



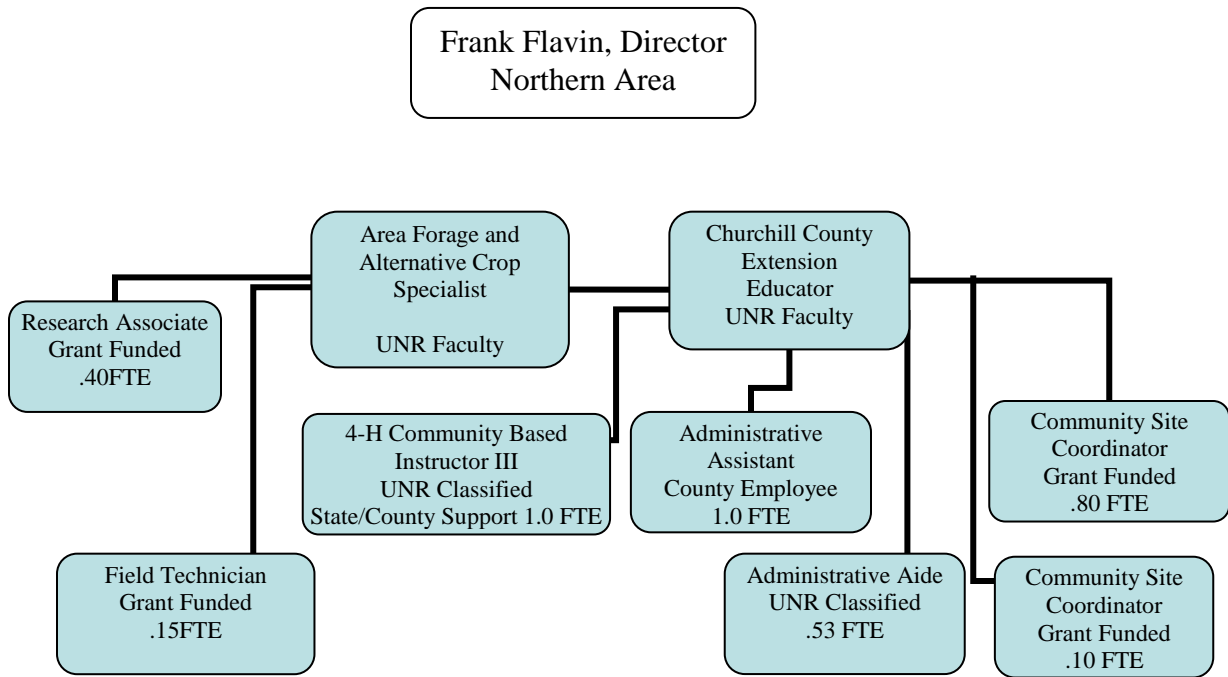
University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension

Churchill County Cooperative Extension

111 Sheckler Road
Fallon, NV 89406
phone (775) 423-5121
fax (775) 423-7594
www.unce.unr.edu

2016 Accomplishment Report

Organizational Chart



Mission

To discover, develop, disseminate, preserve and use knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of Churchill County residents.

Summary

The Cooperative Extension Fund was established to allocate a 1 cent ad valorem Description tax apportioned to, and specifically appropriated for, statutorily established educational programs focusing on agriculture; community development; health and nutrition; horticulture; personal and family development, and natural resources. Cooperative Extension identifies critical needs, and designs educational programs and activities to address those needs. Extension provides ongoing program evaluation to ensure educational offerings impact and improve lives of Churchill County residents through a planned educational process. As an outreach partnership of the University of Nevada, Churchill County and USDA, Cooperative Extension provides research-based information to local residents.

Background

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (Extension) is the University – Churchill County partnership that puts university research to work in our Churchill County urban settings; on public rangelands; in schools; on family farms and ranches; and in our homes, workplaces and communities. Cooperative Extension is in every corner of Churchill County, assisting the County and its citizens in community engagement, providing a broad spectrum of youth development activities, assisting agriculture producers in farm and range management,

providing educational programming for improved health and nutrition, and providing best management practices to protect our precious natural resources.

Since 1916 Cooperative Extension has played a major role in the outreach teaching, research and service of the University for the benefit of Churchill County. Cooperative Extension connects citizens with the University, provides a NSHE presence in all of Churchill County and fulfills the statewide land-grant mission of the University of Nevada. Extension was founded in 1914 as a partnership between the federal government, land-grant universities, and county governments throughout the United States. Cooperative Extension exists through land-grant universities in all 50 states. Extension's purpose, as stated in the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS 549.010), is to "conduct educational, research, outreach and service programs pertaining to agriculture, community development, health and nutrition, horticulture, personal and family development, and natural resources in the rural and urban communities of Nevada." The Statute states that State "funds to carry out the provisions of this chapter shall be provided by direct legislative appropriation from the General Fund."

Federal enabling legislation for Extension is found in the Smith-Lever Act. This law requires a State match in order to receive Federal funds. These funds are appropriated through the USDA/NIFA budget. Counties, such as Churchill County, contribute through a tax levy pursuant to NRS 549 of not less than 1 cent and no more than 5 cents on each \$100 of taxable property in the county.

Program Development and Evaluation

The Logic Model is a framework for planning and evaluation generally used by Cooperative Extension in program development and outcome (impact) assessment. The Logic Model is. . .

- A depiction of a program showing what the program will do and what it is to accomplish.
- A series of "if-then" relationships that, if implemented as intended, lead to the desired outcomes.
- The core of program planning and evaluation.
- A road map to desired outcomes.

The Logic Fosters Accountability. . .

- What gets measured gets done
- If you don't measure results, you can't tell success from failure
- If you can't see success, you can't reward it
- If you can't reward success, you're probably rewarding failure
- If you can't see success, you can't learn from it
- If you can't recognize failure, you can't correct it

Key Factors Influencing Situation and Priorities

- County Strategic Priorities – County Strategic Priorities are key elements of the Situation and Priority components of the Logic Model program development framework.

- Needs Assessments – Needs assessment is the process of obtaining and analyzing information to determine the current status and needs of a defined population and/or geographic area. Needs assessments are useful for:
 - Obtaining information about current conditions in a defined population, including issues and needs and the resources and approaches being used to address them.
 - Determining met and unmet needs among specific target populations and for the overall community.

Cooperative Extension has conducted needs assessments on a wide variety of subjects impacting Churchill County. In 2014, the “**Results of a 2013 Churchill County Needs Assessment,**” **UNCE Special Publication 14-12,** was completed. This published document followed a meta-analysis approach, capturing issues that community agencies and organizations identified as high, medium and low priority concerns for county residents. Faculty and staff are currently developing a new needs assessment survey instrument.

Churchill County Faculty and Staff

The local extension office is home to two UNR faculty members, a 4-H Community Based Instructor, one county funded administrative assistant, one State funded administrative aide, two grant funded site coordinators and one grant funded research associate. We respond to numerous questions on a variety of topics, and are often referred to as “the place to go to find the answers.” Faculty and staff pride themselves on being responsive to the community, going the extra step to find an answer even if it is outside the realm of our specific expertise. In response to the request for performance measurements, Churchill County Cooperative Extension is happy to provide a **brief outline of a few of our many impacts** achieved during 2016.

Programs

Radon, Water and Soil Testing, Plant and Insect Identification and Plant Disease Identification and Control Recommendation

The 2016 goal was to continue to expand the radon, water testing and soil testing programs, providing education to Churchill County residents.

Accomplishments for 2016 includes:

- Educating Churchill County residents about how to accurately test for radon in their homes. A total of 90 radon kits were distributed in 2016, an increase from 30 kits from 2015.
- Working closely with the Nevada State Health Lab, Cooperative Extension provided water testing kits and instructions on how to collect water samples for testing domestic wells. Over 250 water test kits (20% increase) were given out in 2016.
- Cooperative Extension staff also provided instruction on how to sample soil for analysis as well as how to read the soil testing results. Working closely with A & L Agricultural Lab, Cooperative Extension helped residents test soil for gardens, pastures and lawns.

- Churchill County Cooperative Extension continues to support the Extension Horticulture program “Grow Your Own.” This educational series originates in Washoe County and is available to Churchill County residents via Interactive Video, eliminating the need to travel to Reno. In 2016 a total of 10 people attended the six classes.
- Monarch Butterfly numbers have been declining. Cooperative Extension, in collaboration with the U. S Fish and Wildlife, constructed a Monarch Waystation, located at the Extension Office, to educate the public about plants that attract monarch butterflies to our area.
- Working closely with the Nevada State Entomologist, Cooperative Extension staff identified insects and educated residents in the best method for damage mitigation and/or insect control.
- Working closely with the Cooperative Extension Crop Specialist, plant identification and weed control issues were solved. In addition, Cooperative Extension worked with various agencies in the County to educate the public on weed control and/or management.

Churchill County 4-H

The 2016 goal for the Churchill County 4-H program was to provide new educational opportunities for our youth, through the expansion of our adult volunteer base, as well as increasing youth participation in National, State and Regional events.

- Once again, the Churchill County Junior Livestock Show and Sale was extremely successful. In 2016, youth participation in the show increased by over 9% from 2015. Sale prices realized an increase between 10 cents and 25 cents per pound from the previous year.
- Member enrollment in Churchill County 4-H increased by 26 members in the 2016 year.
- We increased our number of volunteer leaders by 11%. The increase in leaders has allowed the 4-H program to expand the types of 4-H club opportunities for our members, as well as support the increasing number of members enrolled in specific clubs.
- Churchill County was also well represented at July’s 4-H Camp held at Lake Tahoe. One-third of the campers, over 50% of the teen counselors, and 17 of the 24 adult chaperones were from Churchill County.
- Our Churchill County 4-H Team were Reserve Champions at both the 2016 Nevada State Skill-A-Thon and State Quiz Bowl events.
- The Churchill County 4-H State Livestock Judging Team represented Nevada at Nationals held in Denver, Colorado.

Cooperative Extension Agriculture Programs

Jason Davison is the Crops Specialist for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. Recognizing the devastating impacts from the last five years of drought, his 2016 efforts were concentrated in developing and delivering useful, timely information on managing crops in times of drought. He also continued his efforts in field trials where he is evaluating high value, low water use crops for Nevada agricultural producers. Jay was a .25 FTE in the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station (January-

- June 2016) with his primary responsibilities related to applied research projects pertinent to Nevada's agricultural producers.
- Jay facilitated and taught two county workshops with faculty from three western Universities, teaching agricultural producers techniques to improve irrigation efficiency. He developed and presented three formal classes at UNR and taught three additional class at state level workshops.
 - His efforts in expanding teff production resulted in the issuance of an emergency exemption by the U.S. EPA for a critical insecticide and an increase in the number of acres of teff. Results from his efforts were the largest amount of teff ever harvested in western Nevada with a total of 2.6 million pounds being harvested at a value to Nevada producers of approximately \$1.2 million while using approximately 2/3rds as much water as traditional crops.
 - Because of Jay's work, the level of cooperation between UNR and CABNR faculty was greatly increased. Functional improvements include the expansion of Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station properties available to applied research projects directed by Cooperative Extension faculty and funding to allow the hiring of a research technician in support of his research program.
 - As the Nevada state IR-4 liaison, Jay represented Nevada at the national and state IR-4 meetings and facilitated the successful application from the Environmental Protection Agency of a Section 18 emergency exemption for Prevathon, an insecticide for teff.
 - As leader of the Integrated Pest Management program he was successful in obtaining the necessary grant funding required to allow the program to expand as it has done in every previous grant funding cycle since he assumed leadership.
 - As the leader of the Pesticide Safety Education Program in Nevada, Jay facilitated a successful process of grant applications at the state and federal levels, which allowed team members to offer 26 different classes at 63 locations statewide and which were attend by 1078 individuals. The classes provided 78.5 hours of Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) related to pesticide safety and licensing.
 - Jay made 18 formal presentations in six Nevada Counties and one out of state venue. All of his educational classes that were formally evaluated and analyzed demonstrated large gains in awareness, knowledge and willingness to attend future presentations by the participants.

Cooperative Extension Children, Youth and Families

Programming in the area of children, youth and families continues to be identified as important by Churchill County residents. As a result, Pam Powell, Extension Educator, concentrated her teaching and research in this area. Her program efforts for 2016 realized two Cooperative Extension special publications, one curricula, seven technical reports and three approved Office of Research Protection Human Subject protocols. She was the PI/Co-PI for \$207,690 in grant dollars to support her programs. All of her grant funding activities were directly related to her assigned educational responsibilities. Two programs are highlighted below:

Heart and Shield: A program to end family violence

Nevada continues to realize some of the highest rates of domestic violence arrests and deaths of any other state. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, long term problems associated with DV on children include higher levels of adult depression and trauma symptoms and increased tolerance for and use of violence in adult relationships. The Heart and Shield Program provides direct education and *non-crisis* intervention for children and families to promote resiliency and strengthen positive future relationships.

- While the Heart and Shield program was initially funded for \$574,000, PI Pam Powell received an additional \$44,500 during the first four years, increasing the grant amount to be awarded for 5-years, at this time, to \$624,000.
- Pam co-wrote and piloted a 400+ page curricula for adults and children. Curriculum includes lessons for the four age groups: 1) parents; 2) teens, ages 14-18; 3) youth, ages 9-13; and 4) early childhood, birth to 8 years. She continues to edit a 400-plus page curricula and is taking the lead in revising the curriculum to include culturally sensitive activities.
- In 2016, the Heart and Shield program direct education resulted in 280 participant contacts.
- The Memorandum of Agreement with the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe to deliver the Heart and Shield Domestic Violence Prevention program was renewed.
- Results from the UNR Office of Research Integrity approved survey “Domestic Violence, Sexual Abuse, Elder Abuse and Stalking in a Rural Tribal Community” was cited by FPST Victim Services in their 2016 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Grant. Pam was recognized by FPST Victim Services as being critical to obtaining funding: “Because of her [Pam’s] desire to address the needs of the Fallon Tribal Community the Community needs assessment was a success in the approval of grant funding for the FPST Victim Services Program through the 2016 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Grant.”

4-H Mentoring: Youth and Families with Promise

The 4-H YFP program, which began in Churchill County in 2014, is a prevention program designed to enhance the developmental assets of at-risk youth, ages 10-14. Program elements include 1) a 4-H club which meets three times a month, 2) trained adult mentors who meet with youth 3-4 hours each month, and 3) a Family Night Out event in which youth, family and mentors engage in fun activities once per month. Accomplishments for 2016 include:

- Pam received an additional \$57,960 to continue the program which involves collaboration with the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe (FPST).
- Pam received an additional \$10,000 to send 3 youth and 1 mentor to the 4-H National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.
- She renewed a Memorandum of Agreement with FPST to deliver the program to FPST youth.
- In 2016, the Churchill site, led by Community Site Coordinator, LeAnn Davis, hosted 33 4-H club meetings and 9 Family Night Out events. Youth enrollment increased by 26%. Adult participation increased dramatically, ranging from 3 to over 50 at various events.

- Youth and mentors participated in over 30 hours at four Community Service Events, including a landscaping event at the FPST Senior Center, construction and staffing of an age-appropriate haunted house for the FPST Halloween Party, and a July 4th family activity reaching approximately 750 residents. During Spring Break, in collaboration with the Statewide Native American Coalition (SNAC) and the Churchill Community Coalition, mentoring program staff participated in drug awareness activities at the FPST Education Center. Approximately 50 youth attended.
- Analysis of a funder-mandated Common Measure evaluative survey indicated success in improving at-risk social/emotional skills, such as responsibility, compassion and conflict resolution.
- Fallon was the only site in Nevada implementing a 4-H Youth and Families with Promise Mentoring program. The Fallon site has been refunded each year since Pam introduced the program.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Powell, Extension Educator
Jay Davison, Forage and Alternative Crop Specialist
Karen Bogdanowicz, 4-H Community Based Instructor
Pat Whitten, Administrative Assistant
Linda Brown, Administrative Aide
LeAnn Davis, Community Site Coordinator
Tom Lawry, Research Associate