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## Extension Agents

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**Agriculture and Natural Resources** - This spring we established 1 corn hybrid evaluation test, 3 sorghum hybrid evaluation trials, and 2 replicated agronomic cotton evaluations with 5 cooperating growers. We also assisted the Soil Health Institute in collecting soil samples on 4 producer fields. On March 23rd, our Grass Growers' Gathering was attended by 34 participants either online or in-person. Collectively, these growers managed over 12,000 acres and valued the program at an estimated \$162 thousand dollar benefit to them. Also, 69.5% of participants indicated they would adopt at least one practice recommended during the program. On April 14th, our Coastal Bend Grain Handlers Safety Conference was held in collaboration with San Patricio County. There were 39 participants who watched our live demonstration of a grain engulfment. There were 12 First Responders from 4 Fire Stations represented within the crowd. In addition to training on how to handle a grain engulfment, participants were also offered training on defensive driving during this year's conference. On April 20th, the Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leaders program toured South Texas and we assisted with a portion of that day's program.

**Family and Community Health** - This quarter our nutrition programs were taught through various methods including virtual and live. A Fresh Start to a Healthier You program was delivered through online platforms and in person with 284 participants reached. Food demos are restricted to virtual one shots. Although some locations are not open to the public, we are still able to accommodate our audience through alternative methods that allow them to interact within our programs. Be Well, Live Well program was conducted curbside at Broadmoor Senior Center and reached 23 participants. The Growing and Nourishing Healthy Communities program continues to impact families during spring planting season. There are a total of 6 garden sites with 105 garden beds. 119 participants attended a 6-lesson plan. They learned how to build and maintain beds, and how to harvest their vegetables. Participants also received recipe demonstrations utilizing the vegetables grown in their gardens. Spring planting has already started, and vegetables will be harvested late in the summer.

**Healthy South Texas** - The Healthy South Texas agent continued to work on part of a pilot, Walk Across Texas! - Diabetes Edition Task Force team, developing Walk Across Texas! - Diabetes Edition. Each week of the eight-week physical activity program participants received diabetes information to assist, support, and manage their chronic condition.

The first Walk Across Texas! - Diabetes Edition started February 13, and ran through April 8, 2021. 11 participants completed the challenge, earning 1,608.28 physical activity miles and bettering their health. Our next session begins May 21, 2021. Join us for Walk Across Texas! or the Walk Across Texas! - Diabetes Edition!

Walk Across Texas! has also kicked off in the Corpus Christi ISD school and FCH Agent Muñoz is working with youth and adults competing in the challenge to walk 832 miles in eight weeks. Keep Moving!

The FCH agent continued to provide monthly programs for the Nueces County Employee Wellness Program. February focused on heart health, March featured Stress Less with Mindfulness and April was spent on discussing, growing and cooking with herbs year-round. April's presentation featured guest speaker Kevin Gibbs, Nueces County Extension Agent for Horticulture.

Agents Mutz and Muñoz continued working with the Corpus Christi Nueces County Public Health District COVID-19 task force. The primary responsibility focused on contact tracing of individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 in Nueces County. In addition, both agents have assisted with mass vaccine drive-thrus.

**Horticulture** - A workday was held at the Xeriscape gardens on February 6. The Port Aransas lecture series continued. Winter Storm 'Uri' decimated landscapes in Nueces County. Much of the remainder of February and most of March was spent dealing with freeze damage. The agent did presentations for the Golf Superintendents, PSA's for the City of Corpus Christi as well as a Propagation segment for Coastal Living. The agent and Master Gardeners presented for the Metro E. Garden club in April.

**4-H and Youth Development** - Nueces 4-H members competed in the San Antonio, Houston, Austin, & San Angelo Livestock Shows, including participation in market & breeding animals, judging teams, horse show, shot gun, and archery contests. A total of 14 entries made the premium auction at the various major livestock shows. Additionally, 34 members qualified for the District Spring Spectacular contest in Victoria, TX, which included contests of fashion show, Duds to Dazzle, educational presentations, quiz bowl teams, & photography entries. Additionally, members competed at the District Livestock Judging Contest, with the Senior team placing 5th overall. Ten members from across the county were elected as county council officers for 2021-2022. Lastly, 11 youth were awarded \$54,000 in scholarships from the Nueces County Jr. Livestock Show.

**Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program** - This quarter the Nueces County EFNEP Staff taught 69 adults and 11,915 youth participants. The adult educators taught 41 virtual zoom classes and the youth educators taught 338 pre-recorded online classes. We participated in 2 Health Fairs (one virtual and one drive through). We also hosted 2 Texas A&M University - Kingsville Dietetic Interns.