Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Boone County. To help families make wise decisions, our 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 live independently longer
- **Securing Financial Stability** in a turbulent economic period
- **Promoting Healthy Homes and Communities** that 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 2013-2014, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made 25,054 contacts with Boone County individuals and families.¹

**Median household income by housing type** (2008-2012)²

As a result of an increasing percentage of elderly residents, Boone County Extension offered "Stand Up to Falling" to help participants live independently longer and experience a better quality of life as they age. Post-session evaluations showed most participants completed a home assessment to determine fall risks. Several made changes in their homes, including installing better night lighting and lighting on stairs. Most increased their physical activity to improve overall strength and flexibility. Half discussed their medications with a health care provider. Fall prevention programs can save an estimated $18,000 to $21,000 in health care costs per person in cases involving a fatality or hospitalization. More than $200,000 in Medicaid claims was potentially saved in Boone County because of this program.

http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies


**BOONE COUNTY**
Diane Mason and Katie Smallwood, County Extension Agents, Family and Consumer Sciences

**BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES**
FOR KENTUCKY 2015

**OUR FOCUS**

**OUR PEOPLE**

**SPOTLIGHT ON ...**

**STAND UP TO FALLING**
Housing has long been recognized as a basic human need. Yet, because housing is often a family’s largest expense and largest debt, it can be a stumbling block for many. Safe, lower-cost housing options are often limited for struggling families, and this can lead them into crisis. Family and Consumer Sciences Extension helps people improve home safety, lessen their environmental footprint, and strengthen financial stability. It also helps communities promote healthy lifestyles throughout the lifespan by supporting strong family home environments. Please tell us ways you think we can do more.

**AVAILABILITY**

In 2010, in Boone County, there were…
- 11,049 renter households
- 32,167 homeowner households
- 1,145 vacant housing units for rent
- 656 vacant housing units for sale

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, in 2012-2013, 373 children were homeless or were precariously housed in Boone County.

Number of households by housing type* in Boone County (2010)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband/wife family (with or without children)</td>
<td>6,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single householder family</td>
<td>3,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living alone, with roommates, etc.</td>
<td>2,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owner Occupied</td>
<td>21,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renter Occupied</td>
<td>4,735</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AFFORDABILITY**

According to American Community Survey estimates for Boone County, in 2008-2012…
- 37.1% (+/- 4.2) of renter households paid 35% or more of their income for rent and utilities
- 17.7% (+/- 1.8) of homeowner households with a mortgage and 10.2% (+/- 2.6) of homeowner households without a mortgage paid 35% or more of their income for housing costs
- 20.5% (+/- 1.2) of homeowner households did not have a mortgage
- 4.5% (+/- 0.6) of all housing units were mobile homes

According to the most recent poverty estimates, in 2012, 8.7% (+/- 1.5) of residents in the county were living below poverty.

In 2013, residents needed to earn $14.13 an hour (or work 1.9 jobs at $7.25 an hour**) to afford a two-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent in Boone County.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

In Boone County, it is estimated that in 2008-2012…
- half of all renter-occupied housing was built before 1990 (+/- 2 years)
- half of all owner-occupied housing was built before 1995 (+/- 1 years)

According to 2008-2012 American Community Survey estimates in Boone County…
- 1.8% (+/- 0.5) of all households had no landline or cell phone
- 23.3% (+/- 1.5) of workers living in Boone County worked in Kentucky but outside the county and 24.2% (+/- 1.4) worked outside the state
- Half of all workers traveled 24.4 (+/- 0.7) or more minutes to work

**SOURCES:**
1. Kentucky Cooperative Extension reporting. FY 2014
2. 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
3. 2010 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau
4. Kentucky Dept. of Education http://education.ky.gov/federal/programs/txc/Pages/TX-Docs.aspx (Data for school districts were combined to produce the county total.)
5. Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
6. Out Of Reach 2014. National Low Income Housing Coalition
7. Data refer to housing tenure (owner or renter).
8. ** The current federal minimum wage

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.