

UT Extension Roane County

Justin Thomas

What is Extension?

- An “Extension” of the University of Tennessee
 - Specifically the Institute of Agriculture
- Provide research-based education and information about agriculture, family and consumer sciences, and resource development to Tennesseans where they live and work.

Staff

- Jessica Wilkinson, Extension Agent for Agriculture
- Justin Thomas, Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences
- Penny Perry, TNCEP
- Linda Cox, Administrative Assistant
- 4-H Youth (Vacant)

What is Extension? (cont)

- 3 areas of focus in Roane
 - Agriculture and Natural Resources
 - Family and Consumer Sciences
 - TNCEP
 - 4-H Youth Development

Agriculture and Natural Resources

- Master Gardeners
- Master Beef Producers
- Pesticide Trainings
- Beef Quality Assurance
- Assist Farmers with TAEP cost-share process
- Support local Agriculture

Family and Consumer Sciences

- On My Own Youth Financial Simulation
- THDA Homebuyer Education
- Dining with Diabetes
- Take Charge of Your Diabetes
- Living Well with Chronic Conditions
- Walk Across Tennessee
- Family and Community Education Clubs (FCE)
 - Betty McGlasson FCE Scholarship (one to each high school)

TNCEP

- Tennessee Nutrition and Consumer Education Program
- Education for SNAP benefit recipients along with those eligible for benefits
- Works with housing authorities, health department, senior meal sites, local schools

4-H Youth Development

- In-School Education (4th-5th grades)
- Project Groups
 - Horse, Swine, Beef, Goat, Sheep, Poultry, Shooting Sports
- 4-H Camp
- 4-H Congress

- 68 4-H Clubs (2014-15)
 - 1222 Youth
- 138 4-Her's went to camp

By the Numbers

- Direct Contact Methods 2014

Method	Number Methods	Contacts Reached
Client Visits to Extension Office	219	186
Direct Mail / Telephone Calls (this will include electronic mail)	1908	1411
Group Meetings / Demonstrations	556	27937
On-Site Visits (Farm, Home, and Workplace)	7	403
Total	2690	29937

By the Numbers (cont.)

- Outcomes:
 - 77% of youth increased financial management skills through On My Own simulation
 - 97% of participants reported a continuation of Exercise after Walk Across Tennessee
 - 69% of students report having developed confidence to speak in front of groups.
 - Volunteers contributed 8700 hours valued at \$195,000.
 - Provided education to 18 first-time homebuyers resulting in \$1.5 million in local housing purchases

Cost-Benefit Analysis

- For every \$1 in public funds invested in UT Extension programs, an estimated \$8.13 is returned to the people of Tennessee.
 - (J. Donaldson, Extension Evaluation and Staff Development)