

2015 County Highlights

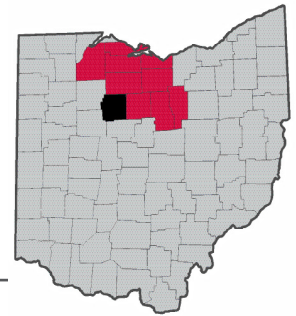
Wyandot County

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STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Wyandot County provided Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) beginning in April 2015. Since then, programming efforts with both schools and local service agencies has been going strong, and Wyandot County looks forward to a robust year of providing nutrition education for those audiences. Seventy-three programs yielding 967 client contacts were accomplished in 2015.

PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- In 2015, 26 youth camp counselors were selected to receive in excess of 24 hours of training and instruction in skill development to prepare them for serving in a supervisory and caring capacity for 102 Wyandot County youth attending Kelleys Island 4-H Camp. Twelve adult volunteers assisted in providing training on the following topics: making good decisions, improving communication skills, recognizing age and developmental differences, program-planning and teaching, risk management, weather safety, and protection of minors. Representatives of local law enforcement and EMS units made special presentations dealing with appropriate use of social media and emergency medical protocol. Upon completion of this training, counselors indicated that they felt better prepared to teach, lead and act as positive role models for campers. In addition, counselors indicated that the training and skill-building provided opportunities for 26 individual counselors to grow into a cohesive corps committed to providing a safe and enjoyable camping experience for Wyandot County 4-H campers. An informal survey suggested that, of the 92 campers age-eligible to return to camp in 2016, nearly 75 percent planned to attend again in 2016. Counselors reported after camp that the training and opportunity to serve as teachers, leaders and caring role models for children helped them mature and develop self-esteem and skills that would serve them well in the future.

- The 4-H Youth development educator taught Quality Assurance Training on five separate occasions to 276 Wyandot County youth livestock exhibitors. This training is, under Ohio Administrative Code, a mandatory prerequisite for Junior Fair livestock exhibitors. It provides valuable information about providing quality care for livestock, proper administration of medications, recordkeeping, ethical treatment of livestock, good sportsmanship and biosecurity.
- In 2015, seven high school seniors were awarded \$2,900 in academic scholarships to enhance their pursuit of post-secondary education. These scholarships were provided by Wyandot County 4-H Endowment, which, since its inception in the mid 1970s, has awarded over \$94,200 to 252 Wyandot County 4-H members. The Endowment Benefit Auction and Dinner provided a marvelous evening of food, fun and fellowship for nearly 220 in attendance. The event raised over \$8,000, which will continue to be a source for scholarship and programming support for Wyandot County 4-H. Wyandot County 4-H Advisory Council contributed \$2,600 in the form of scholarships for two 4-H members to attend Citizenship Washington Focus, and two 4-H members to attend Leadership Washington Focus. A local service group generously provided full scholarships for another two Wyandot County 4-H members to attend 4-H Leadership Camp held at Camp Ohio. The thank-you notes received from these 14 young persons are indication that Wyandot County 4-H has made a positive difference in their lives.
- In 2015, 640 Wyandot County youth actively participated in 26 local 4-H Clubs and in-school classroom groups. One hundred twenty-one adult volunteers assisted these young people in 870 4-H projects. These energetic volunteers contributed an estimated 4,375 hours to these community clubs, reflecting an estimated value of \$83,560. Membership in 4-H accounts for one of the largest youth enrollments in the county. Alumni of 4-H identify skills such as decision making, leadership, working with others, citizenship and service to others as invaluable life lessons learned through 4-H membership.



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Wyandot County receives \$56,481 in federal funding for nutrition education for low-income people, thanks to Extension's local-state-federal partnership.