, and decide on County wide 4-H issues. The training and guidance provided by the County Extension Agent and Adult Leaders prepared this group of kids to professionally run the 4-H Council.

Future Plans

The Maverick County Extension Office will continue providing trainings in Parliamentary Procedures to the 4-H Council members, also to 4-H kids that seek leadership in the 4-H Council. Our plans for next year are to attend the District 12 Leadership LAB, and Election Convention.



The 4-H Council of Maverick County



4-H kids delivering Christmas toys

4-H and Youth Development

2013 4-H Photography Output Plan - Maverick County

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

The Maverick County Extension Office offers the 4-H Photography Project on a yearly basis. In coordination with the Adult Leaders, this is a great opportunity for the 4-H youth to develop new skills and to upgrade their current abilities in photography. The Maverick County Extension Office promoted the event several months in advance in our monthly 4-H Newsletter and was also mentioned by the County Extension Agent during the 4-H Club meetings.

Response

After the marketing of the 4-H Photography Project, the Adult Leaders and the County Extension Agent coordinated a meeting to plan for the event. Also a workshop was conducted to educate and train the 4-H kids concerning the rules and datelines. The Maverick County Extension Agent encouraged the 4-H members involved in the project, to also participate at the District 12 level and at the State 4-H Photography contest.

Results

The Maverick County Extension Office, along with the assistance of the Adult Leaders conducted a workshop prior to the County 4-H Photography competition. The workshop provided photo techniques, rules, and guidelines of the local and District event. In addition, participants were provided with instructions on how to submit their photos via e mail to the County, as well as instructions to upload photos to District 12 through 4-H Connect. The 2013 Maverick County Photography Project was a great success. The participants submitted their photos via e mail to the Extension Office, and an experienced photographer judged the photos. All of the participants were able to advance to District 12 Photo Show and one advanced to the State 4-H Photo Show.

4-H and Youth Development

Future Plans

The Maverick County 4-H Photography Show Project is an event in which the Adult Leaders and the County Extension Office organize on a yearly basis. We would like to increase the number of participants, besides the 4-H members that do it every year.



State 4-H Photography Contestant



District 12 4-H Photography Contestant

Community Economic Development

2013 Community Resources and Economic Development

Maverick County

Oscar Galindo CEA AgNR

Relevance

The Maverick County Extension Agent is always committed to creating programs that can benefit the 4-H Youth, and if possible other sectors of the community. Part of the leadership of an Extension Agent is to attract economic resources and activities to the community.

Response

The Maverick County Junior Livestock Association, in coordination with the Agricultural Teachers, and with the support of the Maverick County Extension Office organized the 2013 Muy Grande Prospect Show for steers, lambs, and goat exhibitors. The Maverick County Extension Agent submitted an invitation to all the Extension Offices in the State of Texas.

Results

The Muy Grande Prospect Show for steers, lambs, and goat exhibitor was a great success. There were exhibitors from all over Texas. The concession stand made good profits that benefited both, the FFA and the 4-H.

Future Plans

The County Extension Office will continue supporting event that will benefit the 4-H, and other youth entities in Maverick County.

Extension Education in Maverick County

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