

#### HART COUNTY Patricia Margolis, County Extension Agent Family & Consumer Sciences



# BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY

# OUR FOCUS

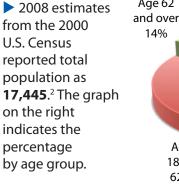
► Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Hart County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

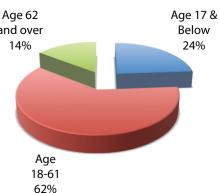
#### Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices Nurturing Families Embracing Life as You Age Securing Financial Stability Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities Accessing Nutritious Food Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **23,164** contacts with Hart County families during 2008-2009.<sup>1</sup>

# OUR PEOPLE

Figure 1. Population by Age Group<sup>2</sup> (n=17,445)





# SPOTLIGHT ON...

# EMPOWERING COMMUNITY LEADERS

he Clothes Line of Quilts project, initiated in 2008, is designed to attract tourism and to highlight historic, cultural, educational and community beautification. Volunteers in Hart County began painting in June 2008 and our local telephone cooperative, SCRTC, placed the first five quilt paintings the following September. Five more were placed in October and the next eight in April this year. We now have a total of 40 painted quilts commissioned. In addition to the 18 already hanging, 12 more are now ready to be hung by Farmers RECC. As a result

of our success, we have provided technical assistance and leader training to agents and project groups in Edmonson, Barren and Simpson counties. And the Hart County group is still meeting twice weekly and continuing to take applications.1





#### OUR COMMUNITY

Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In August 2009, the rate of unemployment in Hart County was 10.6%.<sup>3</sup>

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Hart County,

#### As a result of participation in Hart County Extension programs:<sup>1</sup>

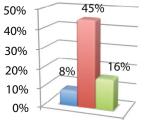
- **385** people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- **1,570** people increased their knowledge of governmental process.
- **476** people expanded their knowledge of economic development.

**1.72%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and 60-day bank card delinquency rates have increased by **1.43%**.<sup>4</sup> In a one-year period (October 2008 through October 2009), **56** foreclosures were filed.<sup>5</sup>

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

### OUR HEALTH

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



- Diagnosed with Diabetes
- Lack of Physical Activity

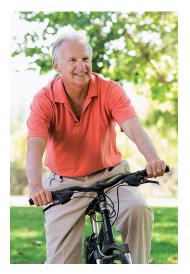
Obese

#### As a result of participation in Hart County Extension programs:<sup>1</sup>

- **450** people increased knowledge of practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **135** people developed skills to access affordable food.
- **270** people implemented practices to maintain health and well-being.

# OUR FAMILIES

- ► Using data from the 2000 U.S. Census, Hart County families can be described as follows:<sup>2</sup>
- 4,811 families reside in the county.
- 896 families (18.6%) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is \$31,746.
- **234** grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **1,461** people in Hart County receive food stamps. The average family food stamp benefit is **\$206.46** per month.<sup>7</sup>

In the county, **68** children live in out-of-home care.<sup>8</sup>

In 2005, there were **45** incidents of adult abuse and **98** incidents of child abuse.<sup>9</sup>

#### As a result of participation in Hart County Extension programs:<sup>1</sup>

- **850** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **120** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and/or increase savings.
- **155** people increased their knowledge and skills related to parenting and personal relationships.

#### **SOURCES**

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