Building Strong Families for Kentucky

. . . . . in Marshall County

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Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Marshall County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 14,665 contacts with Marshall County families during 2007-2008.¹

Our People

The 2000 U.S. Census reported total population as 30,125.² The graph below indicates the percentage by age group.

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=30,125)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 62 and over</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 18-61</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age 17 &amp; Below</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spotlight on . . .

Accessing Nutritious Food

The Marshall County Cooperative Extension Service and Kentucky Food Stamp program are working together in the “Let’s Get Foodwise” program. The program teaches nutrition and economics to food stamp recipients and eligible audiences. Programs were presented to parents during Head Start orientation. Almost 200 families received information on how to shop wisely and follow a food budget. Estimated annual savings to program participants is $1,050 per family.³

¹ Source: Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service
² Source: 2000 U.S. Census
³ Source: Program evaluation data
Our Families
Using data from the 2000 U.S. Census, Marshall County families can be described as follows:  
- 9,031 families reside in the county.
- 593 families (6.6%) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is $43,670.
- 282 grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.

According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, 3,381 people in Marshall County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is $204.82 per month.  

In the county, 124 children live in out-of-home care. In 2004, there were 33 incidents of adult abuse and 64 incidents of child abuse.

As a result of participation in Marshall County Extension programs:  
- 184 people increased their knowledge and skills related to parenting and personal relationships.
- 86 adult, dependent, and child care providers increased their care giving knowledge.
- 280 people used safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- 464 food stamp eligible or recipient families consumed more fruits and vegetables daily.

Our Community
Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In September 2008, the rate of unemployment in Marshall County was 6%. This represented a 9% increase from the September 2007 level of 5.5%.

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Marshall County, 0.99% of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by 41%. In a six-month period (May through October 2008), 67 foreclosures were filed.

Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Marshall County, 11% of the people under age 65 are uninsured.

As a result of participation in Marshall County Extension programs:  
- 224 adults or youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- 75 adults and youth utilized improved communication, problem solving, and group process skills to address community needs.
- 66 people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.

Our Health
The health of our people contributes to quality of life. The chart below illustrates health risks of adults in Marshall County.

Figure 2. Health Risks.

As a result of participation in Marshall County Extension programs:  
- 231 people increased their use of radon testers, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, and other devices to ensure personal safety.
- 160 people made lifestyle changes to improve physical health.
- 112 people implemented new practices to maintain their health and well-being.

Sources
3 Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Data Book, June 2008.
4 Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kentucky KIDS COUNT, 2005.
5 Kentucky Department for Public Health, County Health Priorities, 2004.
7 TransUnion LLC., Trend Data, Quarter 1 2008.
9 Kentucky Institute of Medicine, The Health of Kentucky: A County Assessment, 2007.