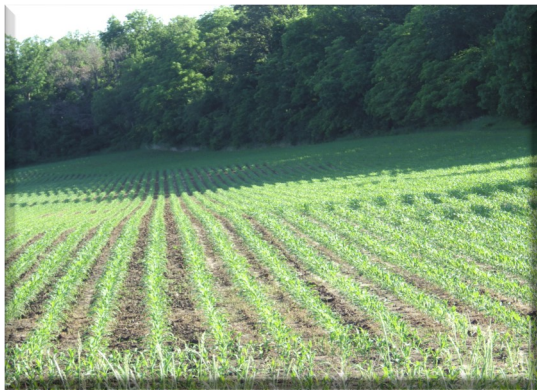


2017 Annual Report



Agriculture



**Community, Natural Resources,
& Economic Development**



4-H Youth Development



Family Living & Nutrition

**Extending the resources and knowledge of the
University of Wisconsin to the people of Green County**

“The University in your Community...”

Meet the Green County UW-Extension Staff

Green County UW-Extension staff are faculty members of the University of Wisconsin, employed by a cooperative arrangement between the University and the county. County faculty are responsible for conducting applied research and delivering researched based information to county residents.



Paul Ohlrogge – Area Extension Director for UW-Extension including Grant, Green, Iowa & Lafayette Counties., appointed in nEXT Gen-UW-Extension reorganization process.

Major responsibilities: Develop and direct UW-Extension Educator Teams in Grant, Green, Iowa, & Lafayette Counties



Mark Mayer – *Professor* – Department of Agriculture & Life Sciences, Agricultural Agent and Department Head

Major responsibilities: Develop and teach programs using research based information to strengthen the profitability and productivity of Green County farms and agri-business.



Victoria Solomon – *Assistant Professor*-Department of Community, Natural Resource & Economic Development, Community Resource Development Educator

Major responsibilities: Building capacity for economic development and natural resource protection. Supporting community leadership, organizational development, and civic engagement.



Ellen Andrews – *Associate Professor* - Department of Youth Development, 4-H Youth Development Educator

Major responsibilities: Creating opportunities for youth to develop life skills and become engaged citizens; training and supporting volunteers and community partnerships that provide positive youth development experiences.



Lisa Messer – *Associate Lecturer* – FoodWise Nutrition Education Program, Nutrition Education Coordinator

Major responsibilities: Teaches free “Eating Smart, Being Active” lessons to eligible adults to help them make healthier food choices, save money, and be more physically active. Began teaching nutrition lessons to youth in eligible schools or after school settings in 2016.

Jayne Butts and Lana Anderson – *Extension Activity Assistants*

Major responsibilities: Assist in the promotion and coordination of UW-Extension programs.

Karly Ready - *Student Assistant*

Major responsibilities: Assist with clerical functions of office.

The staff serves under the supervision of the Agriculture and Extension Education Committee. Those members are:

Ken Hodgson, Chair
Oscar Olson, Vice-Chair
Betty Grotophorst, Secretary
Arthur Carter
Kristi Leonard





UW-Extension Green County
2841 6th Street
Monroe, WI 53566



Green County Extension Office

March 13, 2018

Dear Green County Board of Supervisors:

Attached is the 2017 Annual Report for the University of Wisconsin Extension office. Green County UW-Extension Educators are jointly employed by UW-Extension and Green County. This joint employment assures responsiveness to local needs, reduces county costs, and provides an important link to University of Wisconsin resources. UW-Extension faculty serve under the supervision of the Green County Agriculture and Extension Education Committee.

Cooperative Extension in Green County brings the resources of the University of Wisconsin directly to Green County residents. Staffed by UW faculty, we offer Green County residents research-based education designed to meet local needs in the areas of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Family Living, Nutrition, 4-H Youth Development and Community, Natural Resource, & Economic Development.

This report highlights some of the major educational programs that were conducted by the UW-Extension faculty in Green County during 2017. The report does not include Family Living Programs due to the position being vacant in 2017.

To give you an idea of the scope of our outreach, we've also listed the state and county organizations we worked with this past year on the inside back cover of this document. We hope this report provides you with a better understanding of UW-Extension programs being conducted in Green County. If you have any questions about this report or our mission, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Ohlrogge".

Paul Ohlrogge
Area Extension Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ellen Andrews".

Ellen Andrews
4-H Youth Development Educator

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Victoria Solomon".

Victoria Solomon
Community Resource Development Educator

2017 UW-Extension Program Summary Report



Mark W. Mayer
UW-Extension Agriculture Agent



Agriculture Educational Programs: *(Number of Participants)*

- UW-Extension Regional Crop and Soil Health Seminar (57)
- Nutrient Management Planning Classes with Land and Water Conservation (15)
- UW-Extension Regional Seminar on Grain Production in Low Margin Years (66)
- Dairy and Livestock Facility Design/Ventilation Consultations (23)
- UW-Extension Cover Crop and Soil Health Workshop (43)
- Conducted Two Pesticide Applicator Certification Training Sessions (40 Certified)
- Green County Dairy Modernization Tours: Six Host Farms (175+)
- Agriculture Plastic Recycling Program Expansion in WI, IL, IA and MN (4,500+ farms)
- Beef Feeder Management Clinic at Equity Livestock (26)
- Byron Nuclear Plant Ingestion Zone Workshop (72)
- UW-Extension Master Gardener Gardening Seminar (81)
- Presentation to Blackhawk Technical College Class on Dairy Modernization (18)
- Green County Agriculture & Household Clean Sweep Collection (53 farms & 167 homeowners)
- 29th Green County Dairy Management Seminar (64)
- Regional Manure Safety Workshop for First Responders (42)
- Presentation on Turf Management and Lawn Care (34)

Youth and Other Programs:

- Advisor for Green County Fair Dairy Youth Recognition and Livestock Auctions (213)
- Lamb/Steer Weigh-ins and Swine DNA Samples for Livestock Youth Projects (158)
- Green County Fair Support for Dairy and Livestock Superintendents
- Lecturer for University of Wisconsin Farm Short Course (39)
- Green County Youth Tractor Safety Class (42 Adults & Youth)
- Advisor for Green County Livestock Facilities Study Group (13)
- Mock Agriculture Interviews for Juda School District

County/State Administration:

- Develop County Budgets and Oversight of Green County UWEX Office
- UW-Extension Department of Ag and Life Sciences Professor Committee
- Mentor for three area UW-Extension Agriculture Educators
- Clean Sweep Grant Applications and Reports to the WI Department of Agriculture
- Evaluation & Coaching of UW-Extension County Faculty and Support Staff
- Blackhawk Technical College Agriculture Advisory Board and BTC College Board Director

Media Educational Outreach

- Green County Agri-News Newsletter sent to 805 clients, and Monthly DHI Newsletter sent to 210
- Weekly Radio Programs on Big Radio AM, Monthly "Farm Talk" Programs on WBGR FM Radio
- Articles published in WI Agriculturist, Agri-View, Country Today and Green County Newspapers
- UW-Extension Green County Agriculture Web Site: <http://green.uwex.edu/agriculture/>

2017 Total Direct Contacts: 8,136

Direct Contacts: Office (64) Farm Visits (32) Phone (609) Email (2,473) Group (2,294)

2017 Program Impact Statements

Agriculture Plastic Recycling Program: Free 8 cubic yard dumpsters have been distributed to over 4,500 farms in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois and Iowa for the exclusive purpose of recycling used Ag plastics. The farms are also receiving free on-farm pick up every 2-6 weeks for their used Ag plastic. This recycling program is now diverting 3 million pounds (1,500 tons) of used Ag plastic from landfills and farm burn piles each month. Each of the 4,500 farms are also saving over \$1,000 per year in landfill disposal and dumpster fees for a total annual cost savings of over \$4.5 million. Prior to this collection program over 50% of the farms were burning their used Ag plastic which is illegal and releases dioxins into the air. In the first six months of 2017 the Green County landfill served as the collection and baling facility for the program and collected \$130,000 of revenue that was used to reduce levy costs for the Landfill. This is the only free Ag Plastic recycling program in the United States that offers on-farm pick up and was started from two pilot programs that UW-Extension conducted in Green County in 2014-15.

Dairy Modernization Tours: Over 175 dairy producers and other agriculture professionals from 13 different counties explored dairy modernization options and labor saving practices through participating in the Green County Modernization tour organized by this agent. The tours generated several post tour farm visits by this agent dealing with farm facility modernization. UW-Extension assisted 23 area dairy farmers in developing plans to modernize their cattle housing and milking facilities in 2017. Sixteen of the farms modernized their farms by making facility improvements or building new facilities as a result of assistance received from UW-Extension. After modernization all of the farms increased cow comfort and milk production while also reducing labor.

Clean Sweep Hazardous Waste Collection: UW-Extension secured \$9,660 in state grant funding to maintain a permanent Clean Sweep Hazardous waste collection program for Green County farmers and homeowners. Two hundred and twenty farmers and homeowners were able to safely dispose of 8,380 pounds of hazardous materials through a permanent collection program coordinated by this agent. The collected materials included 2,094 pounds of pesticides and poisons, 2,309 pounds of lead & oil based paints, 2,691 pounds of caustic materials and solvents, 696 pounds of aerosol cans, 198 pounds of reactives and 42 pounds of dioxins. The collection was conducted by the Landfill Manager and employees. Grant funds, secured by this agent, covered 97% of the total cost of the 2017 program. State grant funds of \$9,400 have been secured by this agent to continue the program in 2018. The program has safely disposed of over 121,000 pounds of hazardous materials from Green County homes and farms over the past 10 years.

Manure Storage Safety Workshop for First Responders: In response to several deaths in Wisconsin involving manure storage structures and the growth of large livestock farms in the area, this Agent organized a Manure Storage and Handling Safety Training for First Responders. The event was conducted in cooperation with the Lafayette and Green County Emergency Management offices. The workshop was conducted on a local dairy farm with a total of 42 people attending representing several fire and EMS departments. Participants learned about manure collection and storage systems on livestock farms, their dangers, how to test for manure gases, and the proper equipment needed to enter enclosed manure systems on farms.

UW-Extension Master Gardener Program: There are 38 certified and 52 active UW-Extension Master Gardeners in the Green County Master Gardener Association. In 2017 the group volunteered 178 hours toward Youth and Adult Education and provided 1,977 hours of volunteer Community Service in Green County. Projects the group assisted with included: the Monroe Arts Center, New Glarus Historical Museum, Pleasant View Nursing Home, Green County Justice Center and the New Glarus Schools. The group also conducted a Gardening Seminar, plant sale, and awarded scholarships to three Green County youth in 2017.

Green County Fair Dairy Youth and Meat Animal Auctions: This agent serves as the advisor to the Green County Dairy Youth Recognition Auction and the Meat Animal Sale. The Dairy Youth Auction collected \$15,750 through the dairy auction with 50% being paid directly to the youth and the other half going to a youth scholarship fund. \$3,250 in dairy youth scholarships were paid out in 2017 and a total of \$36,375 has been distributed to Green County youth since 2004. The County Fair Meat Animal Auctions distributed \$253,698 to over 150 Green County youth in 2017.



2017 UW-Extension Program Summary Report

Victoria Solomon

UW-Extension Community Resource Development Educator



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Green County Leaders

Green County Leaders (GCL) is an educational program where individuals practice leadership skills, deepen their understanding of community issues, and network with leaders in Green County. Started in 2002, this program is made possible through collaboration with community partners with educational leadership from Green County UW-Extension.

Alumni & Community Projects

The 2016-2017 class had 27 participants who graduated in Spring 2017, expanding the alumni network to 321 people. The 2016-2017 class completed five community projects, bringing the program project total up to 61. The 2017 projects included:

- Bringing the Bicycle Benefits program to Green County to promote physical activity and biking;
- Expanding access to broadband by engaging local governments to come together to support a grant application from the state to increase broadband infrastructure;
- Promoting and expanding engagement in “Inspire”, a youth career program;
- Creating and launching the Monroe Area Community Closet, which has already helped several families who have experienced difficulties such as house fires and escaping domestic violence situations; and
- Facilitating focus group discussions to inform the Monroe Arts Center’s strategic planning efforts.

This amounts to over \$325,000 worth of volunteer hours donated back to Green County over the course of the program; this does not include the value of successful grants by the various project teams.

2017-2018 Class

The 2017-2018 class has 23 participants. They have four community projects currently under way. Solomon leads the class through 10 full-day educational sessions focusing on building leadership skills, increasing knowledge of Green County communities, personal self-reflection, and networking.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Youth In Government Program

Solomon has worked with Ellen Andrews, Green County 4-H Youth Development Educator in partnerships with the City of Brodhead and the City of Monroe to continue two distinct youth in government programs. In spring 2017, 4 students from Brodhead and 6 students from Monroe successfully completed their first terms of the program. The 2017-2018 program started in September with 4 youth on the City of Brodhead Council and Committees and 5 youth on Monroe Committees. Solomon and Andrews had a joint orientation for both programs and an individual orientation for each community.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Belleville Market Analysis & Community Branding

At the request of the Village of Belleville, Solomon brought in UW-Extension community and economic development specialists to assist with the creation of a market analysis report and a community brand book to further economic development efforts. Through this project, Solomon led the group in developing a market analysis report, which included visits to other communities, a community survey, and action planning. Solomon also facilitated a joint stakeholder action plan meeting and helped with the development of a community brand book to assist with marketing the community.

Green County Broadband Committee

Community members from Green County are collaboratively working to improve broadband service in the county by applying for the Wisconsin Broadband Expansion Grant. A Green County Broadband Steering Committee has been created for this broadband grant project to guide the project to success. The primary objective of this broadband expansion project is to receive increased broadband service to as many homes and businesses as possible within Green County, with an emphasis on reaching especially underserved regions of the county. Solomon served as an active member of the Green County Broadband Committee.

NATURAL RESOURCE EDUCATION: WATER

Livestock Facility Study Group

The Green County Livestock Facility Study group was established by resolution of the Green County Board on August 8, 2017. The purpose of the Study Group is to use science-based information to provide the Green County Board with science-based recommendations developed to effectively protect groundwater surface water, air quality, and public health and safety. This educator advised process development and conducted facilitation of the 13-member Livestock Facility Study Group, holding 6 meetings in 2017.

Groundwater Jeopardy

Partnered with Green County Land & Water Conservation Department to present "Groundwater Jeopardy" curriculum to approximately 437 4th and 5th graders in Albany, Argyle, Brodhead, Juda, Monticello, and New Glarus school districts about groundwater conservation and protection.

Drinking Water Testing & Education

Offered drinking water testing program with an educational session for participants to ask follow-up questions, better understand their sample results, and their options to address possible concerns. Partnered with the towns of Albany, Brooklyn, Mt. Pleasant, and New Glarus to provide this program to 128 households.

LEADERSHIP WISCONSIN

Leadership Wisconsin is the state's premier leadership development organization with a national reputation for producing highly effective leaders. In mid-2017, 20% of Solomon's time was bought out by Leadership Wisconsin to serve as the program coordinator for their signature leadership program. In this role, Solomon assisted with the development and program delivery for three seminars in 2017. This contract will end in 2018.



2017 UW-Extension Program Summary Report

Ellen Andrews

UW-Extension 4-H Youth Development Educator



In preparation for my 5-year post-tenure review, I conducted follow-up evaluations with both older youth and adults who have been involved in leadership trainings and experiences at the county level within Green County 4-H, from 2014-2017. The survey results indicate a strong, positive impact.

4-H Older Youth Participant Survey

The youth survey was sent to 46 youth, all in 9th grade or older, and who participated in at least 2 leadership trainings or experiences; 21 youth responded, providing a 46% response rate.

- **The most common 4-H trainings or experiences participated in were:**

- * 4-H Officer Training—76%
- * 4-H Trip/Awards/Scholarship Interviews—38%
- * 4-H Camp Staff Training—29%

- **100% of youth report learning or strengthening life skills, as a result of participation in 4-H leadership trainings and experiences. Most common life skills learned or strengthened were:**

- * Planning & Organizing—86%
- * Communication—86%
- * Leadership—81%
- * Cooperation—71%
- * Decision Making—67%
- * Self-Motivation—62%
- * Self-Responsibility—62%

"I have learned still, to become more responsible and how to deal with conflict between youth."

"I have the confidence to accept responsibility as an officer for the 4-H Exchange."

"I am able to communicate with others, take notes on meetings, and work with younger youth."

- **95% of youth report becoming more involved in leadership, a result of participation in 4-H leadership trainings and experiences. Most common areas for increased leadership were:**

- * High School or College Classes—76%
- * 4-H Community Service—62%
- * 4-H Club Business Meetings—57%
- * 4-H Club Recreation—52%
- * Other School or Community Groups—52%

"Because of the experience I received from trip and educational scholarships I was able to apply it to my first and second year college courses. I was also able to use my camp training to involve more of my fellow students in group activities and discussion."

"Before I joined 4-H, I was super shy and hated talking in front of anyone. During my first years of 4-H I dreaded reading a sentence or just saying my name in front of the club. Now I choose to be in forensics and I seek out ways to speak publicly—something I never could see myself doing if I hadn't faced my fear in 4-H."

"She (Ellen) supports the clubs and the county level programs, encourages youth to try new things and accept challenges and is devoted to every kid enjoying their experience in 4-H and helping each member grow."

4-H Member Enrollments
in the Last 5 Years



4-H Adult Leader Survey

The adult survey was sent to 73 adults, all who had participated in at least 1 leadership training or experience (not including the New Volunteer Orientation). This survey had a 58% response rate, with 42 adults taking the time to respond.

- **The most common 4-H trainings or experiences participated in were:**

- * 4-H Annual Volunteer Leader Trainings—45%
- * Member of the 4-H Executive Board—45%
- * 4-H All Committee Training—43%
- * 4-H Organizational Leader Training—43%

- **93% of volunteers increased their awareness, knowledge of or ability to apply best practices of positive youth development, as a result of the training, support or leadership provided by Ellen during the last 3 years. Most common best practices increased were:**

- * Youth feel a sense of belonging in the group—79%
- * Youth utilized as leaders—74%
- * Positive role model for youth—74%
- * Youth/Adult Partnerships—69%
- * Team leadership is encouraged and supported—67%
- * Essential Elements of Pos. Youth Development—62%
- * Diversity is encouraged and accepted—60%
- * Developmentally appropriate activities—52%

"Empowering youth is a main theme in all leadership training. Trainings focus on being positive role models."

"The youth/adult partnership awareness was greatly increased through some of the meetings Ellen held to help us realize how youth and adult ideas of partnerships could differ."

- **98% of volunteers learned or strengthened volunteer leadership skills, as a result of the training, support or leadership provided by Ellen. Most common skills gained were:**

- * Program Management – including Record keeping, Financial management, Risk reduction, & Liability awareness—79%
- * Organization – including Planning, Organizing, Time management, Parent involvement, & Delegating tasks—62%
- * Positive Youth Development – including Developing life skills & leadership in youth, Empowering others, Motivating & encouraging youth.—62%
- * Communications – including Speaking, Listening, Information delivery, & Marketing—48%

Adult Leader
Enrollments in the
Last 5 Years



"The liability information was where I feel I learned the most. These are things I don't normally think about and they are always good to have in the back of your mind when making decisions with youth and families."

"I have become more confident in speaking and knowing more about topics because Ellen is great at informing."

"I have taken back to the club a better way to communicate with our group, making the youth develop a better choice in life skills and leadership and making sure that everyone listens to what the other person is completely saying before sounding off on their feelings."

"I have become a better leader, more organized and open to other's ideas and possibilities of education."



2017 UW-Extension Program Summary Report

Lisa Messer, RDN, CD, CLE

UW-Extension Nutrition Education Coordinator



Green County FoodWise Wrap up Report, September 30, 2017

In 2013 EFNEP grant funding was secured via Bridget Mouchon Humphrey, Green County Extension's Family Living Educator. A WNEP/FoodWise Nutrition Educator/Coordinator began Jan 1, 2014 and was allowed to begin programming with adult clients April 1, 2014. *162 participants (77 adults and 85 youth) were enrolled in Green County EFNEP nutrition programming since inception.*

- FY 2014 - 4 of 5 enrolled adults graduated. No youth programming. (Graduated means completed 8 "Eating Smart-Being Active" (ESBA) lessons over 7-10 sessions.)
- FY 2015 - 16 of 20 enrolled adults graduated. No youth programming.
- FY 2016 – 53 participants enrolled; 36 of 40 adults graduated. Enrolled 13 elementary youth from Monroe summer school. Nineteen childcare employees participated in ESBA education hours accredited by the Wisconsin 'Registry.'
- FY 2017 – 84** participants enrolled; 10 of 12 enrolled adults graduated. Enrolled 72 elementary youth from districts of: Brodhead- CLC after school for 2/3rd and 4/5 graders, Juda- 1st grade in the classroom and Monticello -5th grade Pony Prep.

**Numbers would have been higher in 2017 if not for educator taking 5 weeks medical leave in Jan/Feb and filling in for Rock County EFNEP program 2 days a week in April/May teaching 53 children in a Janesville school. Additional factors affecting enrollment included elimination of Federal Funds to support the Green County program & inadequate time to complete new participants by 9/30/17 due to the state-wide curriculum change.

- 66 of 77 Green County adults completed the EFNEP "Eating Smart" series = 86% graduation rate. Federal average is estimated at 55-65%.
- Adult populations included minorities, fathers, teen parents, persons with cognitive or physical disabilities and very low income/very high risk families.
- Behavior change in 62 adults/ 3 years= 89% improved in food resource management, 95% improved in nutrition practices and 53% improved in food safety.
- The number of family members impacted by 77 adults receiving education = 381.
- Educational contacts with adults/youth participants combined = 975+.
- From June 2016 - August 2017, 85 children were enrolled in five youth nutrition sessions. Averaged together: 80% of elementary children showed improvement in choosing foods consistent with Federal Dietary Guideline recommendations. 60% of youth showed improvement in food safety.

Avenues for teaching nutrition education to low income families and school aged children should continue to be explored by organizations & agencies in Green County. Nutrition and health programming with the Spanish speaking population, and other ESL families, can be very well received when taught in their language!

Thank you for your support of Green Co. Extension/FoodWise Nutrition Programming in the past four years!



Agencies & Groups the Green County UW-Extension Office Worked With in 2017

The Green County UW-Extension Office assists a wide variety of groups and organizations through educational programming and collaborations. Some of these groups are listed below.

- Albany Sustainable Agriculture Education Center
- Area Chambers of Commerce
- Area Childcare Centers & In-Home Providers
- Area Clergy & Churches
- Area Farm Fertilizer & Chemical Dealers
- Area Farm Implement Dealers
- Area Financial Institutions
- Area Public Libraries
- Area Optimist Groups
- Area School Districts
- Area Vo-Ag Instructors and FFA Chapters
- Barn Quilts of Green County
- Better Brodhead
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Green County
- Blackhawk Technical College
- Dairy Herd Improvement Association
- Department of Natural Resources, State & Local
- Equity Livestock
- Family Promise of Green County
- Green County 4-H Adult & Junior Leaders Inc.
- Green County Ag Chest
- Green Co. Aging & Disability Resource Center
- Green Co. Assn for Home & Community Educators
- Green County Area Food Pantries
- Green County Beef Producers
- Green County Board of Supervisors
- Green County Cheese Days Inc.
- Green County Dairy Youth Recognition Auction
- Green County Development Corporation
- Green County Early Head Start & Headstart
- Green County EMS & Firefighters
- Green County Emergency Management
- Green County Fair Association
- Green County Family YMCA
- Green County Farm Bureau
- Green County Master Gardeners Association
- Green County Habitat for Humanity
- Green County Health Department & WIC
- Green County Healthy Communities Coalition
- Green County Holstein Breeders
- Green County Housing & Homeless Prevention
- Green County Human Services
- Green County Landfill
- Green County Leaders
- Green County Law Enforcement Agencies
- Green County FFA & 4-H Meat Animal Auction
- Green County Mental Health Workgroup
- Green County Milk Quality Council
- Green County Pork Producers
- Green County Probation & Parole
- Green County Sheep Producers
- Green County Tourism
- Green County Zoning Department
- Green Haven Family Advocates
- GUPPY, Inc.
- Healthy Kids Healthy County
- Land and Water Conservation Department
- Leadership WI
- Literacy Council of Green County
- Monroe Clinic Hospital
- Monroe Kiwanis
- Monroe Main Street
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Pleasant View Nursing Home
- Revolution Plastics
- Southwest WI Small Business Development Center
- Southwest WI Community Action Program
- St Vincent De Paul
- Sugar River Watershed
- Town, Village and City Elected Officials & Staff
- United Way of Green County, Inc.
- USDA Farm Services Agency
- UW State Specialists
- UW-Madison Short Course
- UW-Madison Veterinary School
- WI Association of Agriculture Educators
- WI Association of County Extension Committees
- WI Cattlemen's Association
- WI Center for Agriculture Safety and Health
- WI Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection
- WI Farmer's Union
- WI Humanities Council
- WI Milk Marketing Board
- WI Towns Association
- World Dairy Expo
- Youth and Adult 4-H Volunteers and Members