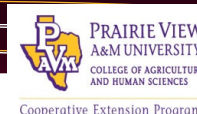


# Extension Education - Making a Difference in Brazos County

## 2022 Executive Summary



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B.S. Animal Science  
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### AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Livestock, forage, and horse production continue to be three of the largest agricultural commodities in Brazos County. The following educational programs targeted agricultural producers:

**Small Ruminant (Sheep & Goat) Education**— This volunteer led committee contributed to the planning and facilitation for the annual Maroon and White Sale that exceeded 100 participants and \$52,000 in sales. The committee also helped to provide assistance with the Aggield Lamb and Goat Camps which hosted over 250 youth and their families.

**Equine Education**—The Brazos Extension Horse Committee hosted several programs including Aggie Super Circuit with 85 participants, SHOT (Stock Horse of Texas) Show with 400 horses & 650 entries; Equine Evening at the Brazos County Expo, and a 3-day adult horsemanship class and 2-day youth horsemanship class with 25 participants. They also contributed \$21,835 in Scholarships and other donations.

**Forage and Livestock Production**— Several volunteer led committees organized and facilitated 10 educational programs leading to 1082 participants, 118 volunteers, \$22,086 in volunteer service, and \$8,399 in support funds.

**Master Naturalist Program**— 48 hours from 16 trainings and field workshops, 539 hours contributed to maintaining and improving 5 local parks, 156 hours in youth education, 474 hours contributed toward censusing and recording various plants and animals, and 140 hours in service to the "Stream Team Testing" project.

### HORTICULTURE

Our horticulture program benefits area residents, the commercial horticulture industry, city parks, planning, and water departments, and local organizations through:

- Enhanced home property values
- Community beautification
- Landscape water conservation
- Youth ag & life science education
- Home food production
- Plant/pest/disease diagnostic services

In 2022, we provided research-based horticulture education through:

- 49 face to face programs
- 52 radio shows
- 17 online presentations
- 52 newspaper columns
- 8 television segments
- 1 schoolteacher training conference

Master Gardener Volunteers continue to expand our scope and multiply our outreach contacts:

- 94 Master Gardener volunteers
- 3,851 hours of service to community
- 17 new volunteers trained
- 2,750 youth gardening bags distributed

### FAMILY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH (FCH)

FCH programming helps Texans better their lives through science-based educational programs designed to improve the overall health and wellness of individuals, families, and communities. Specific audiences reached in 2022 include child-care facilities, caregivers of small children, worksites, food service establishments, senior meal sites, community groups, and schools.

- Face-to-face education—857 attendance
- Master Wellness Volunteers—4 volunteers re-certified; 6 new volunteers trained; 1 new volunteer certified
- Childcare provider trainings—3 trainings; 47 childcare providers; 78 clock hours
- Car seat inspections and hands-on training—86 seats inspected (82 unsafe/improperly installed or needed replacing); 68 families
- Dinner Tonight Healthy Cooking Schools—5 offered; 56 Texas A&M University employees; 31 TAMU students
- Health talks-1,008 reached; topics: healthy meal prep, heart health, food preservation; passenger safety, decluttering; lowering the food bill, Extension careers
- Preserving the Harvest hands on canning classes—3 classes; 27 attendance
- Walk Across Texas! (WAT) 8-week physical activity program with weekly workouts—196 teams; 219,080 miles; 70% completion rate; 8 workouts (2 hybrid, 4 virtual, 2 in-person), 847 attendance; 8 newsletters (9,592 emailed) ; \$9,832 in sponsorships and in-kind donations
- Certified food manager courses—7 offered; 78 food service employees; 624 training hours

### BETTER LIVING FOR TEXANS (BLT)

Classes and series emphasized healthy eating, saving money at the grocery store, improving food safety practices, increasing physical activity, and improving access to fruits and vegetables through gardening.

- Face-to-Face Education : 987 attendance
  - Nutrition: 47 sessions, 277 attendance
  - Physical Activity: 24 sessions, 95 attendance
  - Gardening: 30 sessions, 203 attendance
- Single Education Sessions: 13 sessions, 412 attendance
- Outreach/Health Fairs: 8 events, 304 reached



**Matt Pfeifer**

CEA - 4-H & Youth Development  
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**Taylor Baldwin**

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**Ashleigh Sugg**

Program Assistant  
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B.S. Animal Science

#### OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Emily Besser  
Janice Anderson  
Julie Brooks

## 4-H AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**217 adult volunteers work to support the 18 4-H Clubs, serving 741 4-H members in Brazos County**

- > \$127,000 in college scholarships awarded through 4-H involvement
- School Curriculum Enrichment and Outreach in ag awareness  
**Pizza Ranch**—10 agricultural businesses/organizations; contributed \$5,400 in sponsorships and guest speakers; 291 4th grade students attended from 7 schools in Brazos and surrounding counties  
**Hatching in the Classroom “Egg to Chick”**—Offered at 10 schools including Bryan ISD, College Station ISD, charter schools, and private schools; 174 students
- **4-H Member Recruitment**—Hosted Annual Club Fair/Membership Drive; over 500 adults and youth attended
- **4-H Projects — Non livestock projects:** Citizenship, Consumer Education, Dog Care/Training, Fashion & Interior Design, Food & Nutrition, Healthy Lifestyles, Horticulture, Leadership, Outdoor Education, Photography, Public Speaking, Robotics, Shooting Sports, and Theater and Performing Arts.

#### Livestock Projects Highlights:

- >1,331 livestock projects (steers, heifers, lambs, goats, swine, broilers, turkey, rabbits) validated for shows this year.
- 62 competed at fall shows (State Fair of Texas, Heart of Texas, and Texas State Fair) and 202 at spring livestock shows (San Antonio Livestock Expo, Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, Rodeo Austin, Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, Sandhills Stock Show and Rodeo, and Brazos County Youth Livestock Show (BCYLS).
- Livestock judging and poultry judging teams placed 3rd and 1st in the nation.
- **Brazos County 4-H has member representation and accolades:**
  - 2 District 9 4-H Council Officers
  - 1 Texas 4-H Council Member
  - 9 Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassadors
  - 1 Texas 4-H Equine Ambassador
  - 2 Texas 4-H Poultry Ambassadors
  - 2 Texas 4-H Photography Ambassadors
  - 1 Texas 4-H Water Ambassador
  - 1 Texas 4-H Healthy Texas Youth Ambassador
  - 9 State 4-H record books; 1 champion
  - District 9 Round Up Sweepstakes Winners

- **Our program maintains partnerships with FFA, BCYLS and the Brazos County Youth Commercial Heifer Show.**

## COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAM

The Cooperative Extension Program is the primary advocate in the state of Texas for underserved and underrepresented populations and limited resource clientele

- **Growing U**—A teacher/volunteer-led program; 75 students gardening, eating healthy, and exercising 60 minutes a day; 2 hours weekly instruction over 10 weeks
- **Hatching in the Classroom**—8 sessions; 3 sites (Southwood Learning Center, Brazos School for Inquiry and Creativity, and Arrow Academy); 146 participants
- **Volunteer Development**— *Essential Elements of 4-H Youth Development* nationwide training; 35 4-H professionals and 40 military youth service providers trained
- **STEM Participation at Events** - **Brazos Robotics Competition** (56), **Brazos Valley Fair and Rodeo** (106), **Jr. Youth Leadership Lab** (30), **Ag Literacy Fair** (110), **Verizon Tech Change Makers Ambassadors** (6), **Robotics Workshop** (40), **USDA Food Safety Camp** (35), **CEP Photography Contest** (3)
- **Heroes 4-Health Youth Empowerment**—105 participants; 6 Youth Ambassadors; 4 new Food Challenge members and 8 new Food Show competitors; 5 adult volunteers
- **National Publication** - *Helping Youth Thrive Through an Equity Lens* (Co Author)

## COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Parks & Greenspace Beautification** - Brazos Extension serves local municipalities through horticultural consultations on parks, street medians, and other greenspace development. Diagnostic services help city and county greenspace maintenance departments identify and manage threats to trees and other plants.

**Brazos County Exposition Complex** - Brazos County Extension Committees and Groups utilize the Brazos County Expo Complex for numerous activities that bring in visitors from across the state.

**Texas 4-H Horse Show** - Over 350 4-H equine youth and their families from across Texas met in Brazos County to compete at the State 4-H Horse Show at the Expo. The Texas State 4-H Horse Show is the pinnacle of the 4-H horse project and offers opportunities to youth including up to 40 classes of competition, educational programs, scholarships, and college preparation opportunities.

**Brazos Valley Fair & Rodeo** - The Extension office supported the BVF&R Livestock Show by helping with shows and entries and directing traffic during unloading and loading periods.