

**LEE COUNTY Crystal Osborne**, County Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences

# BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY 2012



### **OUR FOCUS**

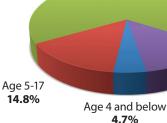
Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the quality of life for individuals and families in Lee County. As the current economic situation continues to create challenges, educational programs focus on:

- 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 **7,690** contacts with Lee County individuals and families.<sup>2</sup>

### Population by Age Group<sup>1</sup>

The 2010 U.S. Census reported total population in Lee County as **7,887.**<sup>1</sup>



Age 65 and over **13.2%** 

Age 18-64

67.3%

### SPOTLIGHT ON ...

**OUR PEOPLE** 

# SECURING FINANCIAL STABILITY

ccording to the 2009 Economic Report for Kentucky, Lee County's unemployment rate is 11.8%. Consequently, many families need to reduce spending. The Family and Consumer Sciences Agent taught "Couponing 101" to 150 individuals in the local area. Participants were surveyed before: 58% did not use coupons to save on their monthly grocery bill, 48% did not plan meals in advance and, on average, participants saved \$3 per week on grocery bills. A 12-week follow-up showed that, of the responses, 93% regularly used coupons to save money, 90% were planning meals in advance and, on average, participants saved \$10 per week. One participant said, "My grocery bill has gone down! Once in a while I can now splurge on a treat and still be money ahead."



### **OUR FAMILIES**

According to the 2010 Census,<sup>1</sup> of families in Lee County with their own children...

- 64.3% are husband-wife families
- **35.7%** are single parent families

#### In addition, there are:

- 2,910 households
- **901** households with 1 or more persons under the age of 18
- **209** grandchildren under 18 years old who live with a grandparent householder
- 813 households with at least one person age 65 and over



# As a result of participation in Lee County Extension programs:<sup>2</sup>

- **327** people increased knowledge of lifestyle changes to improve personal health.
- **78** people increased knowledge of parenting and personal relationships.
- **423** people increased knowledge of safe storage, handling and food preparation.

### **OUR COMMUNITY**

In 2009, the most recent data available, the median household income in Lee County was **\$23,791**.<sup>3</sup>

The number of children in poverty in Lee County was **693** compared to **669** in 2006.<sup>3</sup>

The total number of people receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Lee County is **2,988** in 2011.<sup>4</sup>

## As a result of participation in Lee County Extension programs:<sup>2</sup>

- **65** people increased leadership knowledge and skills.
- **69** people improved communication skills to address community issues.
- **227** people developed skills to access affordable food.

### **OUR ECONOMY**

According to the 2010 American Community Survey 5-year estimates,<sup>6</sup> between 2005 and 2009 in Lee County it is estimated that...

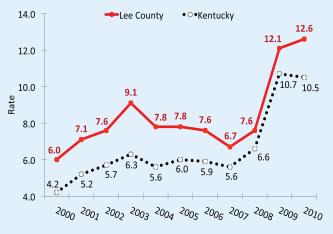
- **25.5%** (+/- **8**) are married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force
- **45.7%** (+/- **31.1**) are children under 6 years old with all parents in the labor force
- 22.7% (+/- 8.9) are people 65 years and over below poverty level during the past 12 months

#### As a result of participation in Lee County Extension programs:<sup>2</sup>

- **312** people increased knowledge of economic and enterprise development.
- **325** people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and increase savings.
- **362** people demonstrated increased practical living skills.

### Average Annual Unemployment Rate<sup>5</sup>

(not seasonally adjusted)



#### SOURCES

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census.

<sup>2</sup> Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, Impact Reporting, FY2011.

- <sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.
- <sup>4</sup> Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Databook, June 2011. <sup>5</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.

<sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates.