## **GARRARD COUNTY**

Mary Hixson,

County Extension Agent, Family & Consumer Sciences



# BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY 2012



### **OUR FOCUS**

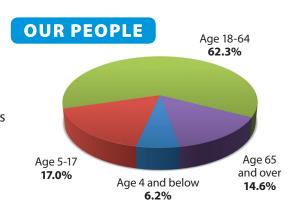
Family and Consumer Sciences
Extension is committed to improving
the quality of life for individuals and
families in Garrard County. As the current
economic situation continues to create
challenges, educational programs
focus on:

- 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 **13,852** contacts with Garrard County individuals and families.<sup>2</sup>

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

The 2010 U.S. Census reported total population in Garrard County as **16,912**.<sup>1</sup>



## **SPOTLIGHT ON ...**

## SECURING FINANCIAL STABILITY

s the economic downturn continues, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent remains committed to programming that helps families save money. Budgeting information, hosting free CPR classes, and sharing nutritious yet budget-friendly recipes are vital parts of Extension's outreach in the community. Two workshops have been held on couponing this past year, and a coupon exchange station is maintained at the Extension office. "Garrard Saves," a newsletter that is distributed to the community offers a monthly reminder about saving. All recipients submitted a savings goal; 15% are on course to reach their goal. Using University of Kentucky publications and materials, seven students learned goal-setting, establishing priorities, paying bills, stretching money, and using local resources to save money.



#### **OUR FAMILIES**

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

- 73.6% are husband-wife families
- 26.4% are single parent families

#### In addition, there are:

- 6,668 households
- 2,232 households with 1 or more persons under the age of 18
- 382 grandchildren under 18 years old who live with a grandparent householder
- 1,739 households with at least one person age 65 and over



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

- **380** people increased knowledge of lifestyle changes to improve personal health.
- **2605** adults and youth improved their ability to make informed and effective decisions.
- **45** people increased knowledge of safe storage, handling and food preparation.

## **OUR COMMUNITY**

In 2009, the most recent data available, the median household income in Garrard County was \$40,210.3

The number of children in poverty in Garrard County was **999** compared to **821** in 2006.<sup>3</sup>

The total number of people receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Garrard County is **3,335** in 2011.<sup>4</sup>

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

- **2,503** people increased leadership knowledge and skills.
- **5,605** people improved communication skills to address community issues.
- **60** 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 Garrard County it is estimated that...

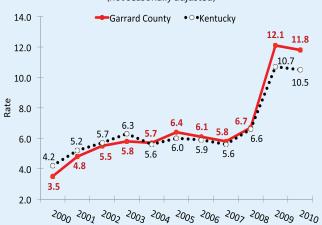
- **54.2%** (+/- **5.5**) are married-couple families with both husband and wife in the labor force
- **56.6%** (+/- **12.3**) are children under 6 years old with all parents in the labor force
- 17.9% (+/- 6) are people 65 years and over below poverty level during the past 12 months

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

- 6 people increased knowledge of economic and enterprise development.
- 25 people adopted money management practices to reduce debt and increase savings.
- **655** 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.