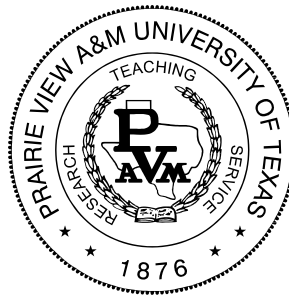

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS & RESULTS

COOPERATIVE
PROGRAM

EXTENSION



PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
Prairie View, Texas

Submitted by:

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Date

**COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAM - Prairie View A&M University
Prairie View, Texas**

FY 2001 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

PLANNED PROGRAMS

**GOAL 1: AN AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM THAT IS HIGHLY COMPETITIVE IN THE
GLOBAL ECONOMY.**

OVERVIEW/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Agriculture and Natural Resources Program area responded to several issues and concerns of limited resource audiences this year. As a result, educational programs and activities focused on integrated management practices and technologies that would enable these identified groups to become more competitive and viable. A broad set of relevant management strategies were taught. Risk management; sustainable agriculture; farm safety and other practices designed to improve stability and profitability were focal points. Assisting beginning or existing farmers and ranchers in purchasing or leasing a farm or ranch or acquiring additional acreage or resources; farm financial management; whole farm systems; farm pond construction and management; and enhanced business management and marketing skills were other areas where programming took place.

Specifically, educational programs and result demonstrations were developed and delivered in the areas of animal production efficiency, aquaculture, rangeland and pasture management, plant production efficiency, and agricultural profitability. An unusually high number of individuals participated and took advantage of the various programs and activities offered as compared to previous years.

Five thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight individuals took part in programs on animal production efficiency. A majority indicated they had acquired at least one or more new skills and plan to implement that newly acquired knowledge into some phase of their operations. At least 428 individuals who took part in farm pond management training indicated they, too, had gained some knowledge on how to enhance production and would test the concepts to determine their usability. Of the 1,807 who participated, that is, in attendance at the various meetings or one-on-one contacts, 528 reported that they had or would use what they had learned. In the area of plant production efficiency, 46 reported an increase in awareness and understanding regarding production and alternative food crop enterprises.

From the 32 counties where 1890 programming in agriculture and natural resources is taking place,

approximately 5,700 participated in the workshops and clinics offered in the area of profitability or farm financial management and marketing. Twenty -seven percent reported that they have adopted Extension recommendations in key areas. Forty-eight producers reported the development of a forest management plan.

Based on the rate of adoption of recommended practices by clientele, the goals contained within the five year plan will be met. Agriculture producers are expected to continue to improve their production, management and marketing skills.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY SOURCE OF FUNDING AND FTE's:

FUNDING			FTE's
Federal	State	Total	---
\$495,914	\$247,956	\$743,870	11.75

Key Theme - Animal Production Efficiency

- a. Personnel in the agriculture and natural resources program area implemented several clinics, workshops, farm tours, and seminars in the 32 counties where the program is located. Growth, production, marketing, selling of livestock, particularly beef cattle ; systems that improve health, production efficiency, and sustainability were points of emphasis. Cooperating entities included the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, Farm Service Agency, Natural Resources and Conservation Service, Landowners Association of Texas, Texas Farm Bureau, Texas Cooperative Extension, and the Texas Small Farmers & Ranchers Community Based Organization.
- b. Impact - Five thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight individuals participated in educational meetings, clinics, workshops and farm tours. Ninety-two mass media articles, programs, and feature stories were prepared in support of this effort. One thousand eight hundred and seven direct agent contacts were made with producers and others. Five hundred and twenty-eight program participants indicated they acquired new skills or knowledge and were planning changes in at least two areas in their operations. One hundred and forty-four indicated the use of balance sheets, grain and livestock marketing information, and a marketing plan in making financial decisions.
- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Aquaculture (Farm Pond Management)

- a. Many small landowners own or control numerous farm ponds. In order to diversify the use of the farm pond resource beyond traditional uses, specialists and agents conducted tours, workshops, and made one-on-one contacts, primarily in East Texas, to enhance understanding of the role of farm pond utilization in overall farm management approaches to sustainability. Cooperating agencies and organizations included the Landowners Association of Texas, farm pond owners and operators, the Cooperative Agricultural Research Center, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- b. Impact - One hundred and twenty-four individuals tested farm ponds and private lakes for water quality purposes, and 471 received technical information on farm pond management. Two hundred and forty-six received technical information on farm pond management from farm visits by the specialists, agents, and program aides. Two hundred and eighty-two attended farm pond construction and management programs and activities. As a result of Extension's personnel efforts in this area, 428 indicated they gained new knowledge on how to enhance farm pond production and use it as an alternative economic enterprise.
- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Rangeland/Pasture Management (Pasture and Grazing Systems)

- a. Agents, program aides, and specialists developed and implemented comprehensive programs in their locale to demonstrate how profitability of any system in agriculture is dependent on the control of cost or inputs going into that system. To enhance producers' knowledge of forage/pasture production and grazing practices to increase efficiency of livestock production, and the role of pastures as sanitation tools in creating environmentally and socially acceptable profit-yielding enterprises, many result demonstrations were developed and presented. Farm tours and workshops demonstrating some of the aforementioned included the following: brush management; alternative lime and fertilizer; winter pasture; winter pasture/alternative fertilizer; alfalfa production on acid soils; fertilizing hay meadows; weed management; pasture renovation; forage and soil analysis; sanitation and disease control and many others. Local producers, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Texas Small Farmers & Ranchers Community Based Organization, and Landowners Association of Texas cooperated in these efforts.
- b. Impact - Over 700 producers indicated a gain in knowledge concerning forage species used for hay, season and growth stage at which to harvest, and form in which it is fed; kinds of pastures and their uses. Four hundred and twenty-nine producers were in attendance at educational meetings, field days and workshops; and 160 mass media articles, programs, and features were prepared in support of this initiative. Twenty-five result demonstrations were implemented, 17 farm tours, and three clinics were conducted. Combined, 187 producers indicated new knowledge gained about best management practices and their application to their particular operations. One hundred and forty-one participants reported adopting at least one practice not

formally used.

- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Plant Production Efficiency (Food Crops)

- a. Because of the lingering effects of drought conditions over many parts of the state, efforts by agents, aides and specialists to introduce and teach clientele new technologies, introduce new and more adaptable varieties and new marketing strategies were hindered. However, in a few locales, Extension workers were able to introduce concepts designed to reduce inputs and increase quality and percentage of marketable produce. Some aspects of new and alternative food crop enterprises were also introduced. Cooperating agencies/organizations included the Department of Agriculture and Human Sciences, area food banks, Brookshire Brothers Grocery, Texas Organic Growers, and the Texas Department of Agriculture.
- b. Impact - One hundred forty-five producers were in attendance at educational meetings. Extension agents made 198 direct contacts with producers and others (mostly in the Rio Grande Valley) on specific plant production practices. Forty-six participants indicated they gained new knowledge concerning more efficient production practices, and 63 indicated increased awareness and understanding regarding the production of new and alternative food crop enterprises. Several result demonstrations on drip irrigation and the use of mulches were implemented to demonstrate water-use efficiency and weed control.
- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Agricultural Profitability (Farm Financial Management and Marketing)

- a. Recent financial difficulties in the agricultural sector, especially among limited resource producers, caused agricultural personnel with the Extension Program to launch a concerted effort toward helping clientele to examine their operations, looking for alternative or better ways of managing. Many farmers were being displaced. Some of the displacement was attributed to a lack of sound management practices, a failure to adopt new technologies, and not being aware of technical assistance available to them. Extension personnel partnered with the Tyler Area Growers Association; College of Business-Prairie View; Farm Service Agency; Landowners Association of Texas; Texas Cooperative Extension; Packers and Stockyards-USDA; and the Texas Department of Agriculture to address the issue of profitability.
- b. Impact - Approximately 5,700 individuals attended these meetings in a 32-county area. Overall evaluation of the programs, workshops, clinics and tours indicated that 42 now use balance

sheets, income statements and cash flow statements in making financial decisions and 61 use enterprise budgets. Eight-hundred and seventy-three participants reported that they now use improved marketing and managing skills such as marketing options and information in commodity sales and grain livestock marketing information. Twenty seven percent of individuals who participated in Extension programs reported adopting at least one new practice recommended such as using soil test analysis, reduced fertilizer rates, and conservation tillage. Forty-eight producers developed a forest management plan, and 26 now take multiple bids before selling stand timber.

- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

GOAL 2 - A SAFE AND SECURE FOOD AND FIBER SYSTEM.

OVERVIEW/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Families are affected yearly from food-borne illnesses, many become ill and some may even die from what is commonly known as “food poisoning”. The intestinal flu-like symptoms of food-borne illness, commonly known as food poisoning range from mild to severe. Some kinds of food-borne illness can even cause death. People who are very young, senior adults, pregnant, or who have weakened immune systems (for example, from cancer therapy, chronic disease, or HIV or AIDS) are especially vulnerable to food-borne illness.

Unfortunately, harmful bacteria and viruses rarely make food look, smell, or taste bad, so one cannot tell when these microorganisms are present in food. With continued concern about the incidence, complications and costs of food-borne illness, especially to certain segments of the population, educational efforts that show adoption of safe food handling behaviors are critical to the well-being of families. According to a survey conducted by the American Diabetic Association, 77% of consumers look to magazines and newspapers as a major source of diet and nutrition information; followed by 34% TV and radio. Most limited-resource families do not subscribe to magazines or newspapers. Based on the mission of the Cooperative Extension Program, staff are responsible for filling the gap for underserved and hard to reach citizens on food safety education.

Topics identified for food safety programs include; washing hands before handling raw meat, keeping food preparation areas clean, cooking foods properly, thawing frozen food in the refrigerator, sanitizing cutting boards and refrigerating perishable foods promptly. Church cafeteria personnel, concession stand volunteers and other feeding centers were new target audiences for food safety trainings and workshops. If individuals who prepare foods in quantity for large groups know and practice the principles of safe food preparation, the risk of food-borne disease can be reduced significantly.

County Extension staff members and volunteers in 13 Texas counties reached 1,516 individuals in food safety/food-borne illness workshops and classes. Of the participants in these workshops and classes, 40% indicated that they increased awareness in food safety and good personal hygiene as it relates to food safety health. Staff and volunteers participating in quantity cookery trainings learned how to prevent food-borne illness through safe food receiving and storage, cooking and reheating, safe serving of food, and careful cleaning and sanitation of equipment and facilities. Volunteers contributed 444 hours of time to the program with a value of \$6,212. Approximately 250 were presented in Spanish primarily in Travis, Bexar and Webb counties by bilingual staff.

As a result of different outreach strategies which include, utilizing clientele advisory boards, one -on-one and small group sessions, workshops, tours, seminars, presentations, news articles, media usage, lesson series, and use of special program agents, reports indicate participants learned to keep their families safe from the risks of food-borne illness.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY SOURCE OF FUNDING AND FTE's:

FUNDING			FTE's
Federal	State	Total	---
\$156,604	\$ 78,302	\$234,906	4.04

Key Theme - Food Safety and Food-borne Illness

- a. Extension personnel taught key factors to individuals attending their workshops and classes on how to effectively prevent the transmittal of food -borne illnesses by utilizing these techniques: washing hands before handling raw meat, keeping food preparation areas clean, cooking foods properly, thawing frozen food in the refrigerator, sanitizing cutting boards and refrigerating foods promptly. Participants enrolled in trainings on quantity cookery (family reunions, church picnics, concession stand volunteers, restaurants, faith-based organizations), improved food handling behaviors as a result of the food safety education program and learned about the incidence of food-borne illness and its causes.
- b. Impact - There were at least 1000 individuals in food safety/food-borne illness workshops and classes. Of the participants in these workshops and classes, 40% indicated that they increased awareness in food safety and good personal hygiene as it relates to food safety health. 606 of these individuals utilized sanitation practices (washing hands) thoroughly before and after handling foods. 242 adopted safe food selection, preparation practices, careful monitoring of food temperatures and safe cooling of food.
- c. Source of Funds - United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Program

- through the Texas Department of Human Services, CSREES (EFSQ-POW), Smith-Lever
- d. Scope of Impact - The educational programs conducted were implemented in 13 counties in Texas (Bell, Bexar, Cass, Dallas, Falls, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Travis, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton).
 - e. Statements that were made by some of the participants include: “I am now aware of bad hand habits (touching skin, hair etc.)”, “I learned the importance of only heating food once.”, “While cooking my meats, I now use a thermometer to check the temperature.”

GOAL 3 - A HEALTHY, WELL-NOURISHED POPULATION.

OVERVIEW/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Diet-related diseases now represent the top three causes of mortality, ahead of infectious diseases, many of which have been eliminated by medical advances over the century. Yet; four of the ten leading causes of death today are diseases where diet plays a part – coronary heart disease, some types of cancer, stroke, and diabetes. Although the exact role of diet on chronic disease is still being studied, nutrition authorities agree that enough is known about one’s diet effect on health to encourage certain changes in dietary practices (Shaw and Davis, 1994).

Within any culture, all of its members, more or less, eat the same foods. Though some may have their individual likes and dislikes, the great majority learn to agree on what are the most flavorful dishes, and what are the least flavorful. Each culture has its own culinary guidelines of acceptability. The sorts of food they eat, the sorts of food they actively prohibit, and the way they time and structure their meals say something about them as a group.

Several teaching strategies were implemented including: series of classes, on-site demonstrations, educational displays, fact sheets, newsletters, interactive computer programs, videos and workshops, and health fairs. Physical activity was incorporated through lecture classes and demonstrations.

Several new partnerships with agencies and organizations were established, which included: Friendship House, Temple Independent School District, St. James United Methodist Church, Meals on Wheels, Killeen Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Any Baby Can, Juvenile Probation, Northside Independent School District, American Cancer Society, Texas Beef Council, Area Agency on Aging, Dallas Urban League, American Diabetes Association, Dallas County Dept. of Health and Human Services, Marlin Head Start Program, Children’s Health Insurance Program, Fort Bend YMCA, Foster Grandparents Association, Red Cross, New Directions Women’s Center, PAL Program, Contreras Family Center, Cristo Rey Catholic Church, El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission, Latin American Association, Owens-Franklin Health Center, Focusing Families, Brenham Housing Authority, Texas Job Force Program, Colonial Community Center, Texas A&M Promotoras, KULP Radio, Wharton County Junior College, and Child Protective Services.

Data gathered from counties through monthly reports , pre and posttests and surveys indicated that 3,300 individuals gained knowledge in: applying the Food Guide Pyramid and meal planning, managing hypertension through diet and exercise, reducing excess sodium and fat in the diet, and learning the relationship between diet and diabetes and serving sizes. 3,602 program participants reported an increase in consumption of fruits and vegetables, significant reduction in the amount of fried foods consumed, used herbs rather than salt in food preparation, prepared foods with more vegetable oils and prepared more nutritious snacks for small children. 1,516 consumers increased awareness in: reading food labels, meal planning and money management as it relates to family nutrition, and the importance of physical activity and how it relates to health status.

Based on the information obtained from the clientele, they were able to significantly improve dietary habits and physical exercise practices through non-formal educational programs.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY SOURCE OF FUNDING AND FTE's:

FUNDING			FTE's
Federal	State	Total	---
\$234,906	\$117,543	\$352,449	5.79

Key Theme - The Effects of Health Care, Human Health and Human Nutrition

- a. Family & Consumer Sciences county staff worked with families to help them understand the relationship between nutrition and health; the importance of making healthy food choices using the Food Guide Pyramid; and the significance of budgeting, planning and proper storage practice. Several new partnerships with agencies and organizations were established which included: Friendship House, Temple Independent School District, St. James United Methodist Church, Meals on Wheels, Killeen Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Any Baby Can, Juvenile Probation, Northside Independent School District, American Cancer Society, Texas Beef Council, Area Agency on Aging, Dallas Urban League, American Diabetes Association, Dallas County Dept. of Health and Human Services, Marlin Head Start Program, Children's Health Insurance Program, Fort Bend YMCA, Foster Grandparents Association, Red Cross, New Directions Women's Center, PAL Program, Contreras Family Center, Cristo Rey Catholic Church, El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission, Latin American Association, Owens-Franklin Health Center, Focusing Families, Brenham Housing Authority, Texas Job Force Program, Colonial Community Center, Texas A&M Promotoras, KULP Radio, Wharton County Junior College, and Child Protective Services, to name a few.
- b. Impact - By participating in the education programs and activities, 3,300 individuals gained

knowledge in: applying the Food Guide Pyramid and meal planning, managing hypertension through diet and exercise, reducing excess sodium and fat in the diet, learning the relationship between diet and diabetes and serving sizes. 3,602 program participants reported an increase in consumption of fruits and vegetables, significant reduction in the amount of fried foods consumed, used herbs rather than salt in food preparation, prepared foods with more vegetable oils and prepared more nutritious snacks for small children. 1,516 consumers increased awareness in: reading food labels, meal planning and money management as it relates to family nutrition, and the importance of physical activity and how it relates to health status. There were 22,900 individuals that participated in educational exhibits, food fairs, on-site demonstrations and were involved in a single education activity (seminar, workshop, conference). Agency contacts increased to 1257; 4,476 newsletters were distributed and 447 educational sessions were conducted.

- c. Source of Funds - United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Program through the Texas Department of Human Services, CSREES, Smith Lever
- d. Scope of Impact - The educational programs conducted were implemented in 13 counties in Texas (Bell, Bexar, Cass, Dallas, Falls, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Travis, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton).
- e. FCS county staff utilized skills by teaching Module 3 of the Families First: Nutrition, Education, Wellness System (FF-NEWS) curriculum during a national training in Memphis, Tennessee. A three-tiered participation matrix allowed food stamp recipients more choices in subject matter content and commitment of time that resulted in exceeding the nutrition and health goals and projections. Developing partnerships with various agencies and organizations has provided significant assistance in reaching the target audience. Topics requested most often among the target audience were managing diabetes, and reducing the risk of developing/managing hypertension. Implementing the Soul Food Guide Pyramid in FF-NEWS classes motivated participants in choosing a variety of foods and preparing low cost, low fat dishes.

GOAL 4: GREATER HARMONY BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

OVERVIEW/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To address public concerns over food safety, water quality, conservation of natural resources, environmental risks, and the intensive use of chemicals in agricultural systems, a concentrated effort was put forth by agents, program aides and specialists to answer the concerns. Educational programs and activities were conducted covering concepts of sustainable agriculture, focusing on those systems that are holistic in their approach to achieving a balance between agriculture and the environment. Several workshops were conducted, and a regional conference focusing on sustainable practices in East Texas

was also held. One thousand seven hundred and fifty-five individuals, including farmers and ranchers received training. Of significance are the 278 individuals who indicated they had gained new skills to minimize fertilizer and pesticide runoff, and others reported having gained knowledge on how to better manage waste. Just a few reported using tissue analysis as a tool in making decisions on what and when to implement a certain practice. Overall, 316 small and middle-sized producers demonstrated the ability to recognize specific sustainable agricultural practices.

Work was conducted in addressing each goal in the 5-year plan. The assessment for the work and accomplishments for the first year of this plan is good; however, as work is continued in sustainable agriculture, greater impacts are expected.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY SOURCE OF FUNDING AND FTE's:

FUNDING			FTE's
Federal	State	Total	---
\$104,402	\$ 39,151	\$143,553	2.35

Key Theme - Sustainable Agriculture

- a. Several result demonstrations, workshops, farm tours and field days were conducted to teach sustainable agricultural practices and concepts. Several agencies and organizations were involved in the process including the Texas Department of Agriculture; Natural Resources Conservation Service; Texas Parks and Wildlife; Texas Sustainable Agriculture Working Group; Texas Cooperative Extension; and Tyler Area Growers Association.
- b. Impact - Of the 1,755 individuals who received training, including one-on-one contacts, through the effort of Cooperative Extension Program personnel, the following was reported:
 - (1) Number of participants who indicated they gained new knowledge concerning:
 - a. Integrated pest management concept - 278
 - b. Waste management and water quality - 63
 - c. Irrigation efficiency - 189
 - (2) Number of participants who
 - a. Tested their irrigation water - 17
 - b. Received information on soil conservation practices - 518
 - c. Received information on irrigation - 566
- d. Acquired new skills to minimize fertilizer and pesticide runoff - 482
- e. Indicated new knowledge of wildlife management in forest/non-

forest settings - 1,286

- (3) Number of producers who use
 - a. An integrated pest management approach for guidance in making pest control decisions - 535
 - b. Plant tissue analysis as a decision-making tool - 50

Finally, 316 participants demonstrated the ability to recognize specific sustainable practices.

- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444 and Smith Lever Act, section 3(d), 7USC 341, as amended and State Matching funds.
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

GOAL 5: ENHANCED ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR AMERICANS.

OVERVIEW/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University addressed several issues to enhance the economic opportunity and quality of life for primarily diverse, limited resource audiences in its Community & Economic Development, 4-H & Youth Development and Family and Consumer Sciences program areas. Programming activities focused on consumer management, passenger safety, parenting, literacy, volunteerism, and agriculture and natural resources for youth. Other programming was geared towards leadership and citizenship development, career development, job preparation and entrepreneurship, community improvement, acquiring and maintaining community facilities, housing, business development, and increasing collaborative efforts with various departments at Prairie View A&M University.

Field staff with community and economic development responsibilities developed and conducted 78 programs that promoted community maintenance, improvement and safety. The staff also made a concentrated effort throughout the year to encourage community residents to become involved in improving their surroundings. At least 1039 community residents participated in clean-up and fix-up activities including trimming hedges and trees and cleaning vacant lots. A total of 252 families adopted home beautification and maintenance practices, and 23 communities established crime watch programs. County staff also provided information to 63 communities to assist them in acquiring and maintaining community facilities and establishing rural water and sewer systems.

Training leaders, promoting business programs and acquiring decent housing were also emphasized in the Community and Economic Development program area. Approximately 320 leaders were recruited

through Extension's Community Voices Leadership and Texans in Leadership programs. Nearly 620 leadership participants became involved in community issues. Extension specialists and county staff also continued to educate first time home buyers on credit worthiness, housing assistance and housing loan applications. Three community housing development organizations were established, and 86 individuals or families acquired satisfactory housing. Extension's rural business project personnel and agents continued to implement programs to establish, maintain and expand businesses. This staff worked in 21 counties where business development activity lags. A teaching packet was developed for each staff member to provide assistance to those interested in becoming business owners or maintaining existing businesses. Nine hundred twenty-six jobs were maintained in the 118 businesses to which staff provided assistance. Thirty-six new businesses were established.

The Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) program staff experienced success in helping families and individuals improve their financial management, parenting and job preparation skills. FCS staff partnered with a diverse group of community based organizations to teach clientele the value of managing income and improving consumer proficiency. FCS staff also offered parenting workshops featuring Grandparents as Parents, and strengthened collaborative efforts with various educational departments at Prairie View A&M University. Efforts were also increased to conduct programming with the limited resource Hispanic population. As a result of receiving educational information from the FCS staff, 1,428 families and individuals adopted recommended practices to manage income and improve consumer proficiency. Eight hundred twenty-five individuals completed the education program in parenting, and 650 participated in workshops addressing senior citizens issues such as grandparents as parents, proper use of medication, fraud prevention, and enhancing memory.

Similar successes in providing clientele with educational activities and information to enhance their quality of life and improve their economic opportunities were found in the 4-H & Youth Development program area. Youth programs focused on volunteerism, mentoring, agriculture and natural resources for youth, leadership and citizenship training, job preparation, career development and entrepreneurship.

The Cooperative Extension 4-H staff emphasized the importance of volunteering and becoming mentors to youth. Educational programs focused on team building, recruiting volunteers, mentoring others and understanding and working with diverse audiences. 4-H staff collaborated with other agencies and organizations to acquire resource persons to assist in conducting several of the programs. These efforts resulted in recruiting and training 105 adult volunteers to work with the volunteer and mentor programs. Today these volunteers work with approximately 2,890 youth and 1,457 adult leaders. A total of 3,750 youth participated in life skill programs. A total of 375 adults were trained to implement programs in churches, community centers and neighborhood schools. As a result of the youth participating in the county and state level programs focusing on life skills, it was found that 80% of the participants improved skills in communication; 60% of the participants learned skills in managing their anger and negotiating; 80% of the participants learned to make sound decisions; and 82% changed their levels of aggressive and delinquent behaviors. A total of 45% demonstrated ethical, social and moral responsibilities by making sound life choices.

In the area of agriculture and natural sciences, 4-H staff recruited youth to participate in programs which

exposed them to horticulture, environmental stewardship, camping, renewable natural resources and water quality. As a result of participating in the various 4-H programs, 240 youth and 16 adult volunteers enrolled in animal care projects, 10 youth participated in 4-H Sports Fishing Programs, 340 participated in conservation and natural sciences projects and 424 participated in an outdoor camping program.

The 4-H & Youth Development staff also promoted leadership development and citizenship as well as exposed youth to career opportunities. Approximately 1,539 youth in 19 rural and urban counties throughout Texas attended 60 leadership development trainings and citizenship programs, and 549 youth completed community service projects.

A total of 3,560 youth also attended youth conferences, workshops and seminars to help them become proficient in making career choices and to expose them to entrepreneurial opportunities. Fifteen programs were conducted to help prepare youth for summer employment, and they learned how to prepare a resume, improve interviewing techniques and dress for success. Three hundred and fifty youth participated in the summer employment training, and 60% of them obtained jobs. Career fairs, career seminars and an annual event conducted at Prairie View A&M University called the Career Awareness and Youth Leadership Laboratory helped 168 young people learn how to write a business plan, run a business and identify career and educational goals. Trained teachers from the T-TEEM project conducted a Business Competition and Trade Show with youth who participated in the T-TEEM project in school. Twenty-eight youth teams exhibited their marketing skills, and their business plans were judged.

The Cooperative Extension Program’s efforts in enhancing the economic opportunity and quality of life for primarily limited resource diverse audiences have resulted in improved communities, families adopting good health and money management practices, youth receiving education and training in areas of great importance, and businesses being maintained, expanded, and established. Based on these accomplishments, the goals in the CEP’s 5- Year Plan of Work are being addressed.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY SOURCE OF FUNDING AND FTE’s:

FUNDING			FTE’s
Federal	State	Total	---
\$1,566,043	\$ 783,022	\$2,349,065	37.33

Key Theme - Promoting Business Programs

- c. Extension field staff and rural business project personnel implemented programs to establish, maintain and expand businesses in 21 counties where business development activity lags in

traditionally agricultural and natural resource dependent communities. Owners of agriculture and small, traditional businesses and others with the desire to establish businesses classified as low-income and under represented were provided technical and educational assistance. A general resource teaching packet was developed and used by the Cooperative Extension Program as well as other resources (i.e. training materials, agencies, organizations and institutions) in providing assistance. Several educational programs were conducted on production, management and marketing that were tailored to the agriculture producer. One regional training for trainers was conducted titled, “Cashing in on Your Business” drawing people from three counties that will work with TANF clientele as a Texas workforce project. One hundred nineteen persons were assisted with developing business plans, while 118 business owners implemented business retention practices. One hundred eighteen businesses expanded and created additional employment opportunities for 75 persons. Cooperating Institutions/Organizations: College of Business - PVAMU; Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Human Ecology at PVAMU; Cooperative Agricultural Research Center; Texas Cooperative Extension; Small Business Administration; Rural Business - Cooperative Service; Rural Development; local banks; HUD; Lower Colorado River Authority; USDA Rural & Economic Development; and economic development organizations.

- d. Impact - Nine hundred and twenty-six jobs were maintained in the 163 businesses assisted. Thirty-nine of these businesses expanded creating an additional 76 jobs. Thirty-five new businesses were established creating 69 jobs. A total of 145 jobs were created. The total number of jobs increased from 147 to 289.
- e. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- f. Scope of Impact - The value of grants or loans obtained for clients was \$1,298,025. Value of services by staff equaled \$865,500 and money saved by businesses totaled \$1,254,500 as a result of staff assistance.

Key Theme - Other – Acquisition and Maintenance of Community Facilities

- a. The program development process and needs assessment surveys conducted by county staff revealed that rural communities were in need of community facilities and services. These needs varied by community and ranged from acquiring facilities and services to maintaining and updating those that already existed in the community. County staff provided the extending link of information connecting resources, grants and funding to the rural communities in which they live and work. They responded to 30 communities which revealed a need for basic resources. Information was disseminated to the communities via newsletters, educational meetings and individual visits. Twenty-nine of these communities were provided technical assistance in acquiring needed services and facilities. Cooperating Institutions/Organizations: Rural Development; Texas Cooperative Extension; Department of Agriculture, Nutrition, and Human Ecology at PVAMU; Cooperative Agricultural Research Center; Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs; local government; Communities Resources Group, Inc; Community

Development Block Grant Program; and Texas Department of Human Resources and Health.

- b. Impact - As a result of the educational and technical assistance provided by Extension field staff, 15 communities established rural water/sewer systems or repaired, upgraded and expanded existing ones; 21 organized communities acquired and maintained quality volunteer fire and safety departments; 19 communities acquired facilities to conduct meetings and recreational and educational activities, and 26 facilities were established or acquired by groups and individuals to market their products.
- c. Source of Funds - Smith Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Community Development

- a. Field staff made a concentrated effort in motivating community residents to enhance their communities and place of residence. Numerous educational programs and activities were conducted by staff and community leaders. Field staff developed and conducted 78 programs that promoted community maintenance, improvement and safety. Forty-eight were organized to implement community improvement and leadership programs. Several staff persons were creative in designing programs to encourage participation. An example was the inclusion of an awards or recognition program which served as an incentive for residents and communities to participate. Community leaders assisted in implementing this effort by encouraging community residents to become involved, providing transportation, leading community projects and involving the media. Cooperating Institutions/Organizations: Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs; Cooperative Agricultural Research Center; Councils of Governments; Texas Community Improvement Program; county sheriff and police departments; home improvement centers; Texas Cooperative Extension; main street local government; and Chambers of Commerce.
- b. Impact - As a result of the efforts made to enhance communities and make residents feel better about the places where they reside, the following accomplishments were made. Programs were conducted in 19 of the communities organized that provided community enhancement options, education, recreation and ideas for establishing community safety programs. Forty-seven communities improved their appearance. One thousand and thirty-nine community residents participated in community clean-up and fix-up activities. These included neighborhood clean-up days, rural trash clean-ups, trimming hedges and trees, planting flowers and shrubs, fence line cleaning, and cleaning vacant lots, church grounds, cemeteries and the home landscape. A total of 252 families and individuals adopted home beautification and maintenance practices which included improving and maintaining the landscape, insulating the home, putting on new siding, repairing and replacing the roof, removing mildew from the roof, painting the exterior and interior of the home, fixing plumbing problems, weather stripping, and installing new doors and

screens. Sixty-three communities established and conducted programs that provided educational recreation and a safe environment. Among those were neighborhood watch, family recreation, bike safety, park improvement, fishing and fitness. Twenty-three communities established crime watch programs.

- c. Source of Funds - Smith Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Promoting Housing Programs

- a. Cooperative Extension specialists and county staff conducted trainings and developed news articles and newsletters to provide individuals across the state with current information on home ownership funding and First Time Home Buyers Education. One county assisted residents with education classes that led to credit worthiness and home ownership through a credit union that they established. Three counties held housing fairs that were planned by partnership task forces of state and local agencies-HUD, USDA Rural Housing; local stakeholders; and banks, real estate brokers, attorneys, etc. Realizing that the two greatest problems for families in obtaining home ownership are credit and ability to deal with the paper work, emphasis is put on helping individuals get ready to apply to funding agencies. Creditable applicants are directed to USDA Rural Housing first because of their low interest rate that helps low income families qualify. A new concept that assists limited income families obtain quality affordable apartments is called Educational Based Housing. The goal of Educational Based Housing is to facilitate the development of families through cooperation with business, industry, government, educational institutions, service organizations and local agencies and to deliver services to families who are at-risk and who are the working poor. Day care centers and computer labs are located at each complex (so far only three in Texas.) One CEP agent has been instrumental in the launching of this project. Currently, 23 separate partners are part of this collective endeavor. Cooperating Institutions/Organizations: Rural Development; Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs; Texas Cooperative Extension; The Department of Agriculture, Nutrition, and Human Ecology at PVAMU; Cooperative Agricultural Research Center; local government; local banks; HUD and Cypress Valley Cooperative.
- b. Impact - More than 928 individuals attended educational programs or fairs on housing acquisition sponsored by CEP and supported by TCE, HUD, United Way, USDA Rural Development, funding agencies and small business enterprises. Seventy-eight persons were assisted with housing loan applications and 63 were approved. Sixty-four persons utilized governmental housing assistance programs. One hundred and forty three individuals or families acquired standard/satisfactory housing. Three Community Housing Development Organizations were established, and eight individuals were directed to the Educational Based Housing. The Community Credit Union based on required home ownership and credit classes is prospering in its fifth year.
- c. Source of Funds-Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds

- d. Scope of Impact- State Specific

Key Theme - Leadership Training and Development

- a. Adhering to the belief that, “in union there is strength”, the Cooperative Extension Program continues to recruit and train facilitators for the Community Voices Leadership and Texans in Leadership curriculum programs. The experiences of 11 years with these programs have shown that, not only are communities brought together and projects accomplished, but individuals are developed to their fullest potential. Community Voices organizations continue to meet in four communities providing a catalyst to community clean-up, improved child care, parks, safer neighborhoods and water and sewer needs. Two hundred and fifty-three recruited leaders provided new ideas and vision to neighborhoods. Six hundred and twenty-four existing leaders continued to work to solve community problems. Leaders see the need to connect, partner and share resources with other key community organizations. Leadership programs are the number one program area that involve the Hispanic population, seeking to develop and integrate their leaders into the community decision making process. Cooperating Institutions/Organizations: Prairie View A&M University; Texas Cooperative Extension; Texas Rural Leadership Program, Inc; Texas Department of Health & Human Services; The Department of Agriculture, Nutrition, and Human Ecology at Prairie View A&M University; Cooperative Agricultural Research Center; Texas Municipal League; Texas Rural Development Council; Area Chamber of Commerce; utility companies and cooperatives; Lower Colorado River Authority; Southwestern Bell; Hispanic coalitions; and community associations and individual CHAODS.
- b. Impact - Nearly 421 leadership participants became involved in community issues, with 253 working specifically on a community project or a policy issue. Of these 421, 29 became involved in county or city government, school boards or non-profit organizations. Eight leadership graduates were elected to public office. Over 24 communities worked on clean-ups, fix-ups, building renovations, parks, after school tutorial programs and enhanced transportation for rural residents. One county now has an expansive transit system that serves the entire county with a regular timed service. New, well trained leaders are still the key to rural plenty. Four VISTA volunteers working in three separate, small, poor rural areas conducted the Community Voices program and continue to work on major community needs.
- c. Source of Funds-Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Children, Youth and Families at Risk, Consumer Management, Family Resource Management, Jobs/Employment, Leadership Training and Development, Literacy and Parenting

- a. The success of educational outreach programs conducted by Family & Consumer Sciences staff were due to establishing partnerships with a diversity of community based organizations. In reaching FCS goals, the following were involved: Consumer Credit Counseling Service, Killeen Help Center, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Five Star Printing, Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company, Randall's Grocery Store, Adult Probation, Faith-based Organizations, Texas Cooperative Extension, Wharton County Junior College, Dallas Urban League, Adult Probation, Grimes County Housing Authority, Fort Bend Independent School District, Thomas Academy, Waller County Family Therapies, Texas Job Force Program, Family Resource Center and Gulf Coast Careers. There were 1428 families and individuals who adopted practices that improved their ability to manage income, establish credit and improve consumer proficiency. A new audience which included approximately 160 parents participated in passenger safety programs. In addressing senior citizen adults, 650 participated in workshops and programs on Grandparents as Parents, Proper Use of Medication, Nutrition for Seniors, Fall Prevention, Senior Abuse, Enhancing Memory, Physical Activity, Managing Stress, and Fraud Prevention. 825 individuals participated in parenting workshops and programs which addressed a variety of critical issues families are facing, such as, grandparents as parents, family violence, family literacy, single parenting, fathering, job preparation and stress management.
- b. Impact - In carrying out Extension's mission of "Taking The University To The People" several new collaborative efforts were established at Prairie View A&M University. Participating in outreach efforts were the Charles Gilpin Players, The Owens-Franklin Health Center, the Coleman Library, The Human Sciences Department and the College of Nursing, and Texas Southern University Department of Human Services and Consumer Sciences. PVAMU College students played a major role in planning and implementing educational outreach on HIV/AIDS Awareness and prevention activities. 2300 individuals were successfully reached through pamphlets, health screenings, plays, peer education trainings, and a town hall meeting. 30 students received academic scholarships through grant funds supporting the HIV/AIDS Awareness Project.
- c. Source of Funds - CSREES, Smith-Lever
- d. Scope of Impact - The educational programs conducted were implemented in 13 counties in Texas (Bell, Bexar, Cass, Dallas, Falls, Fort Bend, Grimes, Harris, Travis, Waller, Washington, Webb, Wharton).
- e. Through collaborative efforts in Webb, Bexar, and Waller counties a diverse group of agencies increased programming efforts with the limited resource Hispanic population. A successful community project was implemented in Waller County, with support of the County Commissioners' Court and the Owens-Franklin Health Center, where a food pantry was established for limited resource families.

The Texas population is experiencing dramatic growth, maturity and diversity. The majority of changes have occurred in the urban areas and along the Texas-Mexico border. The state's

population will be primarily individuals over 65 years of age. The effects of poverty are central to the status and well-being of African American and Hispanic children in Texas today. Due to a combination of declining real earnings and rising levels of unemployment, many African-American and Hispanic children live in families that are at or near poverty. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there are approximately 21 million families with 23.6% of children living below poverty level (1997 model-based estimate). A safety net of social services helps protect children from the worst effects of poverty.

Key Theme - Workforce Preparation-Youth

- a. The Cooperative Extension 4-H Program conducted educational programs and addressed career education (career awareness and exploration, career development, and career decision making), job readiness and preparation and entrepreneurship. These programs are unique in reaching elementary, middle, and high school students to assist them in preparing for the future. Programs such as the Texas Teens Exploring Entrepreneurial Minds (T-TEEM Project), Teen Leadership Connection (TLC), Career Awareness and Youth Leadership Laboratory (CAYLL), and career fairs provided youth with an opportunity to identify positive methods to be productive, empowered, and contributing members of their communities. Workshops, seminars, and educational business and college tours were conducted for youth by trained Extension agents and adult volunteer leaders. Youth had the opportunity to participate in hands-on learning experiences, where they gained new skills and became motivated to pursue career, employment and business goals. These programs served as a focal point for 15 communities striving to provide the necessary tools to assist young people in identifying and achieving economic stability. Cooperating institutions included the College of Business at Prairie View A&M University, local school districts, Texas Cooperative Extension, Texas Education Agency, National Coalition for Empowering Youth Entrepreneurs Inc., KidsWay and local churches, USDA agencies and the Texas Workforce Commission.
- b. Impact- A total of 3,560 youth were engaged in business workshops, seminars, and trade shows. Trained teachers from the T-TEEM project conducted a Business Competition and Trade Show with youth who participated in the project in school. Twenty-eight youth teams exhibited their marketing skills and entrepreneur strategies, and their business plans were judged. In 12 of the 18 counties reported, approximately 2,500 youth and adults participated in career fairs, seminars and workshops at the county level. Approximately 60% of the participants improved their interviewing skills, resume writing, telephone etiquette, and proper dress for success via entrepreneur education. At the state level, a total of 168 youth and adults were involved in the CAYLL. This program gave youth an opportunity to gain knowledge about campus life, careers in agriculture and natural resources and related areas. Youth were also exposed to entrepreneurship concepts, identified their business interests, learned how to write business plans and began using skills learned in operating their own businesses. A statewide trade show was also conducted at CAYLL, where 25 youth exhibited products and services available to enhance their business program. As a result of youth participating in this event, 90% were exposed to college life for the first time, 60% identified an educational and career goal,

and 40% changed their attitude from taking a job to creating a job. All of these activities increased the likelihood that these youth would further their education, acquire a successful career and become a business owner.

- c. Source of Funds- Smith-Lever, Section 1444, State Strengthening Grant USDA-CSREES, and State Matching funds.
- d. Scope of Impact- State Specific

Key Theme - Other – 4-H Volunteerism and Mentoring

- a. To ensure strong educational programs for youth it is imperative that volunteerism and mentoring among adults are implemented. The 4-H & Youth development staff conducts educational programs to encourage adults to become volunteers and mentors. Programs are conducted regularly with public school teachers, community leaders and parents. These programs focus on team building, forming supportive relationships, understanding roles of volunteers, mentoring others, recruiting volunteers, and understanding and working with diverse audiences.
- b. Impact - One hundred and five adults were recruited and trained to recruit other volunteers and mentors. These volunteers worked with approximately 2,890 youth and 1,457 other adult leaders. Eighty percent of the volunteers who worked with youth gained an appreciation for making a difference in the lives of young people. Over 35 percent of the volunteers developed strong interests in teaching youth. Also 40 percent developed the ability to recruit other youth and adults. Fifty-one percent of the enrolled youth formed mentoring relationships with their peers and other youth.
- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444 & State Funds Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Other – 4-H Life Skills Development

- a. The Cooperative Extension Program's professional 4-H staff is committed to conducting educational programs that enhance life skills development for Texas youth. Through a number of educational programs conducted at the county and state levels, youth were given opportunities to develop effective interpersonal and communication skills. Youth also learned to build positive relationships with adults and peers, changed attitudes and behaviors, and demonstrated ethical, social and moral responsibilities, while developing strong character. Texas teens learned to manage and handle conflicts through participating in after school projects such as Teen Leadership Connection. Youth also learned to accept cultural differences while understanding their own. Workshops, seminars, teen retreats, lock-ins and school enrichment programs were conducted that incorporated life skills development. Cooperating agencies, institutions and

organizations included Prairie View A&M University, local division of social work, College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, Independent School Districts, Communities in Schools, and city, local, community and social agencies.

- b. **Impacts** - A total of 3,750 youth participated in life skill programs. A total of 375 adults were trained to implement programs in churches, community centers and neighborhood schools. As a result of the youth participating in the county and state level programs focusing on life skills, it was found that 80% of the participants improved skills in communication; 60% of the participants learned skills in managing their anger and negotiating, 80% of the participants learned to make sound decisions; and 82% changed their levels of aggressive and delinquent behaviors. A total of 45% demonstrated ethical, social and moral responsibilities by making sound life choices.
- c. **Impact** - A total of 465 youth participated in the Bexar County TLC inner-city project. Twenty-five trained TLC master volunteers conducted the program in churches, community centers, and neighboring schools. As a result of the youth participating in this project, it was found that 90% of the participants improved skills in communication; 60% of the participants learned skills in managing their anger and negotiating, 80% learned to make sound decisions; and 82% changed their level of aggressive and delinquent behaviors. Teachers and parents also observed students who changed their attitudes.
- d. **Source of Funds** - Smith Lever, Section 1444, Kronsokky Foundation and State Matching funds
- d. **Scope of Impact** - State Specific

Key Theme - Other – 4-H & Youth Agriculture and Natural Sciences

- a. Educational programs in agriculture, horticulture, natural resources, environmental stewardship and camping focused on animals and management, renewable natural resources, gardening, nature trails, water quality, lawn maintenance, food production, farm safety, wildlife and camping. Activities included hiking, method demonstrations, illustrated talks, hands-on learning experiences and educational tours that complemented natural science projects. The process of conducting these programs required collaboration with many entities outside of the CEP including the Prairie View College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, Texas Cooperative Extension, Texas Department of Agriculture, Department of Parks and Wildlife, United States Forest Service, and many local and private groups.
- b. **Impact** - As a result of participating in these programs, a total of 240 youth and 16 adult volunteers from 22 rural and urban counties enrolled in animal care projects. These participants showed improved management and marketing practices. Because of participation in a statewide Goat Kid Giveaway program, a total of 201 youth exhibited evidence of improved animal and health care practices. Fifteen trained volunteer leaders and staff developed programs and

workshops that taught both youth and adults how to manage their horticulture resources. Seventy - five percent of the enrolled 4-Hers acquired knowledge about food safety, preservation and preparation, pest management, conservation and ecology. A total of 340 youth participated in natural sciences and conservation projects, and increased their appreciation for natural resources and environmental management. Four hundred twenty -four youth participated in a residential and outdoor camping program that promoted wildlife and natural resources, ninety percent of the youth gained an appreciation for outdoor programs that included natural sciences, forestry and aquatic sciences, and the youth also participated in programs that taught leadership, communication skills, social skills, computer technology, and personal safety. Six hundred youth participated in 4-H Sports Fishing programs conducted through summer programming at the H.S.Estelle 4-H and Youth Camp and in Harris and Bexar counties.

- c. Source of Funds- Smith-Lever, Section 1444, State Strengthening Grant USDA -CSREES, and State Matching funds
- d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

Key Theme - Leadership Training and Development

- a. The 4-H and Youth Development Program staff planned and conducted educational leadership training sessions for youth and adults. These sessions provided youth and adults with the necessary skills to become effective community leaders, 4-H club leaders, mentors and 4-H teen leaders in their communities. These trainings also promoted leadership and citizenship skills through innovative techniques that enhanced social responsibilities, processes and structure for democracy. By youth and adults participating in these trainings, they were empowered to become 4-H club leaders, conduct school enrichment programs, lead special interest groups, assist in the conduct of the Annual Career and Youth Leadership Laboratory (CAYLL), Annual 4-H Kid-Goat Giveaway Project, State 4-H Goat Judging Contest, 4-H Teen Leadership Connection (TLC) and Community Bike Project and Texas Teens Exploring Entrepreneurial Minds (T-TEEM) Project. Volunteering and mentoring were the key elements in building resilient, productive, and self directed individuals.
- b. Impact - The leadership training and development sessions reached a total of two thousand one hundred and ninety-five 4-H youth in 19 rural and urban counties throughout Texas. One thousand five hundred thirty-nine 4-H'ers participated in leadership retreats, leadership laboratories, and local, state and national 4-Hevents. Approximately five hundred forty-nine 4-H'ers completed community service projects that enhanced their ability to become productive and responsible citizens. Seventy percent of youth involved in school enrichment programs improved relationships with their families and communities. Forty -eight percent improved workforce skills. Eighty-five percent of the enrolled 4-H youth reported enhanced academic skills in leadership.
- c. Source of Funds - Smith-Lever, Section 1444, Kronsokoy Foundation, State Strengthening Grant USDA -CSREES and State Matching funds

d. Scope of Impact - State Specific

SCIENCE AND EDUCATION IMPACT

The Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University participates in the Science and Education Impact writing process. The 2001 impacts are attached and Prairie View impacts are highlighted.

STAKEHOLDER INPUT PROCESS

The program development process in Texas is designed to obtain collective stakeholder input from a broad spectrum including people who are not serving on Extension committees. This extensive process is conducted every four or five years and serves as the basis for the development of long range county and state plans. At the county level, Extension agents draw from the long range plan and establish program committees to plan, implement and evaluate Extension educational programs and activities which fall in the realm of their responsibility. Each program committee meets a minimum of two times per year to assess the programs and activities that have been conducted to address the issues and problems identified through the program development process and plan future programs. The committees also discuss emerging issues and advise on how they should be addressed. Committee members identify programs and activities to be included in the Extension agents' plan of work.

Each county conducts an annual meeting which includes all of the program committees that make up the Extension program council. This meeting also includes the executive board (i.e., president, vice president, etc.). The chairperson of each program committee gives a report on the accomplishments for the past year and discusses goal attainment and future directions.

The program development process is continuous in Texas. It is a requirement that it be executed at the county, district and state levels.

PROGRAM REVIEW PROCESS

The merit review process was conducted as outlined in the 5-Year Plan of Work. There were no significant changes made to the plan of work.

EVALUATION OF THE SUCCESS OF MULTI AND JOINT ACTIVITIES

The planned programs that were developed resulted from the program development process explained

under the “Stakeholder Input” process. These programs were developed based on the critical issues and problems within those issues that were identified as priority and needing to be addressed.

Each program addressed issues and problems that ranked high among stakeholders and clientele in the program development process. The Extension Program Council in each county which is composed of program committees and task forces directed county staff in developing annual performance plans or plans of work. These plans supported or, in most instances, coincided with many of the State programs as well as addressed other local issues and problems. The planned programs did address the critical issues of strategic importance.

The planned programs of the Cooperative Extension Program at Prairie View A&M University are targeted at reaching under served and under represented populations of the State. They resulted based on the needs of these populations. Evidence shows that significant impacts were made in addressing many of the priority needs of clientele in these groups. In addressing the needs, clientele in these groups have shown many desired changes and are improving their quality of life. Clientele have shown positive changes in behavior and attitude; adopted recommended practices; increased household and farm incomes; improved their living conditions; improved their health status; enhanced their neighborhoods and communities; and their overall situation which is shown through many other impact indicators as well as by their participation in the planned programs of the Cooperative Extension Program.

Improved program effectiveness and efficiency were accomplished. Program leaders planned and conducted trainings on the planned programs to acquaint staff with their content and resources available to assist them. This approach created a unified understanding and proved to be very helpful to staff in conducting work related to the planned programs.

The planned programs of the Cooperative Extension Program were developed with the intention of involving other institutions, agencies and organizations in implementing many of the planned activities. Texas Cooperative Extension; various teaching, research and outreach units at Prairie View A&M University; and other State, local agencies and organizations assisted in the conduct of programs lead by the Cooperative Extension Program. The clientele were better served using this approach.

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ATTACHMENTS