

INSTITUTE OF YOUTH, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY

OVERVIEW

THE INSTITUTE OF YOUTH, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY (IFYC) addresses many of the human and community challenges that face the nation. In partnership with the Land-Grant University (LGU) System, the Cooperative Extension System, and through federal and national collaborations, IFYC's three divisions (the Division of Youth and 4-H, the Division of Community and Education, and the Division of Family and Consumer Sciences (DFCS)) promote the human and social dimensions of NIFA's food and agricultural sciences through research, education, and Extension programs. IFYC programs support the socio-economic prosperity of people and communities by developing human and community capital, supporting the next generation of food and agricultural scientists, providing youth leadership experiences, and ensuring that the families remain strong and healthy.

DIVISIONS

DIVISION OF YOUTH AND 4-H

This division promotes positive youth development to prepare young people as responsible citizens and change agents. The division strengthens youth to meet the challenges of adolescence and the transition to adulthood.

Partnerships connect youth and adults to their communities through science, health and environmental education, military connectedness, citizenship, workforce development, agricultural literacy, and research and evaluation. Youth and adults participate in formal and hands-on learning experiences.

4-H is the programmatic outreach and engagement arm of the land-grant system. 4-H is the federal government's youth development program, framed by the four H's of Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION

This division enhances the capacity of minority-serving, land-grant, and non land-grant institutions to train the next generation of food and agricultural professionals. The division manages NIFA's formal science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and workforce development programs. Capacity-building programs focus on the 1890 and 1994 land-grant institutions; Alaska native, Hawaiian native, and Hispanic-serving institutions; and non land-grant state colleges of agriculture. NIFA's education goals are to

- increase the number, quality, and diversity of the next generation of food and agricultural scientists;
- develop a food and agriculture workforce ready for national and international needs; and
- build capacity at educational institutions through grants for curricula and materials development, faculty development, student experiential learning programs, educational and classroom equipment, and student recruitment.

DIVISION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

This division strengthens families, farms, communities, and the economy through applied science and investments in research to understand how people can improve their well-being and quality of living while functioning in family, farm, community, regional, national, and global contexts. Programs focus on rural vitality, financial capability, nutrition and health literacy, home safety, energy efficiency, child and family resiliency, and disaster preparedness and response. The division promotes the human sciences in NIFA priority areas through research, education, and Extension programs. DFCS programs account for 25 percent of formula funds expenditures in partnership with the LGU System, as well as millions of dollars annually in federally-reimbursable agreements

INSTITUTE OF YOUTH, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY (CONT'D)

MAJOR PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM is the youth outreach program from the land-grant universities, Cooperative Extension System, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM is a partnership of agriculture, business, education, government, and volunteers, designed to improve agricultural literacy in the nation's schools.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES AT-RISK grants focus on at-risk youth and families, supporting comprehensive, intensive, community-based programs.

GRANTS TO YOUTH-SERVING INSTITUTIONS is a program that works with youth to identify complex, long-term community needs and then plan, implement, and evaluate those programs.

MILITARY YOUTH, FAMILY AND VETERANS programs support military children and youth on military installations around the world, as well as families and veterans where they work and live.

4-H AFTERSCHOOL is an Extension-enhanced program that provides a "learn by doing," hands-on learning approach.

HIGHER EDUCATION MULTICULTURAL SCHOLARS GRANTS provide scholarships to outstanding students from groups that are traditionally underrepresented and underserved.

NATIONAL NEEDS GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP GRANTS support fellowship programs that engage outstanding students in their master's and doctoral degrees in expertise shortage areas.

NIFA FELLOWSHIP GRANTS train pre- and postdoctoral candidates, the next generation of agricultural, forestry, and food scientists.

HIGHER EDUCATION CHALLENGE GRANTS help colleges and universities provide the quality education necessary to produce graduates for the nation's food and agricultural scientific and professional workforce.

RURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION grants promote individual and family nutrition and health education, farm safety education, and rural health leadership development.

ENHANCING RURAL PROSPERITY projects provide access to sources of information, education, and technical assistance in the adoption of broadband and e-commerce.

AGRICULTURAL RISK MANAGEMENT programs provide agricultural producers a range of risk management strategies, including developing farm business plans.

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS provides at-risk commodity producers with the knowledge, skills, and tools to make their operations more competitive.

FINANCIAL LITERACY education supports programs that increase effective money management practices among individuals and families across the nation.

PROMOTING HEALTHY HOMES programs have reached over 4.7 million consumers through a variety of educational methods, including training in rural areas to reduce the risk of lung cancer caused by radon.

CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS AT MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS support the infrastructure, research, teaching, and Extension capabilities of minority-serving institutions, including the 1890 land-grant institutions, 1994 Tribal Colleges, Hispanic-serving institutions, Alaska native and Hawaiian native-serving institutions and institutions in insular areas or U.S. territorial lands.

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