

MU Extension 2025

2025 University Provided Specialist/Associates and Resources

Faculty and Staff salary and benefits:

This includes 13 Specialists and Associates serving Christian County. 2 housed in the Christian County Extension Office. Estimated.

\$203,889

Faculty and Staff travel:

The University pays 30% of the travel expenses.

\$1,275

Network and Equipment:

The University supplies the network and IT services for the Extension office as well as the computer equipment. IT services not included in contribution amount.

\$3,000

Estimated University Contribution

\$208,164

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Christian County MU Extension 2025

Oct 24 – Oct 25

Programs Offered

Includes programs by the Christian County Master Gardeners and the 4-H YPA

- Matter of Balance
- CCMG Library Series – 21
- Ag Land Leasing - C
- Field to Freezer - One Nixa
- New Year New You - One Nixa
- Smoothies 101 - One Nixa
- Preparing your soil for planting - One Nixa
- Fill your freezer - local meat - One Nixa
- Tree & Shrub pruning - CCMG
- CC Courts Cooking Class
- Native Plants of the Ozarks - One Nixa
- PPAT
- CC Livestock & Forage conf.
- Sm. dairy herd management - C
- Raised Garden Beds - CCMG - One Nixa
- Dry Cured Bacon - One Nixa
- CC Courts Gardening Class
- Garden & Barn Quilt Class
- NRUP training
- 4-H Sheep & Goat Workshop
- Koi Gardens - CCMG
- Composting for your home - CCMG - One Nixa
- Stay Strong Stay Healthy
- CC Courts Cooking Class
- Diabetes Education
- Tree ID – CCMG
- Families eating smart & moving more
- Kids Beginner Sewing class
- Jams & Jellies – C
- Beekeeping & Pollinators - CCMG

Total attendance – 407

Upcoming Programs –

- Kids Sewing class - Christmas stockings
- Tree ID/Management

Council Outreach

The Christian County MU Extension Council participated in 11 events throughout the county to raise awareness about MU Extension and the services offered, engaging with approximately 260 contacts, though some contacts, such as the Ozark Craft Fair, were not tracked.

Christian County Ext Office

- Soil analysis – 168
- Hay testing – 20
- Nitrate testing - 24
- Canner gauge testing – 12
- PPAT – 1
- Master Gardener Hotline calls – 26
- Specialist Contact Requests - 21

The Christian County Extension monthly newsletter, Christian County Monthly Monitor, includes news articles from the county extension office, updates from our MU specialists, and information about local and regional Extension events. It has 194 subscribers, with an average of 74 engaged readers each month.

The Christian County MU Extension Facebook page has posted 366 times in the past year, featuring a variety of topics from our MU specialists as well as local and regional events. It has 767 followers and has achieved 39,400 views over the year.

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4-H

During the 2024-2025 enrollment year, Christian County 4-H had a total of **50** 4-H members aged 8-18 and **6** Clover kids aged 5-7. The program was supported by **22** adult volunteers and project leaders who helped guide various activities and projects. Christian County 4-H comprised 5 clubs, fostering leadership, learning, and community involvement among youth and adults alike.

Project success stories

Thank you for supporting Christian County 4H. My name is Harper and I am 7 years old. My 4-H club is Two Rivers. My Nan had 8 chickens and I would help her take care of them. I wanted to learn more about chickens. I joined the Poultry Chain so I could learn how to raise baby chicks and keep them so I could have a small egg business. I had to have a plan so my family helped me to make a list of what I needed to raise my baby chicks. I needed a brooder to start so I called my uncle and he had a friend that let me borrow his brooder. We went to Tractor Supply and got a heat lamp, feeder, waterer and chick feed.

The most exciting part was going to pick out my chicks. Ms. Michelle said we could pick out 10 baby chicks, I wish I could have picked out 100. I picked 3 Barred Rock, 4 Black Golden Laced Wyandotte, and 3 Delaware. We put them in a box and took them home. My Daddy had the brooder warm and ready for them. They were so much fun to watch. The next problem was I needed a chicken coop because the chicks were growing so fast. My Mom helped me come up with a fund raiser to buy supplies to build a new coop. My Grandpa can build anything and he was going to build my coop. I made a video about wanting to build a coop for my baby chicks and asked for donations to buy the supplies. I made a second video giving an update on the coop. I raised \$515 and that was enough to buy supplies. I helped pick out the lumber, load and unload the lumber, and I helped hold boards, cleanup trash, and paint the coop. It was finished in time to move the chicks in when they were 4 weeks old. We put the heat lamp, feeder, and waterer in their new coop. They loved it. It was big enough I could sit in there with them and play.

I made another video thanking the people that donated and showed them the coop. I have to feed and water my chickens every day, and keep their coop clean. They love treats and snacks. I think watermelon is their favorite. I learned that chickens can be noisy, they poop a lot, they can do tricks, and they are good friends.

Harper's Happy Hens (the name of my coop) are now laying eggs and I have a small roadside stand where people can buy eggs. The project is still growing and there is always work to do to make sure my chickens are healthy and happy.

- Harper Kent, 4-H Poultry Chain

In my leather working project this year, I made a belt, learned how to work with leather, and how to make things out of leather, like bracelets. My goals were to make something I could wear and to learn how to use various leathermaking tools.

For our 4H project, we went to Tandy Leather in Springfield. To learn the concept of making leather things, we first made bracelets. I really liked picking out the designs. There are lots of cool options to pick from at Tandy Leather. It was also fun to cut out the leather.

The following month, my 4H club returned to Tandy Leather and this time we made belts. This time the leather had already been cut into strips. We just needed to measure our waists and cut it the length of our waist plus 6 inches or so. At our next 4H club meeting, I painted on a leather sealer to keep the leather from stretching and to seal in the stain so it wouldn't rub off on my clothes. I wear my belt and bracelet often. I entered my belt into the fair and got a ribbon. I hope to continue learning about leather making and I would like to make something else out of leather, like a purse, in the future. Leathermaking was one of my favorite projects this year.

- Ellis Petrowsky, Age 11, member of Clever Clovers

I like to grow vegetables. We planted garlic in our garden last fall. It was a mix of garlic we had grown the year before and some new garlic that my dad bought from Keene Garlic. We planted around a hundred garlic cloves. In the springtime, we picked curly green scapes from the top of the garlic. The reason we picked the scapes was so that the garlic bulbs would be bigger when it was time to harvest them. My mom used the scapes to cook and make stir fry and pesto. It tasted great.

We harvested the garlic in July. We knew it was ready to dig up because the leaves on the side died. The garlic grew really well and got very big this year, the largest we have ever grown. Some of the heads were bigger than my fist. For the fair this year, I brought the best-looking garlic heads I could find. My vegetables won ribbons at the Christian County Fair and at the Ozark Empire Fair.

- Davis Petrowsky, Age 9, member of Clever Clovers

Deadeyes 4-H Club Year in Review

The 2024–2025 4-H year was a busy and successful one for the Deadeyes 4-H Club! From county practices and regional shooting sports camp to regional, state, and even national competitions, 23 youth—ages 8 to 18—participated in one or more of these activities.

The 4-H Shooting Sports program is the only 4-H program that requires volunteers to complete a certification training process. This year, the Deadeyes were fortunate to have seven certified volunteers, which allowed them to offer a wide variety of disciplines: Shooting Sports Safety, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Archery, .22 Rifle, .22 Pistol, Shotgun, Muzzleloader, and Hunting & Outdoor Skills.



For many participants, this was their first time ever taking part in a shooting sports activity. Because 4-H is a *positive youth development* program, shooting sports serve as a tool for building important life skills such as critical thinking, planning and organization, stress management, self-motivation, teamwork, and self-esteem. The Hunting and Outdoor Skills discipline also teaches valuable skills including orienteering, conservation and wildlife identification, and first aid.



Seven youth participated in regional competitions. Reggie Burke, Wade Washburn, Michael Halley, and Gabriel Halley all competed at the Polk County 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational. It was the first competition for all of them, and they performed very well:

- **Michael Halley** placed 4th in Intermediate .22 Rifle (Open Sights)
- **Gabriel Halley** placed 2nd in Intermediate Air Rifle
- **Reggie Burkhart** earned 1st in Junior Air Rifle and 10th in Junior Compound Archery

Grace, Lucky, and Rocky Day participated in the Cole County Invitational, where:

- **Grace Day** earned 1st in Senior Compound Archery
- **Lucky Day** earned 3rd in Senior .22 Pistol
- **Rocky Day** earned 3rd in Junior .22 Rifle



Deadeyes 4-H Club Year in Review

Four youth went on to compete at the **State 4-H Shooting Sports Competition**, held over three weekends in September.

- **Delainey Guardiola-Ellis** won 2nd place in .22 Rifle (Aperture) 3-Position at 50 yards and 2nd in .22 Rifle (Aperture) 3-Position Standard.
- **Grace Day** placed 5th in Hunting and Outdoor Skills, followed closely by **Lucky Day** in 6th.
- **Rocky Day** placed 2nd in Junior Hunting and Outdoor Skills, 8th in Archery 600 Junior Compound Release, and 2nd in Junior .22 Rifle (Open Sights).
- **Lucky Day** also earned 7th in Muzzleloader, 10th in .22 Pistol, and 4th in .22 Rifle (Aperture) 3-Position.

Additionally, three Deadeyes earned spots on the **Missouri State 4-H Shooting Sports Team**, representing the state at the **National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships** in Grand Island, Nebraska, in June. More than 700 youth from 44 states competed at Nationals.

- **Grace Day** competed on the Hunting and Outdoor Skills Team, which placed 2nd overall, while she placed 5th individually.
- **Lucky Day** competed on the Muzzleloader Team, helping them secure 3rd place overall.
- **Delainey Guardiola-Ellis** trained all year as an alternate on the .22 Rifle Team.

Thanks to the combined efforts of all Missouri team members, **Missouri placed 2nd overall in the nation!**



For more information on Deadeyes 4-H Club, email Dee Dee Hinderman at deadeyes4hclub@gmail.com.

