

Food and Agriculture

80

farm businesses received technical assistance, leading to greater profitability and environmental sustainability

Natural Resources

644

acres managed with forest stewardship plans

62,525 feet of improved or constructed forestland roads and trails on private lands

Provided technical assistance with funding from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Helped Laconia work on its natural resources inventory with wildlife as an initial focus

Community and Economic Development

Co-founded the Foothills Foundation in the Northfield-Tilton Region

The organization focuses on promoting outdoor recreation and expanding the local and regional economy; they completed a trail plan to connect trail users to natural, cultural and recreational assets of the region

Youth and Families

300

community members attended a fall festival co-hosted by 4-H and the Belknap County Fair Board

Offered courses in chronic pain management and the Walk with Ease program to curb opioid misuse and improve health

195 people reached through healthy living and nutrition programs to prevent chronic disease

4-H partnered with Gilmanton Library on “Science at the Library,” a program intended to increase STEM literacy among youth

“Growing Pizza” garden program taught youth about growing food and nutrition

172 volunteers

5,985 hours

\$170K** value of volunteer time

*In 2021, for every \$1.00 that Belknap contributed, UNH provided \$2.60 of statewide resources.

**State Values of Volunteer Time (NH): \$28.54; independentsector.org/



Statewide Highlights 2021

MAKING LIFE **BETTER** IN NEW HAMPSHIRE



Extension

Economic Expertise

- Dairy specialists worked with ten farms to identify and initiate changes to improve milking parlor efficiencies, increasing production and quality while supporting animal comfort
- Extension's crop weather monitoring stations and plant disease forecasting tools were utilized by 76 apple growers to make informed decisions and avoid unnecessary pesticide applications
- Extension forestry specialists trained 201 forest industry professionals

Community Development

- Community and economic development specialists helped expand a makerspace and business incubator in Concord and helped generate facade improvements to five downtown buildings in Pittsfield
- Efforts to increase tourism and nature economy have included a regional branding and marketing campaign to promote the Sugar River Region in Sullivan, a plan to expand biking trails in Northfield and neighboring towns, and installation of signage to guide trail users to downtown businesses and services in Bristol

Extension specialists worked with **2,483** NH businesses

Lifelong Learning

- Food safety specialists provided certification opportunities to food service workers from schools, hospitals, food pantries and other public establishments
- Natural resources specialists brought together 85 communities for a land conservation conference called Saving Special Places
- The 4-H Virtual Club reached 220 youth and summer programming reached over 400 children

COVID-19 Response

- With N.H. Department of Agriculture, secured \$500,000 USDA-NIFA State Department of Agriculture Farmer, Rancher Stress Assistance Network grant to raise awareness, provide education and offset costs related to farmers' mental health
- With \$225,000 in funding from the Extension Foundation, provided research-based information to North Country and Strafford County communities to support informed vaccination choices
- Provided hands-on training to teach community members how to build a greenhouse at Winnisquam Middle School; this led to a gardening curriculum for students during hybrid learning
- With \$680,000 from a USDA grant, provided agriscience-based remote learning experiences to 800 rural elementary school children