### **MARION COUNTY**

Elizabeth Creed, County Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences



# BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY 2011



### **OUR FOCUS**

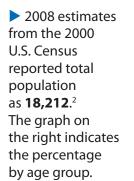
► Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Marion County resulting in strong families for Kentucky. Educational programs focus on:

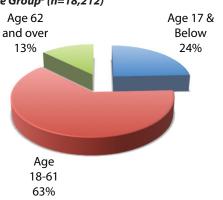
Making Beneficial Lifestyle Choices
Nurturing Families
Embracing Life as You Age
Securing Financial Stability
Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities
Accessing Nutritious Food
Empowering Community Leaders

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **3,866** contacts with Marion County families during 2009-2010.<sup>1</sup>

### **OUR PEOPLE**

Figure 1. Population by Age Group<sup>2</sup> (n=18,212)



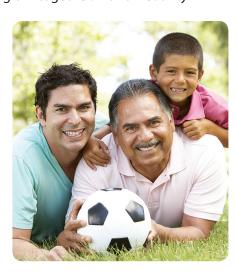


### **SPOTLIGHT ON...**

# MAKING BENEFICIAL LIFESTYLE CHOICES

e Can! (Ways to Enhance Children's Activity and Nutrition) is a national movement designed to give parents, caregivers, and communities a way to help children 8 to 13 years old maintain a healthy weight. This educational program provides parents and caregivers with tools, fun activities, and various methods to encourage healthy eating, increased physical activity, and reduced time sitting in front of the screen (television, computer, etc.). In collaboration with the Marion County Housing Community Center, parents and children participated in the program together. Marion County Ex-

panded Food and Nutrition Education Program Assistant taught the children about physical activity and nutrition while parents learned to enhance the nutrition and physical activity of their family.<sup>1</sup>





#### **OUR COMMUNITY**

► Unemployment rates are a key economic indicator. In July 2010, the rate of unemployment in Marion County was **14.0%**.6

Mortgage and bank card delinquency rates and foreclosure filings are important financial indicators of community well-being. In Marion County, **2.4%** of mortgages are 90-days delinquent and **1.8%** of bank cards

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

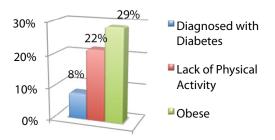
- 220 people expanded their knowledge of economic development.
- 750 people increased their knowledge of governmental process.
- **372** people were prepared to enter the work force.
- Marion County Extension is involved in 15 community coalitions.

are 60-days delinquent.<sup>7</sup> In a one-year period (August 2009 through August 2010), **88** foreclosures were filed.<sup>5</sup>

Access to health insurance is another important factor contributing to family well-being. In Marion County, **13%** of the people under age 65 are uninsured.<sup>8</sup>

### **OUR HEALTH**

► The health of our people contributes to quality of life. The chart below illustrates health risks of adults in Marion County. *Figure 2. Health Risks.*<sup>8</sup>



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

- **968** people increased knowledge of practices to maintain health and well-being.
- **891** people increased knowledge of safe practices to store, handle, and prepare food.
- 229 people developed skills to access affordable food.

### **OUR FAMILIES**

- ► Using data from the 2000 U.S. Census, Marion County families can be described as follows:<sup>2</sup>
- 4,755 families reside in the county.
- 754 families (15.8%) live below poverty level.
- Median family income is \$35,648.
- 133 grandparents are responsible for the care of their grandchildren.



According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, **1,602** people in Marion County receive supplemental nutrition assistance. The average family benefit is **\$225.10** per month.<sup>3</sup>

In the county, 53 children live in out-of-home care. There were 34

child victims of substantiated abuse.<sup>4</sup> There were **66** incidents of adult abuse.<sup>5</sup>

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

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

#### **SOURCES**

- <sup>1</sup> Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Impact Reporting, FY2010.
- $^{\rm 2}$  U.S. Bureau of the Census, Census 2000. 2008 Estimates.
- <sup>3</sup> Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Data Book, December 2008.
- <sup>4</sup> Annie E. Casey Foundation, Kentucky KIDS COUNT, 2009.
- $^{\scriptscriptstyle 5}$  Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, September, 2010
- <sup>6</sup> Kentucky Office of Employment and Training, Kentucky Labor Force Estimates, July 2010.
- <sup>7</sup> TransUnion LLC., Trend Data, Quarter 1 2010.
- <sup>8</sup> Kentucky Institute of Medicine, The Health of Kentucky: A County Assessment, 2007.