### COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT, LEXINGTON, KY 40546



**KNOTT COUNTY Linda Combs**, County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences



# BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES FOR KENTUCKY 2015



### **OUR FOCUS**

Family and Consumer Sciences Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families in Knott 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 **21,717** contacts with Knott County individuals and families.<sup>1</sup>

### http://hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies

## **OUR PEOPLE**

### Median household income by housing type\* (2008-2012)<sup>2</sup>



## **SPOTLIGHT ON ...**

## PRODUCE FOR FAMILIES

The poverty level in Knott County is 23% and more than 32% of children live in poverty. A local food bank requested assistance from the Knott County Cooperative Extension Office and the agent for Family and Consumer Sciences. To provide nutritious foods to needy families, locally grown produce provided by participants working in a community garden project was given to families. Produce was added to each food basket during the growing season. During July and August, 161 families were supplied with fresh green beans, cabbage, leaf lettuce, green peppers, cucumbers, cantaloupe, squash, and corn. The approximate market value of produce received was \$12.75 per family, bringing the total of grocery savings to \$2,053.



ousing 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.

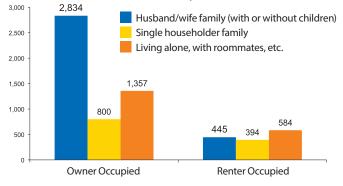
### AVAILABILITY

In 2010, in Knott County, there were...<sup>3</sup>

- 1,423 renter households
- 4,991 homeowner households
- 142 vacant housing units for rent
- 40 vacant housing units for sale

According to the Kentucky Department of Education, in 2012-2013, 587 children were homeless or were precariously housed in Knott County.<sup>4</sup>

### Number of households by housing type\* in Knott County (2010)<sup>3</sup>



## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

In Knott County, it is estimated that in 2008-2012...<sup>2</sup>

- half of all renter-occupied housing was built before 1979 (+/-4 years)
- half of all owner-occupied housing was built before 1985 (+/- 2 years)

According to 2008-2012 American Community Survey<sup>2</sup> estimates in Knott County...

• 2.2% (+/- 1.5) of all households had no landline or cell phone

• 52.1% (+/- 5.3) of workers living in Knott County worked in Kentucky but outside the county and 1.6% (+/- 1.3) worked outside the state

• Half of all workers traveled 26.8 (+/- 2.3) or more minutes to work

## AFFORDABILITY

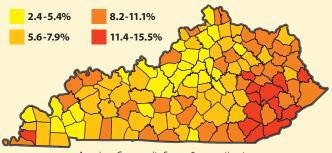
According to American Community Survey estimates for Knott County, in 2008-2012...<sup>2</sup>

- 21.4% (+/- 8.9) of renter households paid 35% or more of their income for rent and utilities
- 26.2% (+/- 6.0) of homeowner households with a mortgage and 7.0% (+/- 2.6) of homeowner households without a mortgage paid 35% or more of their income for housing costs
- 62.4% (+/- 4.6) of homeowner households did not have a mortgage
- 33.5% (+/- 3.8) of all housing units were mobile homes

According to the most recent poverty estimates, in 2012, 30.5% (+/- 5.4) of residents in the county were living below poverty.<sup>5</sup>

In 2013, residents needed to earn \$10.87 an hour (or work **1.5** jobs at \$7.25 an hour\*\*) to afford a twobedroom apartment at Fair Market Rent in Knott County.6

### **Estimated percentage of households** without a vehicle (2008-2012)<sup>2</sup>



American Community Survey 5-year estimates

#### SOURCES:

Kentucky Cooperative Extension reporting. FY 2014

<sup>2</sup> 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
<sup>3</sup> 2010 Decennial Census, U.S. Census Bureau

- <sup>4</sup> Kentucky Dept. of Education http://education.ky.gov/ federal/progs/txc/Pages/TX-Docs.aspx (Data for school districts were combined to produce the county total.) <sup>5</sup> Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Censu
- Bureau <sup>6</sup> Out Of Reach 2014. National Low Income Housing Coalition

\* Data refer to housing tenure (owner or renter). \*\* The current federal minimum wage

