Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Boyle 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 2,851 contacts with Boyle County individuals and families.

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

- **All Households**: $53,046 (U.S.), $42,610 (Kentucky), $41,037 (Boyle County)
- **Owner Occupied**: $67,062 (U.S.), $64,061 (Kentucky), $51,341 (Boyle County)
- **Renter Occupied**: $32,212 (U.S.), $24,100 (Kentucky), $24,098 (Boyle County)

**Spotlight on ...**

**DON'T BE SCARED, BE PREPARED**

The Boyle County Family and Consumer Sciences agent collaborated with Fort Harrod FCS agents to host a multi-county seminar on disaster preparedness. The seminar focused on understanding various emergencies and natural disasters that could impact the community, knowing the contents of an emergency kit and how to acquire them, understanding safe and proper responses to an emergency, and developing a family plan in case of an emergency. Program evaluations showed that 88% of participants became more knowledgeable about what to do in an emergency, learned how to pack an emergency kit, and had prepared a plan for their family.

[http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies](http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies)
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 Boyle County, there were…
- 3,545 renter households
- 7,530 homeowner households
- 397 vacant housing units for rent
- 204 vacant housing units for sale

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, in 2012-2013, 82 children were homeless or were precariously housed in Boyle County.

**AFFORDABILITY**

According to American Community Survey estimates for Boyle County, in 2008-2012…
- 34.0% (+/- 5.9) of renter households paid 35% or more of their income for rent and utilities
- 19.8% (+/- 3.3) of homeowner households with a mortgage and 7.9% (+/- 2.7) of homeowner households without a mortgage paid 35% or more of their income for housing costs
- 36.6% (+/- 2.8) of homeowner households did not have a mortgage
- 7.0% (+/- 1.4) of all housing units were mobile homes

According to the most recent poverty estimates, in 2012, 17.8% (+/- 3.0) of residents in the county were living below poverty.

In 2013, residents needed to earn $12.31 an hour (or work 1.7 jobs at $7.25 an hour**) to afford a two-bedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent in Boyle County.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

In Boyle County, it is estimated that in 2008-2012…
- half of all renter-occupied housing was built before 1974 (+/- 3 years)
- half of all owner-occupied housing was built before 1978 (+/- 2 years)

According to 2008-2012 American Community Survey estimates in Boyle County…
- 2.6% (+/- 0.9) of all households had no landline or cell phone
- 32.0% (+/- 2.9) of workers living in Boyle County worked in Kentucky but outside the county and 0.6% (+/- 0.4) worked outside the state
- Half of all workers traveled 20.2 (+/- 1.1) or more minutes to work

**Estimated percentage of households without a vehicle (2008-2012)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.4-5.4%</td>
<td>8.2-11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6-7.9%</td>
<td>11.4-15.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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/Pages/TK-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