

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE



## Grand Challenges

K-State Research and Extension develops and delivers practical, research-based solutions to challenges faced by all Kansans, which includes the grand challenges:

- Global Food Systems
- Water
- Health
- Community Vitality
- Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

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K-State Research & Extension  
(Local Unit Name)  
(address)  
(City, State and Zip)  
(Phone)  
(Website)



**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension

## Grand Challenge: Community Vitality

Title: Extension Is Grass Roots Education

**Why is this issue important?** K-State Research and Extension offices are in every county of the state. However, not every county needs the same programs. Our system is structured so that elected local volunteers advise our educational programs.

**How did Extension address this issue?** Every October we hold Shawnee County Extension Council Elections. Volunteers run for a two year term to serve on one of our four advisory committees. Each advisory committee has six members. From those 24 elected volunteers our new Executive Board is appointed by the current Executive Board. Our Board meets monthly and reports on the work of the Advisory Committees as well as runs the business of the Extension Office.

Our 24 member Extension Council is the eyes and the ears for the Shawnee County Extension Office. They alert us to needs that Extension Education can address.

**What was the impact?** Our office programs in the areas of Agriculture, Horticulture, Nutrition, Family Finance, Youth Development and Community Vitality. From January to September in 2022, our office had 12,305 direct education impacts. These education impacts are provided to meet the needs of Shawnee County as directed by Extension's formula for assessing these needs at the grass roots.

Our sworn in 9-member 2023 Extension Board. L to R: Mary Tyler, Sherri Scheideman, Angela Dake, Barbara Coultis, Angela Dailey, Twyla Hernandez, Mary Blubaugh, Christi McKenzie and Molly Drimmel.

