**4-H Youth Development Team**

September 2015 Highlights

**4-H Outreach:**

* **School Open Houses** – Alex and I set up displays and distributed materials promoting 4-H as well as parent/family programs at 4 school open houses – Melrose-Mindoro, Lincoln, Third Street and the Middle School in BRF.

**Volunteer Development:**

* **Jackson County 4-H Clover Chase** – This 2nd annual event is volunteer-led with support from the UW-Extension office. Volunteers – spearheaded by Janice McFarlane – plan it as a fundraiser, promote it, get donations, take registrations and run the event. Many clubs contribute startup funds and volunteer support that day and in return, they earn a portion of the profits. It becomes a wonderful, fitness-based fundraiser for individual clubs and 4-H as a whole.

**Strengthening Families:**

* **MindUP Online Course** – As part of the Security Health Plan grant which supports mindfulness education for youth in grades K-8, Alex and I have been pursuing an online course for the MindUP curriculum. There are 15 modules in the self-paced course.

**Other:**

* Late-August to early September is a quiet time for 4-H Youth Development, which we spend wrapping up the summer programs and preparing for the coming fall program schedule. Here is a short list of programs we are planning and preparing for:
	+ **4-H (general)** – awards, charters, re-enrollment, taxes, record books judging
	+ **4-H Outreach** – National 4-H week, 4-H afterschool partnerships
	+ **Volunteer Development** – club officer training, 4-H Leaders Retreat
	+ **Strengthening Families** –heroin/illicit drugs prevention activities, mindfulness education, Strengthening Families Program, coalition building
* **Adult Foundational Topics Team Member** – State 4-HYD has a team to develop its 3 foundational topics – adults, youth, community – and I will be filling an opening on the Adult Foundational Topics sub-group of that team. In my role, I will be taking a lead role in planning, evaluation and communication of the impact of 4-HYD work in the area of adult and volunteer development. This work complements my local plans of work and enhances my role in the county. This role is in addition to my existing workload and comes with a salary augmentation of $3000.
* I have spent time with Susanne, sharing information she needs to understand her role related to 4-HYD support, 4-H systems, and upcoming events/programs.

**Key Meetings:**

8/22 – Jackson County 4-H Clover Chase

8/24 – GreenLifeXpo board mtg

8/26 – Tobacco-Free Coalition mtg

8/27 – 4HOnline webinar, Strengthening Families mtg

8/28 – State 4-HYD Living Healthy Team mtg

9/3 – Mentor mtg (Eau Claire); TABO and mindfulness mtg with HCN Youth Services staff

9/4 – Engaging Access Learning Community Wisline

9/8 – Staff mtg, Task Force for Drug-Free Communities mtg

**Trainings/Workshops Facilitated/Led:**

8/19 – Real Colors Training for Jackson County employees

8/20 – Real Colors Training for Jackson County employees

8/25 – Farm Technology Day Youth STEM Activities booth