

SANPETE COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS 2022



Extension
Utah State University



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INTRODUCTION

Utah State University Extension provides research-based programs and resources with the goal of improving the lives of individuals, families and communities throughout Utah. USU Extension operates through a cooperative agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, Utah State University, and county governments. Program areas include:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Gardening
- Home, Family, and Food
- 4-H and Youth

The partnership between USU Extension and Sanpete County contributes to the development of quality research-based educational programs that address the needs of Sanpete County individuals and families. With the support of Sanpete County funding, USU Extension faculty secured \$2,420,244 in additional grant funding in 2022. Because of solid partnerships between county commissioners and county faculty, external grant monies were combined with existing county funds to employ two full-time, benefited staff assistants and 22 part-time positions in order to serve a greater number of Sanpete County residents.

Grant	Funding Source	Amount	Partners
4-H Afterschool Program	Department of Workforce Services (DWS)	\$774,530 (2022-2025)	North Sanpete School District, South Sanpete School District, DWS
4-H Afterschool Program	Department of Workforce Services (DWS) and Utah Child Care Licensing Stabilization Department	\$335,000 (2022-2023)	North Sanpete School District, South Sanpete School District, DWS
4-H Afterschool Program	Department of Workforce Services (DWS)	\$201,873 (2021-2022)	North Sanpete School District, South Sanpete School District, DWS
4-H Intern	USU	\$8,000 (funded two summer interns)	Utah State University
Sanpete County 4-H Outdoor Recreation Club	Lancaster Archery Foundation	\$1,000	Utah State 4-H Office, Sanpete County 4-H Volunteers
Cover Crops Grant	USU	\$29,680	USU Extension
Smart Food Scapes Grant	USDA-NIFA	1,070,161 (2021-2026)	USU Extension

Total 2022 Acquired Funding: \$2,420,244

AFTERSCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY FEEDBACK



A core component of the afterschool program lies in the philosophy of treating parents as partners. By educating parents about the importance of collecting data for program improvement and future grant funding, we have established solid relationships with parents who have youth attending the afterschool program. Outcomes of the strong partnerships have resulted in high survey response rates and significant impacts among parents and families. The afterschool program has benefited their families in the following ways.

- My son attends the 4-H after-school program at the Mount Pleasant Elementary location. My son has both Autism and Hemophilia. 4-H has been a blessing for his development. He is able to get supervised social interaction and positive peer leadership. In the few months he has participated I have seen a dramatic difference in his confidence, his behavior, and overall better positive outlook on life. He literally says every day the only reason he wants to go to school is so he can go to 4-H after-school. Last year in California before we moved to Sanpete County, my son was put on medication and counseling for suicidal thoughts. I can honestly say this 4-H program is helping save his life! My son and our whole family need this program! -- Mt Pleasant Elementary Parent
- As a single parent, I know my kids are in a safe place and cared for. I was able to go back to school, finish

AFTERSCHOOL PARENT AND FAMILY FEEDBACK (CONTINUED)

- my degree, and add to my family's financial stability.
- I've seen higher scores in reading and math this past quarter and I see the excitement from my kids being involved in activities with kids their age.
- I'm a single parent. When 4-H went from one day a week to four, I was able to go back to school and get my degree. I'm able to provide more for my kids thanks to afterschool. --Fairview Elementary Parent

FARM SUCCESSION TRAINING



The average age of farm producers in Utah is 58.7 years old. A large number of agriculture assets will transfer ownership in the near future. Utah farm and ranch producers have listed succession planning as an educational need in USU surveys.

USU Extension has developed a Farm Succession Training that teaches farm owners and the next generation how to equitably transfer ownership of farm assets. We conducted a two-day farm succession training in Sanpete County on March 10-11, 2022 in Ephraim. We had 5 farms attend the training and develop a farm succession plan saving the farm owners thousands of dollars in taxes and fees. The surveys of participants that have attended the USU Extension Farm Succession Training show the following:

- 100% of participants intend to start a conversation with their family about farm succession planning

- 90% of participants intend to use the training materials to begin their farm succession plan

Training participant quotes:

- "Thanks for the information. We haven't quit talking yet, it may be a long night. But on the bright side, No fights."
- "I'm here to preserve my farm and my family... had my grandfather created a succession plan, I may have a relationship with my cousins and other family. Because of the lack of preparation our family was torn apart by greed... I don't want that to happen to my kids."

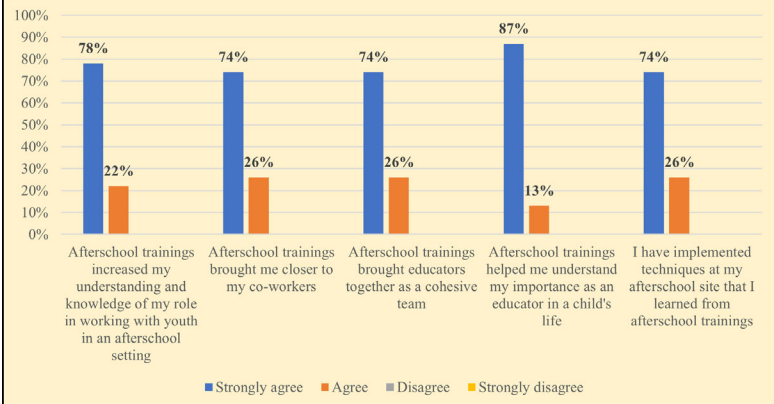
AFTERSCHOOL EDUCATOR TRAINING SERIES



The majority of afterschool staff are comprised of Sanpete County high school students and Snow College students; therefore, training is of the utmost importance. Knowing that most of the part-time, grant funded afterschool staff will eventually move on to college or careers within their respective degrees, our philosophy is to invest in them and their future. By creating stronger individuals, we are creating a better, more robust program.

For that reason, we have developed and implemented an Educator Training Series consisting of monthly meetings and two professional development retreats, one per semester. Since starting the training series, we've witnessed an increase in dedication and commitment to youth and the afterschool program, as well as pronounced improvements in performance. To gauge the

effectiveness of the training series, a survey was distributed to 23 educators with the following results:



periences that promote the growth of protective factors. A survey was sent to all youth and parents in the program to determine the effectiveness of building internal and external assets.

Youth Evaluation Results:

- 88% of youth strongly agreed the Outdoor Recreation program helped them to build external assets (Support, Empowerment, Boundaries & Expectations, and Constructive Use of Time)
- 88% of youth strongly agreed the Outdoor Recreation program helped them build internal assets (Commitment to Learning, Positive Values, Social Competencies, Positive Identity)

Parent Evaluation Results:

- 83% of parents strongly agreed the Outdoor Recreation program helped their child(ren) build external assets (Support, Empowerment, Boundaries & Expectations, and Constructive Use of Time)
- 82% of parents strongly agreed the Outdoor Recreation program helped their child(ren) build internal assets (Commitment to Learning, Positive Values, Social Competencies, Positive Identity)

OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM: IMPROVING PROTECTIVE FACTORS AMONG YOUTH



The 4-H Outdoor Recreation Club was developed as an innovative approach for implementing high-quality, outdoor-focused learning experiences, which focused on increasing protective factors among youth ages 8-18. Funding provides opportunities for 45 youth to participate in weekly outdoor activities, including hiking, kayaking, outdoor cooking, fishing, rappelling, shooting sports, knot tying, and GPS and compass skills. Additionally, 8 adult leaders serve as mentors for the program and provide expertise and support for the activities. By incorporating the developmental assets framework into outdoor activities, youth were introduced to positive ex-



FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES PROJECT AMBASSADORS

Carrie Everitt and Christian Olsen, both of Ephraim, were selected to represent Sanpete County and Utah 4-H as Family & Consumer Sciences Project Ambassadors.

FCS Ambassadors help provide the leadership for the state FCS contest and provide statewide trainings in the FCS areas such as foods, finance, life skills development, sewing, etc. They also help put on the 4-H Classic, plus provide the statewide Healthy Habits TRY (teens reaching youth) training.



EXTENSION STAFF INFORMATION

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