# Michigan State University Extension in Gladwin County: Solving Problems & Increasing Opportunities for Today & Tomorrow

On August 8, 2023, Gladwin County residents will be asked to continue investment in MSU Extension programs that helps families, businesses and professionals gain the knowledge they need to be healthy and safe, do their jobs better, build strong communities, protect local environments and help young people gain the confidence and skills needed to be successful. MSU Extension programs in Gladwin County help reduce the cost of public investment in health care and other governmental remediation services and increase the educational resources that helps families and local communities thrive.

Gladwin County residents receive $3.50 in return value for every $1 invested in MSU Extension programs through the voter-approved local millage.

## Empowering and Equipping Youth Success

Data from 2012-2017 Michigan 4-H college access review shows that Michigan 4-H alums are more likely to enroll in college the fall after high school than other Michigan students.

Since 2012, **61%** of Michigan 4-H youth have enrolled in college the fall after high school. In Michigan overall, that rate is 55%. This data is important as research shows students who enroll in college "on time" are more likely to complete their degree.

In 2023, Gladwin County MSU Extension 4-H programs engaged a total of **262** Gladwin County youth in a variety of virtual 4-H clubs and programs.

4-H club participation has proven to help prepare young people for work, especially for jobs in science, technology, engineering and math. In 2023, Gladwin County 4-H provided 22 program activities to over **800** youth, with 14 clubs and 32 adult volunteers.

## Educating to Fight Foreclosure

Michigan has the third highest rate of foreclosure (one in every 2,617 housing units) in the U.S., according to ATTOM, a curator of the nation's property database.

MSU Extension offers financial and homeownership education to community members. Financial capability education offers families and individuals tools and support to manage their personal finances and achieve financial goals.

*"Thank you so much for all of the help from the start and to the finish, with many phone calls and e-mails to you when needed, and keep up the wonderful work that you are doing because you are the very best at it! We need MIHAF, MSU and HUD… so that you can help so many other homeowners in the same situation as I have been in for the last two years."*

– Program Participant

# Educating for Greater Farm Profitability and Sustainability

Gladwin County is home to **723** producers managing **5,212** heads of cattle, **1,201** broilers and other meat-type chickens, according to the USDA 2017 census. They also manage **11,155** acres of farm land for hay/haylage; **7,409** acres of soybeans; **4,822** acres of corn for grain; and **1,762** acres of wheat for grain. 99 percent of farms in the county are family farms.

•Access to research-based information is critical when business decisions depend on it. MSU Extension is a leader in discovering information and helping farmers apply tested solutions that benefit their farms, their families and their communities. Gladwin County MSU Extension educators provide access to articles, webinars and timely social media posts designed to help producers manage the challenges of disruptions to agriculture, prepare for tax season and manage the ongoing financial and business planning needed for farming.

•MSU Extension's Farm Stress programs provide behavioral health and financial management and planning supports and services to farmers and their families to help manage the emotional and financial ups and downs of farm production. Online access to teletherapy, resiliency tools and assistance resources have been expanded to ensure Gladwin County families have what they need to live happy and healthy lives.

# Helping Families Make Healthy Decisions

MSU Extension delivers affordable, relevant, evidence-based education to help adults, young people, and families eat well, consume food safely and stay healthy.

• In 2022, Gladwin County reached an estimated 999 people, with **420** of them being new, through indirect activities such as social media, distributing information and resources that indirectly reach SNAP recipients.

Through direct education, **359** participants engaged in evidence-based nutrition education programs. MSU Extension educators provide nutrition and health education programming to individuals and families proven to improve family diet and physical well-being.

# Financial Resources

MSU Extension provides Financial & Homeownership training and resources, foreclosure prevention assistance, homeownership education, and money management for the residents of Gladwin County.

*"I just wanted to follow up and say thank you again for the information you and your colleague presented in the Homebuyer Education class. The information I learned is unmeasurable and the HBE should be a mandatory class for all first time homebuyers. I have told many people about my great experience and the wealth of information I obtained. Michigan State University Extension is offering a great service in the State of Michigan with this class and at a very reasonable cost! I am so thankful I was able to attend."*

- Program Participant

# Gladwin County Impact

**40**

PROGRAMS HOSTED
IN GLADWIN COUNTY

**650**

NUMBER OF RESIDENTS
FROM GLADWIN COUNTY
THAT ATTENDED MSU
EXTENSION PROGRAMS

**262**

YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN 4-H

**7,863**

GLADWIN
COUNTY
MSU EXTENSION
FACEBOOK VIEWS

**464**

PARTICIPANTS THAT
ATTENDED PROGRAMS
HOSTED IN GLADWIN
COUNTY

**231**

RESIDENTS
SERVED WITH
SNAP-ED
PROGRAMMING
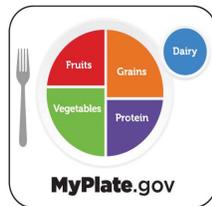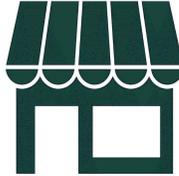
**14**

CLUBS IN
GLADWIN COUNTY

**32**

ADULT VOLUNTEERS

MSU Extension is eager to continue serving Gladwin County residents in strong partnership with the County Board of Commissioners. By working together, MSU Extension can continue to help people improve their lives by bringing the vast knowledge resources of Michigan State University directly to individuals, families, businesses and communities.