

# 2022 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Kleberg-Kenedy County

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### Agriculture & Natural Resources



**Water Education:** Water continues being a topic of discussion throughout the nation. Locally, the community has identified water quality and conservation as areas of concern. Through partnerships with adjacent counties, the Leadership Advisory Board, Texas Well Owner Network, and other collaborators, programming efforts addressing conservation, water screening, and water workshops continue providing awareness to home and water well owners.

- 80% of the participants increased their understanding of EPA/TCEQ water standards
- 80% of the participants intent to adopt best management practice of annual testing their water well
- 60% of the participants indicated an economic benefit between \$500-\$999 with a mean of \$750 because of the program

**Row Crop Production:** The yearly average row crop production value has been \$47 million. Drought conditions and input costs (equipment, labor, chemicals, fuel, maintenance, technology advances, and other expenses) are issues that continue to challenge producer profitability. Partnerships with industry representatives, growers, and financial institutions continue to provide knowledge on seed varieties, decreasing expenses, and adoption practices.

- 62% of the participants increased their knowledge of understanding sorghum and cotton varieties
- 45% of the participants indicated they definitely or probably will adopt best practice to reduce input cost in their operation
- 64% of the participants anticipate benefitting economically as a direct result of the program



#### Texas Watershed Steward Workshop:

Petronila and San Fernando Creeks release water into Baffin Bay. Water quality has been affected due to excess levels of bacteria. Participants learned about strategies to protect the quality of water entering the bay through the development of a watershed protection plan.



#### F.A.S.T. (Flow Assessment & Storm Water Technology):

Understanding how storm water flows through the City of Kingsville through an interactive mapping program. Developing strategies through green infrastructure for on-site detention and improving water quality.

### Health

Obesity education for management and prevention was identified by the Healthy Kleberg-Kenedy County Coalition, 2019 Texas Communities Futures Forum, state specialists, and partnering agencies. As a result, health programs targeted this need. Program results include:

- ➡ **100%** of Dinner Tonight participants indicated confidence in modifying recipes to change or reduce fat content.
- ➡ **88%** of Walk Across Texas adults participated in moderate or vigorous intensity physical activity or exercises.
  - **Total economic impact for Kleberg-Kenedy based on 235 adult Walk Across Texas participants is \$1,043,103.**
- ➡ **72%** of Cooking Well with Diabetes participants indicated they add extra vegetables to dishes such as casseroles, soups, sandwiches, and salads.
- ➡ **7** Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors representing Kleberg-Kenedy County contributed **272.25 hours of educational service.**



# 4-H & Youth Development



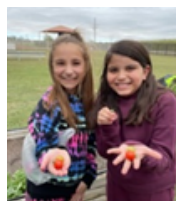
- **Food and Nutrition Workday:** Workday provides 4-H members with the opportunity to learn about food and nutrition projects in preparation for Food and Nutrition Contests. Educational sessions, provided by experienced members, included Table Etiquette, Serving Size & Labels, Path to the Plate, and Interview Skills.
- **Kleberg - Kenedy County Food Show/ Food Challenge:** occurred on October 30, 2022 with 4 individual Food Show entries and 3 Food Challenge teams entries.
- **One Day 4-H:** 4-H members assembled and delivered 32 goodie baskets for First Responders in Kleberg and Kenedy County.
- **Thanksgiving Baskets for Needy Families:** 4-H members purchase, assemble, and delivered 35 Thanksgiving baskets to less fortunate families in Sarita, Riviera, Ricardo, and Kingsville areas.
- **Foster Child Christmas Gift Project and Scavenger Hunt Christmas Food Drive:** 4-H members provided 43 gifts for Child protective services foster children and collected 285 lbs. of canned goods to donate during their Scavenger Hunt Christmas Food Drive.



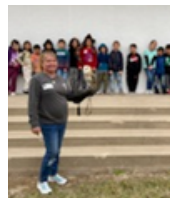
**Early Childhood Learn, Grow, Eat & Go! Garden Program:** 113 Early childhood education students participated in this program where they maintained their own garden and learned about plants from the hands-on, science based curriculum.



**Learn, Grow, Eat & Go! Garden Program:** 190 students in 3rd -5th grades, participated in this program where they planted and maintained a garden, learned about plants and their needs, and how their nutrients benefit our bodies.



**Barn Owl Pellet Program:** 60 students from Sarita & Nanny Elementary Schools participated in this program where they learned about Barn Owls, ecosystems, habitats, and their prey by dissecting owl pellets. Students also experienced a live barn owl through a partnership with Texas SeaLife Center.



**Earth Day 2022:** 90 adults and 70 youth attended the 2022 Earth Day event. Participants received education from Kleberg - Kenedy Soil & Water Conservation District & Nueces River Authority and more, as well as experienced a variety of Earth-friendly activities.



**Extremely Fun Summer Camp 2022:** Campers ages 5-12 years, enjoyed 21 sessions of FUN, including indoor & outdoor activities, education, games, scavenger hunts, obstacle courses, relay races, wildlife photography, art, crafts, team building & cooking skills. Campers also received education on the damaging effects of smoking & substance abuse, prescription medications, self-esteem, peer pressure, and bullying.

