

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

Marsha Parker, County Extension Agent Family & Consumer Sciences



BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY

OUR FOCUS

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

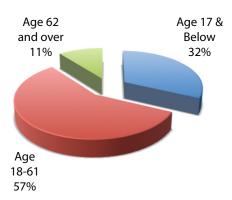
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **36,110** contacts with Christian County families during 2008-2009.¹

OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group² (n=79,820)





SPOTLIGHT ON...

SECURING FINANCIAL STABILITY

n order to address financial stability concerns for women, Cooperative Extension Service offered a seminar called "Money Sense for Women" which distributed financial planning tools and information. Topics included: "My Name Counts – Establishing and Maintaining Credit;" "Banking 101;" "Living a Debt Free Life;" "Saving and Investing on a Shoestring;" "You, INC. – Starting Your Own Business;" and "Protecting your Purse – Dealing with Identity Theft and Self Defense." One hundred thirty women participated. Another seminar included: "Getting Your Legal Documents in Order;" "Mortgages, Ownership and Equity;" "Oops! I Spent too Much;" "Who Wants to be

a Millionaire;"
"Aging – A Family Affair;" and
"Living a Debt
Free Life." One
hundred forty
women attended. Evaluation
showed that 87%
of the participants had gained
knowledge and
planned to make
changes.1





OUR COMMUNITY

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in Christian County was 12.6%.³

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community wellbeing. In Christian

As a result of participation in Christian County Extension programs:¹

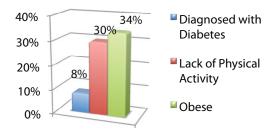
- 22 people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- 17 people increased their knowledge of governmental process.
- 676 people expanded their knowledge of economic development.

County, **2.79%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **1.80%**.⁴ In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **246** foreclosures were filed.⁵

Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Christian County, **19%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.⁶

OUR HEALTH

► The health of our people contributes to quality of life. The chart below illustrates health risks of adults in Christian County. *Figure 2. Health Risks.*⁶

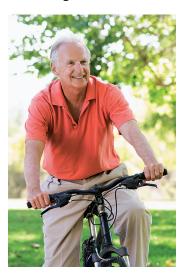


As a result of participation in Christian County Extension programs:¹

- **125** people increased knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- **35** people used safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- 2 joint programs with community partners focused on comprehensive health maintenance.

OUR FAMILIES

- ▶ Using data from the 2000 U.S. Census, Christian County families can be described as follows:²
- 18,350 families reside in the county.
- 2,236 families (12.1%) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is \$35,240.
- **485** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **4,747** people in Christian County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$227.20** per month.⁷

In the county, 133 children live in out-of-home care.8

In 2005, there were **367** incidents of adult abuse and **153** incidents of child abuse.⁹

As a result of participation in Christian County Extension programs:¹

- **49** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- 678 people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **328** adults and youth improved practical living skills.

SOURCES

- ¹ Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Impacting Reporting, FY2009.
- $^{\rm 2}$ U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000.
- ³ Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, August 2009.
- ⁴TransUnion LLC., Trend Data, Quarter 1 2009.
- $^{\rm 5}$ Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, November, 2009.
- ⁶ Kentucky Institute of Medicine, The Health of Kentucky: A County Assessment, 2007.
- ⁷ Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Data Book, June 2008.
- 8 Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kentucky KIDS COUNT, 2005.
- ⁹ Kentucky Department for Public Health, County Health Priorities, 2004.