

EXTENSION TRENDS: **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

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2023 By the Numbers

- 2,835 direct contacts
- 1,397 youth participants
- 43 volunteers
- 258 volunteer hours
- \$123,718 extramural funding

Our Advisory Council

Special thanks to our volunteers who help shape programming and inform the work we do for UI Extension in Franklin County: Julie Nash, Darrin Dransfield, Jennifer Harris and Kelly Adamson.

UI Extension Educators



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2023 Impact

Educator Laura Sant taught two six-week sessions of Preserve@Home with Extension educators from Idaho and Wyoming. Of the 46 students who completed the class, 87% had a grade of 70% or better showing increased knowledge of safe home food preservation methods. A post survey was given after the end of the Preserve@Home class with 26 surveys completed. Participants were asked what research-based skills/behaviors they learned and planned to do in the future. At least 69% of those indicated learning about safe food preservation skills or behaviors and 100% indicated that they planned to do all the safe food preservation skills and behaviors in the future.

Educator Bracken Henderson has been working with UI Extension colleagues throughout Idaho to combat mental health issues plaguing rural farming communities. The team worked with 15 communities in 2023, facilitating at least six meetings in each community.

4-H in Franklin County

There were 43 volunteers and 378 4-H members enrolled in 784 projects in Franklin County in 2023, completing 697 projects. Sant taught/co-taught six clubs/day camps (25 classes). Additionally, she assisted in teaching four school enrichment programs (11 classes), including Bread in the Bag (5); Recruitment (4), and Tobacco and Vaping Prevention (2). Sant also co-taught one District Sewing Volunteer Training Workshop. She helped to plan and conduct Alpine 4-H Camp for Bear Lake, Caribou, Franklin, and Power counties. Sant assisted with planning and presenting 4-H projects, contests, and activities at the Franklin County Fair and Eastern Idaho State Fair. She also covered EISF 4-H/FFA results and premiums.

A total of 129 4th and 5th grade students at Harold B. Lee Elementary School participated in a 30-minute Tobacco and Vaping Prevention lesson designed to increase knowledge about the dangers of tobacco and vaping and prevent children from starting. Eighty students completed post surveys and indicated that at least 95% of those returning the survey learned new knowledge about the risks of using tobacco or vaping products.

The Franklin County 4-H shooting sports program acquired eight new air rifles, three new bows, and other additional equipment to support the program. This allowed for 30 additional youth to get involved in the program. An AmeriCorps volunteer helped deliver the shooting sports programs and supported other 4-H classes throughout the summer.

On the Horizon

Sant plans to continue offering Mental Health First Aid classes to community members and others in the state of Idaho.

The maple syrup grant was successful despite abnormally high amounts of snow in 2023 which delayed and shortened the maple tapping season. More tubing will be installed in 2024 to service more taps and test the marketability of the product. Tapping classes were taught in five communities in 2023, with 68 total participants.

Throughout summer 2023, Henderson collected data on field bindweed treatments applied in fall 2022. A U of I grant allowed him to purchase supplies and complete two more treatments in 2023. Data will be collected on these treatments in 2024 and results will be compiled and published.