

# WHAT IS EXTENSION?

The Cooperative Extension System unofficially started with the creation of land-grant universities when President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act in 1862 and was an official organization in 1914 with the Smith-Lever Act. These acts allowed for research and education to be provided to communities who may not have had access to higher education. Today, we continue providing community education through the Extension system.



USU Extension is a partnership between Utah State University, county governments and the federal government. USU Extension has been in all 29 counties in Utah for over 100 years! Extension faculty provide numerous services and programs to the members of their communities. They address needs by providing research based, non-biased information to the public.



## QUICK VIEW OF USU EXTENSION

USU Extension faculty members assess community needs to determine program focuses. Strong communication between county government and other stakeholders to identify relevant and timely needs is the key to success and community improvement. USU Extension works to improve the lives of the individuals, families and communities in Utah by providing education and resources in the following areas and more!



gardening



food & nutrition



4-H & youth



health & wellness



natural resources



finance



home & family



agriculture

IMPROVING  
THE QUALITY  
OF LIFE FOR  UTAH



28 county offices & 4 gardens/centers

# NEEDS MET IN UTAH

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE. IMPROVING LIVES.

**AGRICULTURE and NATURAL RESOURCES** play a vital role in the state of Utah. Food production is more important than ever before. USU Extension continues to be a primary service aiding our farmers and ranchers. Most recently, USU teamed up with the Farm Bureau to meet COVID-19 hunger issues through the Farmers Feeding Utah Project.

Navajo Nation Miracle Project <small>Farmers Feeding Utah donated</small>	Northern Utah Miracle Project <small>Farmers Feeding Utah donated</small>	West Salt Lake Miracle Project <small>Farmers Feeding Utah donated</small>
605 live sheep	42,000 lbs of potatoes	16,000 lbs of meat
16,000 lbs of frozen lamb	20,000 lbs of beef	850 dozen ears of corn
10,000 lbs of flour	19,000 dozen eggs	240,000 lbs of potatoes
4,000+ individuals fed	\$100,000 of dairy	800 lbs of cherries
<small>to members of the Utah Chapters of the Navajo Reservation</small>	<small>to 450 families in Cache Valley and to stock four local food pantries</small>	<small>to 450 families in Cache Valley and to stock four local food pantries</small>
<small>The retail value of the food received was ~\$200,000</small>	<small>The retail value of the food received was ~\$331,000</small>	<small>The retail value of the food received was ~\$331,000</small>

## MASTER GARDENERS HAVE ABOUT

# 29,000

volunteer hours donated (\$24/hr = \$696,000).



USU Extension provides in-depth **HORTICULTURE** programming on a wide range of topics for participants across the state while leveraging volunteer service hours to assist with beautifully manicured, curated and productive gardens and landscapes. These programs often grow food to supplement fresh produce to our food banks and other assistance partnerships.

**4-H and YOUTH DEVELOPMENT** programs empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. 4-H offers a wide variety of programs, projects, contests and events from livestock to sewing, and leadership to robotics.

## 4-H'ERS ARE...

**41%**   
LESS LIKELY TO ENGAGE IN RISKY BEHAVIORS

**4X** MORE LIKELY TO GIVE BACK TO THEIR COMMUNITIES 

**2X** MORE LIKELY TO GET BETTER GRADES IN SCHOOL 

**2X** MORE LIKELY TO PLAN TO GO TO COLLEGE 

The **CREATE BETTER HEALTH** program which is nationally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Educator (SNAP-Ed). Create Better Health serves individuals and families that are either food insecure or at risk of food insecurity. It teaches those in the community how to make healthy food choices on a limited budget.

## **FOOD SECURITY**

Food Sense participants increase food security.

**FOOD SENSE** BEFORE FOOD SENSE AFTER FOOD SENSE

Usually/always had enough to eat at the end of the month **527** **829**

Sometimes had enough to eat at the end of the month **334** **153**

Never/seldom had enough to eat at the end of the month **326** **213**

USU Extension also offers education on **FINANCE, RELATIONSHIPS, FOOD PRESERVATION AND SAFETY, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, MENTAL HEALTH, REMOTE ONLINE LEARNING** and more through our Home and Community Department. Extension provides motivation and education to promote positive behavior change to improve lives and communities.

USU Extension is committed to connecting every Utahn to evidence-based information that can improve quality of life.

**FIND US ONLINE**  
[extension.usu.edu](http://extension.usu.edu)

