

**REVISION TO
2000 – 2004 PLAN OF WORK**

Resource Allocation Update:

Sources of funding for Montana State University Extension Service for the Fiscal Year 2004 are:

Federal: The Federal Smith-Lever 3, (b), 3 (c) and 3 (d) funds were \$2,468,849 or 22.1%.

State: The State contributes \$4,540,031 or 40.7%

County: The Counties contribute \$4,153,327 or 37.2%

Montana received approximately 2.47 million of Smith Lever Formula Funds. Of that amount, \$186,442 is spent for Goals 1-5. In addition another \$216,274 are expended in support of multi-state plans of work bringing the total to \$402,716. Projected total resources are listed in the table below.

Projected Total Resources (All sources)

	2003			2004			2005			2006		
Goal	Total \$	FTE Spec	FTE Agent	Total \$	FTE Spec	FTE Agent	Total \$	FTE Spec	FTE Agent	Total \$	FTE Spec	FTE Agent
1	134902	.56	2.47	134902	.56	2.47	134902	.56	2.47	134902	.56	2.47
2	27658	.44	.13	27658	.44	.13	27658	.44	.13	27658	.44	.13
3	21656	.32	0.15	21656	.32	0.15	21656	.32	0.15	21656	.32	0.15
4	59150	.51	0.91	59150	.51	0.91	59150	.51	0.91	59150	.51	0.91
5	159350	.37	3.86	159350	.37	3.86	159350	.37	3.86	159350	.37	3.86
Total	402716	2.20	7.52	402716	2.20	7.52	402716	2.20	7.52	402716	2.20	7.52

Stakeholder Input:

Stakeholder meetings were held from late September through October in nearly every county in the state. Agents in each county were asked to host a stakeholder meeting to identify important issues, inviting actively interested stakeholders to participate. Those at the meeting were asked to list issues that hold importance for that area for the next two years that they would like to see Extension address. Following discussion on those issues, they were ranked according to importance and sub-topics were developed.

After being electronically submitted to the state office, these were ranked according to frequency statewide. The top fourteen issues were compiled with supporting information and distributed to the Montana Extension Advisory Council (MEAC), a group composed of 25 citizens from across the State at its annual meeting, and Extension specialists for their additional input. The results of their input has now been summarized and given to the specialists for their use in program planning.

The highest ranking issues included:

Agriculture:

- Coping with drought
- Creating value added products
- Managing noxious weed
- Learning more about risk management
- Explore ways to get young people and newcomers more involved as leaders in rural communities

Family and Consumer Science:

- After school programs
- Exercise and nutrition for seniors and families
- Parent education
- Coping with obesity and diabetes
- Energy costs
- Water quality and quantity
- Financial planning

4-H Youth Development

- Programs to get youth more involved in their communities and help them recruit other kids and leaders
- Provide alternatives for risky behaviors in youth
- Create youth/adult councils that aid in economic development
- Work harder to show people that 4-H appeals to non-agriculture youth

Community Development

- Work with other community groups to coordinate a network of human, managerial and financial resources
- Help entrepreneurs study the feasibility of markets for products

Merit Review Process:

Since this update involves a shorter period than the 5 Year Plan of Work, the Merit Review process has been simplified. Montana asked the chair of the past team to serve as the reviewer. James DeBree, former Director of Cooperative Extension in Wyoming, meets the requirements of being independent from Montana State University and MSU Extension.

Key Issues:

The stakeholder input meetings that were conducted the fall of 2003 identified 14 key issues

facing Montanans'. Two of the issues, the Ag Experiment Stations and Montana's educational system were directed to the appropriate agencies where concerns could be more effectively addressed. The remaining issues include:

- Youth/Youth Development
- Health: Quality and Access
- Families/Parenting/Aging
- Nutrition/Food Safety/Physical Activity
- Financial Planning/Budgeting/Estate Planning
- Community and Economic Development
- Noxious Weeds
- Water Quality and Quantity
- Preserving Farmland/Keeping Farms in Families
- Marketing/Finances related to Agriculture
- Value Added and Ag Sustainability
- Natural Resource/Wildlife

Many of these issues are being addressed through current program efforts. Specialists have listed related programs currently available for stakeholders to access when looking for information about the particular problem and this information has been shared with those people who participated in the Stakeholder Input meetings. In addition, most of these issues can be folded under one of the seven identified issue areas from the 5 Year Plan of Work. Any major revision of the 5 year Plan of Work will not be required.

Changes in Goals:

Goal 1: An Agricultural System that is Highly Competitive in the Global Economy
(Ag/Natural Resources)

Comparing the outline from the 5 Year Plan of Work and the information gained from the 2003 Stakeholder input meetings, there is no change necessary in program direction.

Resource allocation update:

Federal (3B,C)	\$ 82,229	
State	9,013	
County	43,660	
Total		\$134,902

Goal 2: A safe and secure food and fiber system.

In keeping with the stakeholder input, Food Safety and Food Resource Management are still of great importance to the people in the state. Programming efforts will continue to address these concerns as described in the 5 Year Plan of Work.

Change: The FAIM and EDUFAIM programs have been dropped from program offerings.
Statement of Issue(s): Change state and local sanitarians to state, county and tribal sanitarians. Change Montana Department of Health and the food industry to include tribal colleges.

Key Program Component(s): Food Safety - Strategies: Delete two existing food safety task forces and insert a variety of agencies. Then delete the 3rd, 4th and 5th paragraphs in that section.

Resource allocation update:

Federal (3B,C)	\$ 10,859	
State	14,612	
County	2,187	
Total		\$ 27,658

Goal 3: A healthy, well nourished population.

As indicated in the stakeholder input meetings, Montanans’ are still concerned about their health and view nutrition and exercise as key to achieving a healthy lifestyle. This is consistent with the outline prepared for Goal 3 in the 5 Year Plan of Work.

Changes: Strategies have changed to include: (most of the programs listed in the POW are still available but are being replaced by updated programs and information)

- Top Notch Food Safety for Native Americans
- Pathways to Health (eating disorders, body image, fitness at any size)
- Childhood Obesity
- Health promoting lifestyles in the prevention of disease
- Chronic Disease
- Environmental Children’s Health
- USDA Team Nutrition replaces Nutrition Education and Training (NET)

Resource allocation update:

Federal (3B,C)	\$ 2,440	
State	16,012	
County	3,205	
Total		\$ 21,656

Goal 4: An agricultural system which protects natural resources and the environment.

Water Quality, Natural Resource/Wildlife and Noxious Weeds surfaced again as continuing issues. An added concern however, is based in the wildfires the state has experienced over the past several years.

Changes: Programs have been added to address issues connected to the wildfires:

- Wildfire hazards/Fuel Reduction
- Wildfire Impacted Lands Restoration

Resource allocation update:

Federal (3B,C)	\$ 19,622	
State	24,379	
County	15,148	
Total		\$ 59,150

Goal 5: Enhanced economic opportunity and quality of life for Americans.

Stakeholders once again affirm the need for educational programs in the areas of family and parenting, youth development and opportunities for young people and economic and community development. They continue to be concerned about their own financial status and seek information on how to improve their lifestyle.

The changes in this goal include a shift in some statewide trends which impact program development. Those changes have been described below:

Changes:

Introduction Section:

- Delete: Domestic Violence
- Stress related to multiple job holders
- Impact on kids raised in single-parent households
- Replace With: Stress in individuals and families
- Risk factors in youth

Trends Section: The trends in the state have shifted impacting the programming direction. To be more accurate, the trend in the state can be better stated as follows:

In Montana, there is a growing population of grandparents who are called upon to be the primary care giver(s) to their grandchildren. Today, Montana ranks ninth in the nation for the increase in Grandparents Raising Grandchildren between the years of 1990-2000 (AARP). In Montana alone there has been a 53% increase in the number of grandparents holding the primary responsibility for meeting the basic needs of their grandchildren, while 11,098 grandparents live in households with one or more grandchild who is under the age of 18 (US Census 2000).

The face of America is changing and the change is not limited to our coastal states and large cities. In the past year the Bozeman Chronicle reported on six Filipino nurses were hired in Glendive, Montana, an illustration that even the people of rural Montana are changing. Native Americans are the largest minority population in our state. Tensions and misunderstandings remain between the majority population and Native Americans that need to be resolved. The Hispanic population is the fastest growing minority in the United States and this population is also growing in Montana. Helping our young people to understand the histories of various ethnic, racial, and religious groups so they can better see why tensions exist and how to work toward a harmonious and inclusive society is important. Additionally, it is important that we teach our children to respect everyone regardless of their national origin, ethnicity, race, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation.

Currently it is estimated that 16,843 people in Montana have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. There is no estimate of future numbers who may be affected. Montana has 50 counties that are designated as frontier counties. This means that residents in the 50 counties have greater obstacles in accessing care for families affected by Alzheimer's. The obstacles include: distance, terrain, climate, lack of providers, and fewer available specialty services (Montana Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.)

Montana is a very rural state and opportunities for youth in rural area to access technology and participate in positive activities to acquire life skills are limited. Building Community Strengths in Montana is designed to provide limited resource youth and adults with technology skills to bridge the digital divide and life skills needed to be workforce ready, enrich family life, and become contributing community members. Two communities, the Rocky Boy Reservation in north-central Montana and Miles City/Terry in southeastern Montana are the sites for this project. Both sites are serving children, youth, and parents, but focusing on the youth population.

Of all the hazardous complaints in the state during 2003, mold protection is the fastest growing and rated number 1 hazard. The Montana Extension housing is responding by joining forces with the Montana Department of Justice to develop a comprehensive media and education outreach program.

As a result of 9/11, Montana counties, local and state agencies and the university system is coordinating emergency response exercises and designing prevention action plans. Montana's Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) is playing a major role by developing the State's Citizens Corps registry and database, viewable at www.montanahelp.org/citizencorps/.

Performance Goals Section:

- Delete: Montana professionals trained in the RETHINK program
Montana parents in better control of their anger.
- Replace with: Increase positive parenting practices in Montana families.
Increase in youth participating in positive healthy activities.
Increase the support for grandparents raising grandchildren in Montana.
Increase knowledge of and support for Montana families with a loved one afflicted with Alzheimer's.

Key Program Components:

- Delete: EDUFAIM
RETHINK
Balancing Work & Families
Distribution of HOME-A-Syst video and manual through Montana public library system.
Provide HOME-A-Syst assessment manual to Montana landowners
Montana Home-S-Syst Program
- Add: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
Support group facilitator training
Support/educational groups offered throughout the state
Partnership with Montana AARP and Other state organizations/agencies
Develop publication on grandparents raising grandchildren
Evaluation of support group effectiveness and grandparent well being.
The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's

Local sites hosted by Extension Agents during PBS broadcast
Continual use of video and materials by Extension Agents in local programs.

Partnership with Montana PBS, Montana Alzheimer's Association, Montana AARP

Evaluation of participants and community response plans

Diversity Awareness

Training of agents to present program "A Place At The Table" in high schools

Extension staff and agent training in diversity awareness

Evaluation of participants

Building Community Strengths in Montana State University

Provide staff with training opportunities to offer youth programming

Offer youth and parents training to bridge the digital divide

Offer the Mending the Sacred Hoop Parenting Curriculum

Partner with 4-H to incorporate 4-H Curriculum into the after school programs and to start new 4-H programs on the reservation.

Help Yourself To a Healthy Home Program

Target Audience Section:

Delete: EDUFAIM
RETHINK

Add: Balancing Work & Family

The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's

Participants include all family members and friends of Alzheimer's victims.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Grandparents who are parenting their grandchildren and those who work with these families.

Diversity Awareness Training

Participants include Extension agents and staff to increase their awareness of diversity in the state. High school students in the state, Teachers, early childhood workers and others who work with families.

Building Community Strengths in Montana

At-risk youth and their families on the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation and in the communities of Miles City and Terry, Montana

Framework Evaluation Section:

Delete: EDUFAIM
RETHINK

Balancing Work & Family

Add: Building Community Strengths in Montana has an extensive evaluation. An external evaluator is working with the project and designing evaluations to meet the needs of the specific communities. Both formative and summative evaluations are in progress. For the Rocky Boy Reservation, photo narrative portfolios will be used to qualitatively evaluate the youths' experiences in the program. At the Miles City and Terry after school programs quantitative and qualitative data are being collected related to school performance, child behaviors, and parenting. Repeated measures are being collected on the youth for three years.

The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's is using a participant post test report of short-term changes after participating in the program. Follow-up post test telephone interviews are planned and will be conducted by PBS. Sites also submit a community action plan.

The Diversity Awareness Training is currently using short-term changes after program participation of adults. Agents using the "Place at the Table" curriculum will use the Montana Life Skills Evaluation System to assess outcomes.

The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren project uses three assessments. First is an instructor and educational knowledge assessment at the facilitator training. Second is a pre- and post test survey assessment of grandparent well-being. Third is a semi-structured telephone interview with grandparents to assess the effectiveness of support groups and written materials.

Outcome Indicator Section:

Delete:

- increase client empowerment for obtaining employment
- have positive changes associated with participation in EDUFAIM
- have reduced costs associated with public assistance
- have transformative learning as a result of EDUFAIM participation.
- indicate confidence that they can conduct a RETHINK program
- indicate a working knowledge of the RETHINK method.
- indicate confidence that they can evaluate the effectiveness of their RETHINK efforts
- have improved approaches to anger expression.
- have better managed work-family stress.
- have greater skill at resolving conflicts and disagreements at home and at work.
- have better communication skills at home and at work.

Add:

- Grandparents raising grandchildren will know where they can access information.
- Grandparents will gain knowledge of child development and the unique needs of children who they are raising.
- Grandparents and their grandchildren will experience healthy family relationships.
- Support groups will be developed in counties.
- Partnerships will be developed at the county level for grandparents raising grandchildren.
- Information will be disseminated to grandparents raising grandchildren in Montana.

Extension faculty and staff will increase their awareness of diversity in Montana.

High school students will engage in discussions about diversity.

High school students will gain awareness of the origins of discrimination against certain groups.

High school students will learn about the strengths of various ethnic, religious, and racial groups.

High school students will become more accepting of all people regardless of their national origin, ethnicity, race, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation.

Montanans will have a greater awareness of the disease of Alzheimer's.

Montanans will gain an understanding of the process of the disease.

Montanans will learn how to access support for their family when a member is afflicted and Alzheimer's.

Montanans will learn how to help their loved one afflicted with Alzheimer's and the family.

Youth will demonstrate knowledge, skill, attitudes, and behavior necessary for fulfilling, contributing lives.

Youth will learn technology skills necessary in today's education and job market.

Resource allocation update:

Federal (3B,C)	\$ 71,292	
State	27,585	
County	60,472	
Total		\$159,350