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 *\$100-\$499
 **\$500-\$999
 ***\$1000 & above

4-H Programs:

4-H Programs are open to all youth ages 8 to 19. They reach over 1,200 youth in Crawford County with educational experiences that build character, leadership abilities and self-esteem. Extension believes that experience is the best teacher; our aim is to give people of all ages new experiences that will move them toward their goals. Youth involved in 4-H gain experience as officers, committee members and community service providers. 4-Hers enroll in projects that allow them to learn new skills. The mix of ages allows older youth to mentor younger members and serve as role models.

4-H Clubs

We sponsor 13 community clubs in Crawford County, headed by 31 leaders, that reach 245 youth. 4-Hers choose from over 100 project offerings on topics ranging from computers to livestock.

Community Special Interest Clubs reach 140 youth in Crawford County. These clubs include Clover Buds (youth aged 5 to 7) and a Jr. Master Gardeners Club which was taught to all 4th graders at Lincoln School.

School Special Interest Clubs reach 590 students. These include Butterfly Clubs that are in every third grade classroom in the county and 20 mentally challenged students.

County Camp

Approximately 100 youth attend County Camp the first weekend in June at the Baptist Campground north of Robinson. Campers spend Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday morning participating in activities such as games, crafts and a dance. There are programs and guest speakers presenting topics such as health, safety, teamwork and youth motivation.

Other 4-H Activities

- Project workshops
- Project judging at Home Ec. and County Fairs
- Parties/Dances
- Lock-In
- 4-H Clubs Carnival
- Jr. Leaders Trips
- Space Camp

Community Service is outstanding in all Crawford County Clubs.

Conservation Day

Conservation Day is held each May at the Oblong Park/Lake for all fifth graders in Crawford County. It is a daylong event made possible through the collaborative effort of Extension, the Soil and Water Conservation District and the Department of Natural Resources along with volunteer experts. Students learn about watersheds, fishing and water conservation, soils, forestry, wildlife and ecosystems.

Four \$500 Scholarships

The 4-H and Extension Foundation sponsors 4 scholarships for 4-Hers who have excelled in their club and community work. They also sponsor ½ scholarships for all camps and conferences and full scholarships to those with financial need. These incentives help us reach youth who might not otherwise participate.

4-H Jr. Leaders

The 4-H Jr. Leaders group is 34 members strong. It is open to any 4-Her who is at least 13 by September 1st of the 4-H year, and helps youth develop real leadership skills. Jr. Leaders are active 4-H Club members, act as mentors for younger 4-Hers, and also help organize and chaperone all 4-H camps, parties and lock-ins. They also perform many community service projects.



Grant Resource Center

The Grant Resource Center is unique in the state for providing grant-related services to Crawford County organizations. Free services include:

- **Focused Research**...daily research based on local organizations' needs is accomplished through use of Internet resources.
- **Grant Alert**...a bi-weekly report that details the results of focused research. Grant Alert currently serves over 100 subscribers.
- **Feedback and Advice**...residents of Crawford County and beyond are welcome to call for input regarding their grant-writing dilemmas. Currently the Center receives an average of two contacts per week in this area.
- **Editing/Proofreading**...county residents may bring their grant applications to the Center for editing and proofreading.
- **Presentations on grant writing**... organizations interested in learning more about various aspects of grant writing may request a presentation. Our grant writer has given talks to several local groups, including the Interagency Group, Crawford County Arts Council, Robinson Chamber of Commerce and Rotary.

We also write grants for local organizations, asking successful grant recipients to make a donation, based on grant size, to the 4-H and Extension Foundation.

Grant-Writing Workshops:

We offer an annual Grant Writing Workshop, open to all interested parties, with preference given to members of Crawford County organizations. The workshop teaches attendees how to create a competitive application for a registration fee of \$20.

Grants received with Grant Resource Center Assistance

Agri-Energy LLC.....	\$300,000.00
Everett Livvix, LTD.....	\$249,837.00
Kid's Kingdom Learning Center....	\$120,000.00
Village of Palestine.....	\$111,158.00
County Sheriff's Department.....	\$46,740.00
Lawrence/Crawford Association.....	\$25,000.00
County Fair Association.....	\$21,500.00
Dairy Operation.....	\$20,000.00
County Youth Alliance.....	\$15,838.00
Oblong Police Department	\$15,113.00
Palestine High School	\$13,500.00
Heritage Foundation.....	\$9,050.00
Village of Hutsonville.....	\$8,268.00
Oblong Fire Department.....	\$5,222.58
Palestine Development.....	\$4,959.48
Hutsonville Fire Department.....	\$4,200.00
Gingerbread House.....	\$2,634.34
Oblong Elementary School.....	\$589.00
Crawford County Longbeards.....	\$500.00
Prairie Pals 4-H Club.....	\$405.00
Jr. Maroon Wrestling.....	\$300.00
Total Grant Money Earned	\$974,814.40



Marathon Petroleum sponsored the Illinois Raptor presentation.

Donations made to Grant Resource Center

Since the inception of our Grant Resource Center, 21 organizations have received grants as a result of using our grant writing service. Twelve have made donations to the Center. They are:

Lincolmland Agri-Energy	\$10,000.00
Village of Palestine.....	\$2,899.00
Everett Livvix Ltd.	\$1,000.00
County Fair Association.....	\$1,000.00
County Youth Alliance.....	\$630.00
Oblong Police Department.....	\$600.00
County Sheriff's Department.....	\$560.00
Heritage Foundation.....	\$480.00
Village of Hutsonville.....	\$400.00
Palestine Development.....	\$294.00
Hutsonville Fire Department.....	\$200.00
Gingerbread House.....	\$150.00
Total Donations Received	\$18,213.00

Master Gardeners Make a Difference

40 Master Gardeners are growing strong in Crawford County! Events include:

- Bus trips to Chicago/Cincinnati Flower Shows & St. Louis Botanical Garden
- A Winter Day in the Garden Conference; attracts 300 participants from IL & IN
- Plant exchanges/sales & Garden Tours
- 8 Master Gardeners teach 125 4th grade students at Lincoln school.



Master Gardeners volunteer in the community.

Beautification Projects/Outdoor Education

- Susie Wesley Library in Flat Rock
- Long Term Care Gardens at CMH
- Outdoor Education Garden at Washington Elementary School
- Jr. Master Gardening Programs
- Robinson Square
- Oblong Elementary & High School
- LTC Beautification

Easy Does It for the Holidays

The ESP (Extension Special Programs) committee sponsors this program annually to help families prepare for the holidays with less stress and without overspending. Demonstrations on decorating, food preparation and creating family traditions showcase creative ways to celebrate Christmas with your family.

HEA – Homemakers Extension Assoc.

HEA is active in the community with 246 members in 7 units. They support:

- Educational programs
- SWAN (Stopping Women Abuse Now)
- Linus Blankets for Children.
- \$500 LTC Scholarship

Operation Crawford County

U of I Extension helps support local soldiers, sailors, & marines who have served in the war against terrorism. Operation Crawford has raised over \$12,000 for family dinners/gatherings and for shipping monthly care boxes to the troops. Every family can request up to \$20 a month to help defray shipping costs. A committee of 16, plus many more volunteers, have been involved.

Food & Nutrition Program ...FNP

Grant-supported programs target limited resource families through Summer Success, Ace After-School Program, Head Start, as well as food pantries and the Illinois Dept. of Human Services. FNP, which began in 1996, reached 8100 adults and 285 children last year.



Children make fruit baskets during Summer Success.

Newcomers Welcome Baskets

The ESP (Extension Special Programs) Committee decided to put together welcome baskets for newcomers who move to Crawford County. Thirty businesses participated with gifts and promotions. We included handy information about our community and about U of I Extension. Our next step is to invite newcomers to a special event to draw them into our community and acquaint them with U of I Extension.

County Wide Directory of Services

Seven agencies collaborate to update a County Directory to help people connect with local services, clubs, and medical care. It is delivered as an insert in the newspaper reaching 9,000 homes.

Bus Trip to Lincoln's Museum

The Palestine Chamber and University of Illinois Extension co-sponsored a trip to Springfield to tour the Governor's Mansion, State Capitol and Lincoln's Museum. A similar trip is planned for Kentucky on November 10, 2006.