Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Anderson County. As the current economic situation continues to create challenges, educational programs focus on:

- **Making Healthy Lifestyle Choices** that influence health and well-being
- **Nurturing Families** as they cope with fewer resources and more demands
- **Embracing Life as We Age** to strive for independence longer
- **Securing Financial Stability** in a turbulent economic period
- **Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities** to recycle, reduce waste, and protect our environment
- **Accessing Nutritious Food** that is affordable, available and safe
- **Empowering Community Leaders** as we all work to sustain and improve our communities.

In 2010-2011, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 12,577 contacts with Anderson County individuals and families.

**Population by Age Group**

The 2010 U.S. Census reported total population in Anderson County as 21,421.

- Age 18-64: 62.5%
- Age 5-17: 18.7%
- Age 4 and below: 6.7%
- Age 65 and over: 12.0%

According to U.S. Census data, 12.4% of Anderson County residents are 65 years or older, with many living in poverty, able only to afford rent and medicine. The Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, partnering with the Department of Agriculture, Open Hands Food Pantry, and Senior Center, work to increase participation in the Farmers Market voucher program for local seniors and provide nutrition education. This program distributes seven vouchers per person that can be redeemed for $28 of food at any farmer’s market in Kentucky. Anderson County voucher redemption has risen from 18% in 2009 to a redemption rate of 74.6% in 2010. Older adults have increased their ability to afford and access fresh market food as a result of these programs.
According to the 2010 Census, of families in Anderson County with their own children...

- 71.2% are husband-wife families
- 28.8% are single parent families

In addition, there are:

- 8,369 households
- 3,133 households with 1 or more persons under the age of 18
- 403 grandchildren under 18 years old who live with a grandparent householder
- 1,837 households with at least one person age 65 and over

As a result of participation in Anderson County Extension programs:

- 200 people increased knowledge of lifestyle changes to improve personal health.
- 10 people increased knowledge of parenting and personal relationships.
- 286 people increased knowledge of safe storage, handling and food preparation.

In 2009, the most recent data available, the median household income in Anderson County was $51,486. The number of children in poverty in Anderson County was 876 compared to 666 in 2006. The total number of people receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Anderson County is 3,218 in 2011.

As a result of participation in Anderson County Extension programs:

- 28 people increased leadership knowledge and skills.
- 26 people were involved in addressing issues of their community.
- 25 people developed skills to access affordable food.

According to the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, between 2005 and 2009 in Anderson County it is estimated that...

- 58.7% (+/- 4.4) are married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force
- 74.1% (+/- 10.2) are children under 6 years old with all parents in the labor force
- 5.6% (+/- 2.9) are people 65 years and over below poverty level during the past 12 months

As a result of participation in Anderson County Extension programs:

- 25 adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- 337 people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and increase savings.
- 378 people demonstrated increased practical living skills.

Average Annual Unemployment Rate (not seasonally adjusted)

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Sources:
1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census.