



# **KNOX COUNTY**

**Danielle Barrett**,

County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences



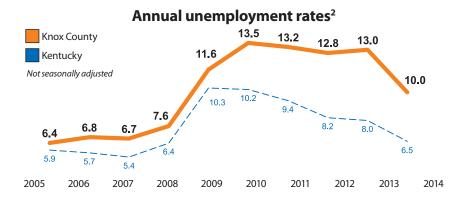
## **OUR FOCUS**

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Knox County. To help Kentuckians strengthen their financial, physical, and social well-being, 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 2014-2015, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made **3,553** contacts with Knox County individuals and families.<sup>1</sup>

## **OUR PEOPLE**



## **SPOTLIGHT ON...**

# PRODUCE SAMPLES ENCOURAGE EXPERIMENTATION

ntil the Knox County Farmers' Market opened, fresh local produce wasn't easily accessible for many residents. To get them to try produce, the Knox County FCS Extension Program, working with the farmers' market, set up a booth to offer Plate It Up! Kentucky Proud recipe samples to market patrons. Many taste-testers commented that without these samples they would not be inclined to try certain vegetables and because of these samples they were more motivated to try new foods. Other remarks included: "I can't wait to have my mom make this for dinner!" and "My family loved your last recipe so much we've eaten it three times this month."

http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies



## FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

In Knox County, the median household income in 2013 was **\$26,220** (+/- **\$2,451**) compared to \$43,307 (+/- \$631) for the state.3

The American Community Survey estimates that between 2009-2013:4

- 45.3% (+/-7.1) of families with related children were below poverty
- 21.4% (+/-4.0) of people age 65 and over were below poverty
- 9.2% (+/-3.0) of individuals working full time/full year in the previous 12 months were below poverty
- 75.8% of students were eligible for free lunches and 3.9% were eligible for reduced-price lunches in 2014-20155

### As a result of participating in **Knox County Extension programs:** 1

- 680 people demonstrated informed and effective decision-making.
- 1,500 people demonstrated increased practical living skills.

## PHYSICAL WELL-BEING

According to the CDC's County Diabetes Atlas, in Knox County in 2012:6

- 14.9% (18.3%-11.8%) of adults reported having been diagnosed with diabetes
- 36.7% (42.3%-31.1%) of adults 18 years and over were obese
- 34.1% (39.6%-28.7%) of adults reported no leisure-time exercise in the past month

Between 2006-2012 in Knox County:7

- 40.6% (49.7%-32.1%) of adults reported having been diagnosed with high blood pressure
- 31.0% (36.6%-26.0%) of adults reported fair or poor health

#### In Knox County:

- 49.0% had adequate access to locations for physical activity compared to 72.0% for the state8
- 21.0% (+/-4.7) of those who drive to work on their own have a commute that is more than 30 minutes (2009-2013)8
- 69 deaths were from a drug overdose between 2009-20139

## As a result of participating in **Knox County Extension programs:** 1

- 750 people increased knowledge of lifestyle changes to improve personal health.
- 450 children and youth learned to eat more healthy food.

## **SOCIAL WELL-BEING**

The American Community Survey estimates that between 2009-2013 in Knox County:4

- 28.5% (+/-1.3) of households included one or more persons age 65 and over
- 414 (+/-147) grandparents lived with and were responsible for their own grandchildren
- **54.8%** (+/-**11.0**) of children under 6 years and **55.8%** (+/-8.8) of children 6-17 years had all parents in the labor force
- **432** (+/-**340**) of those age 5 and older spoke a language other than English at home
- 1,564 (+/-235) civilian veterans lived in Knox County<sup>4</sup>

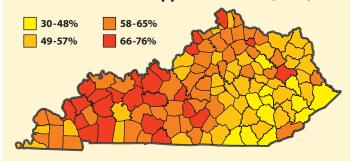
#### In Knox County:

- 29.0% (36.7%-22.3%) of adults ages 18+ reported they did not receive sufficient social-emotional support between 2006-127
- 147 children were determined to have been victims of child abuse or neglect in 2013<sup>10</sup>
- 45.9% of those registered to vote did so in the 2014 General Election<sup>11</sup>

## As a result of participating in **Knox County Extension programs:** 1

- 95 adults reported increased leadership skills, knowledge or confidence.
- 802 people were reached with information related to health and safety.

## Percent of child support collected (2014)<sup>10</sup>



#### SOURCES:

- Kentucky Cooperative Extension reporting, FY 2015
- <sup>2</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment <sup>3</sup> Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
- <sup>4</sup> 2013 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, U.S. Census Bureau <sup>5</sup> 2014-2015 Kentucky School Report Card, Kentucky Dept. of Education. (Data for school districts were combined to produce the county total.)
- CDC County Diabetes Atlas
- <sup>7</sup> BRFSS/Health Indicators Warehous <sup>8</sup> RWJF County Health Rankings.
- Adequate access is defined as living within 1/2 mile of a park and as living in a census tract less than 3 miles from a recreational
- facility for rural areas and less than 1 mile in urban areas
- <sup>9</sup> Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center. 2015. "Drug Overdose Deaths in Kentucky, 2000-2013"
- <sup>o</sup> Kentucky Kids Count/Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services. (http://datacenter.kidscount.org) Kentucky State Board of Elections
- (http://elect.ky.gov/statistics/Pages/turnoutstatistics.aspx)

