

ROOTS TO FRUITS



2023
REPORT
TO THE COMMUNITY



Cooperative Extension

ABOUT US

NC Cooperative Extension, Durham County Center creates opportunities for lifelong learning and connects residents with resources that help improve quality of life. We are part of North Carolina Cooperative Extension, an educational partnership between counties and our land grant universities—NC State and NC A&T—and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The mission of Cooperative Extension is to partner with communities to deliver education and technology that enrich the lives, land, and economy of North Carolinians.

As part of Durham County Government, we serve the Durham community through the Durham County Strategic Plan and its **FIVE GOAL AREAS**:



**Community
& Family**



**Health
& Wellbeing**



**Secure
Community**



Environment



**Visionary
Government**



ROOTS TO FRUITS

Cooperative Extension is Rooted in the Community

Dear Friends,

In this last year, like many of you, we had the feeling we were finally able to get back to business and reconnect with each other in some similar and also new ways—in some sense, returning to our roots. Our annual Report to the Community theme, **Roots To Fruits**, connects us to the idea that while we have roots, those roots are growing, changing, expanding, and may ultimately provide new fruits.

Plants are great (and sometimes frustrating) teachers, responding to changing conditions based on their environment. We also respond to our environment, and I am excited to share some of the many ways our talented Durham County Center Extension team has responded in the last year, growing new roots in the community, extending our reach, and yielding new fruits, including:

Roots to our Farms—Durham is experiencing a resurgence and interest in Agriculture and growing food locally. As part of the range of services available to Durham growers and residents, Durham hosted the NC Farm School for the Northern Piedmont for the first time, exposing 24 farmers to this unique entrepreneurial program for aspiring, new or transitioning farmers to support their success, often learning from more seasoned farmers in the community.

Roots to our Partnerships—The Durham County Board of Commissioners and Manager's Office, along with the Durham County Center, were recognized at the annual N.C. Association of County Commissioners Conference, receiving a N.C. Cooperative Extension County Partnership Award. Durham County Government is a consistent collaborative partner that supports and values our team's leadership and innovative approaches to our shared work and invests in the community-centered programs and services we provide.

Roots to our Immigrant and Refugee Communities—In 2022 Cooperative Extension was asked to take on a new City-County Initiative and position that is responsible for nurturing city, county, and community-wide efforts around supportive immigrant and refugee initiatives and practices in Durham, as well as developing and maintaining collaborative partnerships with organizations and individuals in Durham's refugee and immigrant communities.

Roots in our Neighborhood—As neighbors in Durham Central Park, we enhance our immediate neighborhood through our stewardship of the land. Our Extension Master Gardener Volunteers (EMGVs) have revitalized our "front yard" demonstration garden at the historic Agriculture Building as a model urban learning garden focused on native plants, environmental sustainability, and beauty. We hope the new paths and benches offer a place for respite for any who wish to visit or are just walking by.

Cooperative Extension's staff does not work alone. We greatly appreciate the hundreds of trained volunteers who work in partnership and provide high quality educational services. We thank our reinvigorated Extension Advisory Council volunteers and express our appreciation to our Board of County Commissioners and County leadership for their collective continued investment and support for the Durham County Center to nurture and grow this work. We are grateful for the support of NC Cooperative Extension and our land grant institutions, NC State and NC A&T Universities, honoring our shared roots to work together with the communities we serve in Durham and across the state.

Cooperative Extension in Durham County is rooted in the community. The services and programs we provide are based on community needs and interests. Please join us this year as we continue to grow roots to bear new fruits for the Durham community.

Warm Regards,

Donna



Donna Rewalt
Durham County
Extension Director



ROOTS TO TABLE



The agriculture industry is adapting to the new normal of life post global pandemic. Having more than 250 farms in Durham County, in addition to numerous green businesses and households, there is an increased interest in farming and home gardening. Durham County Cooperative Extension has embraced the hybrid format of serving the community through virtual and in-person agriculture and horticulture consultations, and added mobile poultry processing trainings, container gardening demonstrations, and Tree Keeper workshops to adapt to the changing needs of the community.



More than
37 new agricultural producers have utilized Durham County's resources to develop their emerging agricultural enterprises



14,008 residents received research-based information from a Durham County Extension Master Gardener



Master Gardener content had over
246,000 views in 2022



Training and Resources for Emerging Farmers

Cooperative Extension in Durham County provides direct, hands-on assistance to new and aspiring agricultural producers who are in need of guidance to achieve sustainability, profitability, and efficiency. Topics addressed when working with new farmers include: selecting or fine-tuning a chosen agricultural endeavor, identifying obstacles, considering best management practices and business strategies, pursuing relevant trainings and certifications, connecting with other helpful/relevant groups and organizations, considering a timeframe, planning for sustainable/manageable growth and longevity, and developing an overall plan. Since 2022, more than 37 new producers have used Durham County's resources - including our on-site farm consultations and our Farm School program - to develop their emerging agricultural enterprises.

Poultry Processing Resources in North Carolina

The Agriculture department of Durham County Cooperative Extension offers unique support to our poultry farmers. Along with our partners in Orange County, Durham offers local poultry farmers use of our Mobile Poultry Processing Unit - a program designed to offset some of the increasing industrial/regulatory challenges facing those who raise chickens and turkeys for market, and also to promote sustainability and self-reliance within the poultry community. Producers who attend Mobile Poultry Processing trainings are eligible to apply to rent the unit.

Award Winning Programming

Extension Master Gardener Volunteers (EMGVs) continue to reach residents in innovative ways. To reach new segments of the community, Master Gardeners cultivated container demonstration gardens, and extended their education and outreach online by developing a streamlined approach to posting on social media and their own blog. For their efforts to create new educational spaces and reach new audiences, Master Gardeners won two bronze Search for Excellence Awards at the International Master Gardener Conference.

Growing Volunteers

With help from the Extension Master Gardener Volunteers of Durham County, 24 new Tree Keepers were trained to serve as lead volunteers to help plant and maintain city trees in parks and right of ways. Working with the Durham urban forestry, Trees Durham, and Keep Durham Beautiful, the Tree Keepers serve as a front line to educate others and to help reach Durham's goal of planting 1500 trees a year. Over three trainings, volunteers learned tree biology and pruning basics, received hands on training in how to lead tree plantings and pruning, and learned about the history of Durham's urban trees, including how practices like red lining impact current canopy coverage. Tree Keepers have already begun volunteering in the community to train others and lead groups in tree planting.



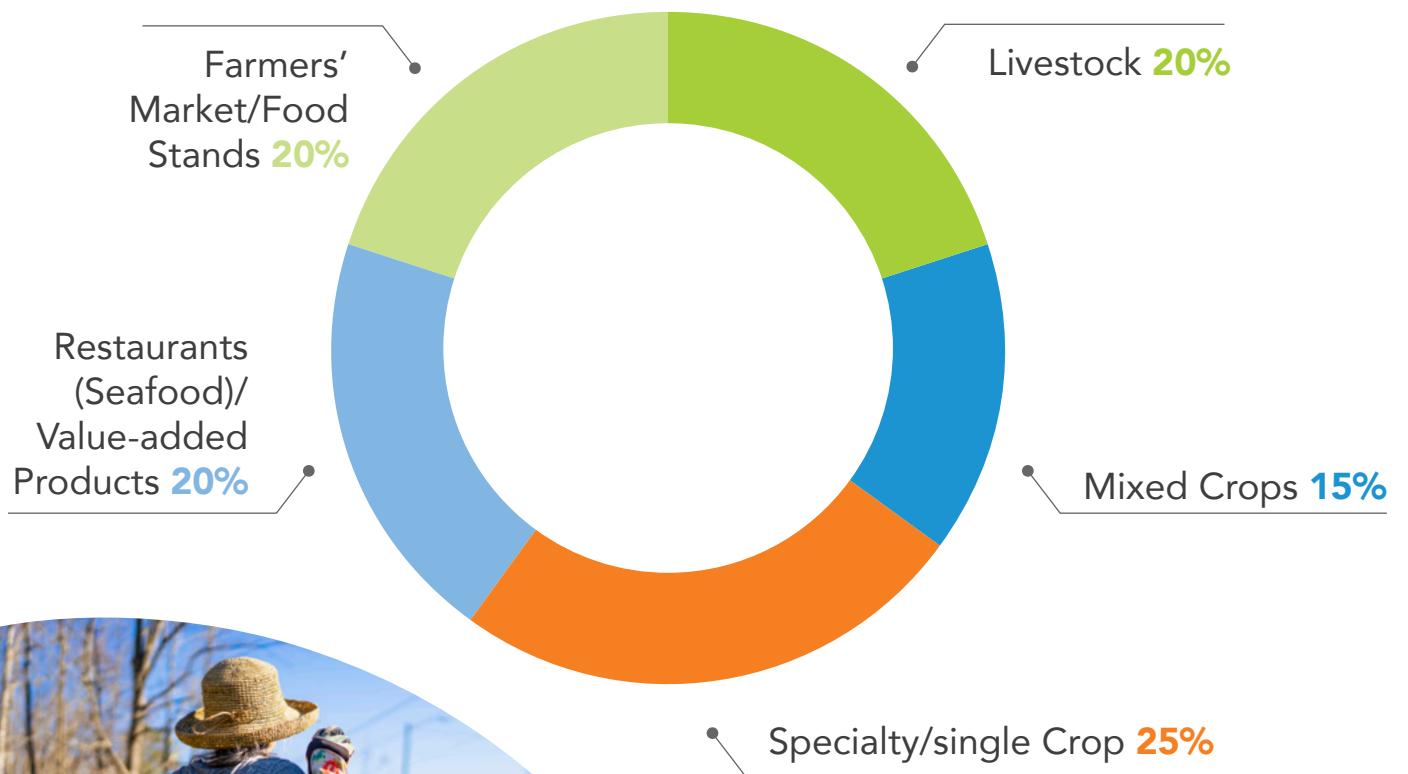
Visit NC Farms App 2022

The Visit NC Farms App is a statewide mobile marketing tool that connects consumers to local foods and farmers in their community. The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services designed the app to drive traffic to local farms and local-food providers. In addition to aiding Durham consumers in selecting healthy food options in their community, Durham youth participated in summer camps and workshops at some farms. There were many more activities and unique products available to consumers in 2022. The app promotes local agritourism, farmers' markets, and other agriculture-related businesses.

In 2022, the number of agriculture and local food providers on the Visit NC Farms App increased by **28.5%** in Durham County. An average of 155 consumers viewed their profiles each month. Durham County sent a total of 80,000 push notifications to consumers' cell phones. Thirty percent of the operations listed on the app in Durham County were women-owned and operated, and **(30%)** were minority-owned and operated.

BREAKDOWN OF OFFERINGS

(BY PERCENTAGES AS LISTED ON THE VISIT NC FARMS APP IN 2022 FOR DURHAM)





ROOTS TO NUTRITION



Durham's Family & Consumer Sciences program thrives by implementing a roots to nutrition approach through the gardening resources of our Briggs Avenue Community Garden. Durham County Cooperative Extension serves the community in an innovative and healthy way through virtual and in-person workshops centered on cooking and gardening. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP) offers bilingual food and nutrition to youth, schools, families, and new parents. The Family & Consumer Sciences program continues to address and adapt to the evolving needs of the community.



Briggs Garden produced

2752 lbs.
of fresh fruits
and vegetables

delivered and donated
to the Durham Technical
Community College Pantry



Over

80%
of youth

participating in the
EFNEP program
improve their abilities to
choose foods according
to federal dietary
recommendations
or gain nutritional
knowledge



Children’s Garden Expansion Project

Durham County Cooperative Extension partnered with the City of Durham to plan and implement an expansion of the Durham Housing Authority Club Blvd. Children’s Garden. Extension installed a smaller garden in 2021 that only contained 6 beds. To increase the number of beds for children, Durham County Cooperative Extension designed the garden. The Extension Master Gardener Volunteers infrastructure team built all the additional beds and recruited community volunteers from the public and Briggs Community Garden to complete the installation. The Club Blvd Children’s Garden now has 15 vegetable beds, a chain link fence for protection, and ongoing technical assistance from Cooperative Extension agents and Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. Seeds and plants were provided to plant with the children.

Produce Donations

Briggs Avenue Community Garden collaborates weekly with Durham Technical Community College, Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, and community organizations to grow food in beds specifically for Durham Technical Community College pantry. This produces vegetables for the community but also provides a safe and fun learning environment for families to be physically active. Beds are grown year-round and harvested on pantry days to ensure fresh and healthy food using safe practices recommended by Durham County Cooperative Extension.





ROOTS TO FOOD SECURITY



Durham County Cooperative Extension strives to raise awareness of food insecurity experienced in the community. We also share how you can get involved, connect families to resources, and highlight the amazing work being done to support residents and create a more fair and equitable food system. Food security is a county-wide effort to address root causes and develop systemic approaches.



Durham County Cooperative Extension distributes

10,000 lbs. of seeds to community



Durham County worked with Durham Congregations in Action to operate a food security grant program that awarded 26 grants to nonprofit organizations providing food assistance for a total of

\$400,000



Seed and Feed Event

Family and Consumer Sciences Agent Cheralyn Berry and Family and Consumer Sciences Program Assistant Gaebryl Vives were contacted by Feed the Hungry, a global non-profit distributor of seeds with the mission of improving food security internationally. Their main vendor Cherokee Seed Company was closing their doors permanently and wanted to donate their entire inventory to a local community. Cheralyn and Gaeb drove to Simpson, NC in a 26ft box truck to load 10,000 lbs. of seed packets to share across North Carolina. Once the seeds arrived in Durham, Food Security Coordinator Mary Oxendine contacted the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC. They offered to house and organize the entire inventory for redistribution and volunteered their site for a drive through pickup. Organizations and individuals dropped off food donations and picked up bagged seed packets to share with their neighbors and clients. Seeds included contact information for Extension Master Gardener Volunteers and planting calendars for the Piedmont region. Following the event, the remaining seeds were distributed during World Hunger Day and the City of Durham Compost Giveaway at Briggs Community Garden. These seeds have helped thousands of people to plant gardens to increase food security in homes and communities across NC.

Durham World Hunger Day

Durham County Cooperative Extension partnered with local organizations to host Durham's first annual World Hunger Day event on Saturday, June 4, 2022. World Hunger Day Durham, NC was the dream and cooperative effort of the following organizations: Durham Congregations in Action, Durham County Cooperative Extension, Durham County Public Health DINE (Durham's Innovative Nutrition Education), Durham County Social Services, Durham County Soil & Water, End Hunger Durham, Feed My Sheep of Durham NC, Inc, Mount Calvary United Church of Christ, Triangle Nonprofit & Volunteer Leadership Center, Unite Us. About 700 Durham residents celebrated this important day with a large outdoor event at Durham Central Park. Additionally, many organizations were able to network and foster new connections. Attendees enjoyed music, arts, and entertainment for the entire family, including food trucks, giveaways, free snacks, bounce house and more.

Duke University Service Award

During the Duke University home football game on September 17, 2022 against North Carolina A&T, Duke welcomed members of the local community for their annual Durham celebration. In gratitude for their exceptional service to our neighbors, honored staff from the City of Durham and Durham County Government were recognized in a ceremony on the field and the jumbotron. Mary Oxendine, Durham County Food Security Coordinator, was one of the honorees recognized for her work to improve food security in Durham County. Mary met with President Price prior to the game and received a signed Duke replica football helmet as a token of appreciation. Mary was nominated for this recognition by Durham County Manager Dr. Kimberly Sowell.





ROOTS TO FAMILY SUPPORT



Durham County Cooperative Extension offers parent and family support, child development education, youth and adult programming, and prevention services for the community through Welcome Baby programs, Parent & Family Advocacy and Support Training (PFAST), and Community Outreach programs. All services and programs are designed to strengthen families and caregivers, build skills and community capacity, and resolve issues.



Durham County received a

\$1.3 million

grant Pediatrics
Supporting Parents



Our Welcome Baby
program collected over

**120 cans
of formula**

and purchased 95 cans to
share with the community
during the formula
shortage





Coat Drive for Kids

The annual Welcome Baby coat drive was a great success in 2022. Initially having a goal to collect and distribute 400 coats, that goal was surpassed when 974 children coats and hundreds of scarves, gloves and hats were collected. The Welcome Baby team distributed 851 of those coats to the community. This was due to the collaborative efforts of the Durham community and our drop-off partners; Durham County Libraries, Merck, Latino Family Credit Union, New Red Mountain Missionary Baptist Church, Little River Community Center, Candle Science, and Shopping Ladies.

Formula Drive for the Community

The challenges of the global pandemic were exacerbated for families with young children when there was a recall on some of the most popular brands of baby formula in February 2022. Welcome Baby, in collaboration with WRAL news, assisted with combating this challenge by requesting formula donations from the community. The formula drive also led us to start a new initiative focusing on breastfeeding support groups for mothers in the community.

Community Collaboration Informs County COVID-Relief Funding

Via the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), approximately 60 million dollars are flowing in federal aid to Durham County to support pandemic recovery. Families with young children have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic, and the County saw an opportunity to use these funds to support recovery in a way that directly responds to the challenges families with young children face. As a result of the work over the past year to engage community around ARPA priorities and to understand alignment between our Grown in Durham Early Childhood Grown in Durham Action Plan and the County Commissioner's ARPA priorities, our Early Childhood Coordinator Cate Elander provided technical assistance to the County in the development of their first round of ARPA funding focus areas. As a result, over \$5 million was recommended by staff and approved by the board in funding in areas including child care sustainability, expanding access to affordable child care, improving maternal health, and improving family and child social-emotional health. This includes some projects with large funding for smaller, community-based organizations that are led by people who reflect the communities they serve, which is a core priority for Grown in Durham.

Learning in the Parent & Family Advocacy Program

The Parent & Family Advocacy program assists parents, caregivers, and families with learning how to navigate the public school system in Durham to transform their children's educational experience. Our former Community Outreach Coordinator Christa Gibson facilitated the Parent & Family Advocacy and Support Training (PFAST) program virtually during the Spring of 2022 for parents in the community. In addition, Latino Outreach Specialist Nataly Arriaga Frias facilitated the Latino Parent & Family Advocacy and Support Training (PFAST) program virtually during the Fall of 2022 for Spanish speaking families. The new virtual format was implemented during the global pandemic as an 8-week workshop but continues to be a highly requested format due to the convenient nature and easy access to the workshop. Parents in both workshops shared their positive experiences and some expressed interest in becoming facilitators for the program, in addition to learning how to become effective parent leaders in the community.

Helping Parents Make Good School Choices

Each year in January, Durham County parents are faced with a wide variety of options during the Durham Public Schools magnet school lottery, Durham PreK enrollment, and the lotteries of Durham's many charter schools. Parents repeatedly report that the system is overly complicated and difficult to navigate. This year, parents faced even further anxiety as Durham Public Schools announced an upcoming overhaul of the school choice system. Immigrant families especially may have trouble navigating this system that is so different from that in their home country. County Extension Director Donna Rewalt, Early Childhood Coordinator Cate Elander, and former Community Outreach Coordinator Christa Gibson planned a webinar for Durham County parents in which we described the current system, proposed new system, charter and magnet options, and the PreK system. Partners from Durham PreK were also invited to share information and answer parents' questions. Simultaneous interpretation was offered in Spanish, and heavy recruitment was conducted in the Spanish-speaking community. 139 parents attended one of the two sessions provided. Parents were given the contact information of Donna, Cate, and Christa to field numerous individual questions after the session.





ROOTS TO YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



Our youth programming continues to grow and expand to adapt to the needs of youth in the community. The 4-H Youth Development program offered fun and safe activities through experiential learning. Clubs, summer camps, special interest programs and life skills were offered to children and youth ages 5-19. Kids Voting Durham provided youth and their families with knowledge about the power that they have as engaged citizens and informed voters. The program provides education as well as voting experiences.



83%

of the 4-H campers indicated that they would return to the Durham County 4-H program next year



1000+ youth

cast a ballot through 4-H, and 88% of youth participants plan to vote when they turn 18







Kids Voting 4-H Participant:

"I was glad to participate in this program, as I felt important to have my voice heard even though I am not old enough to vote in the real election."

4-H Summer Fun

In the Summer of 2022, Durham County 4-H offered youth (ages 5 to 18) fun and affordable summer camps. The campers learned skills such as cooking healthy meals, coding, CPR, and sewing. This also included weeklong overnight 4-H residential camps, such as Betsy-Jeff Penn and Eastern Center, for Durham County Campers between the ages of 8 to 14. These camps provided horseback riding, rock climbing, canoeing, and connected youth with nature, in addition to teaching youth independence and responsibility while promoting physical health. All camps were in-person (with the exception of the coding camp), which helped increase attendance by 25.5%. Twenty percent (20%) of the participants received a scholarship and 37% of the campers attending the residential camps obtained a scholarship. Durham County 4-H conducted a survey across all camps. The youth and parents rated the instructor of their program 3.3 (out of 4) for the creativity of the activities and lessons. They also rated a 3.5 (out of 4) for the quality of the instructions shared by their instructors.

DURHAM COUNTY 4-H CAMPS OFFERED IN 2022:

 Cloverbud Camp (Ages 5-8)	 Betsy-Jeff Penn (Residential Camp)	 Babysitting and CPR Camp	 Eastern Center (Residential Camp)
 Farm to Fork	 Sewing Camp	 Coding Camp	

Kids Voting North Carolina 4-H

Durham County Cooperative Extension partnered with North Carolina 4-H to bring their Kids Voting Durham program to local offices state-wide as Kids Voting North Carolina 4-H offered this opportunity free of charge to any county that chose to participate. All supplies, including training materials, incentives, and voting supplies were provided. Counties that chose to participate were asked to attend training sessions and provide evaluation data at the conclusion of the program. This program was marketed not only as a high-quality civic engagement experience but also as an opportunity to develop or enhance community partnership and support and as a service opportunity for 4-H youth to do a project in their community. This program provides the basis for increasing the reach of participating counties in the 2023 municipal elections, and the goal is to double the number of 4-H County programs participating to 40 for the 2024 Presidential Elections.







ROOTS TO NEW INITIATIVES



Durham County Cooperative Extension is excited to embark on new initiatives influenced by the needs of the community. We are creating a space for these new initiatives rooted in equity through services provided to immigrants and refugees, funding obtained to address the root causes of food insecurity, and action plans developed to foster healthy developmental outcomes during early childhood. We participate in community engagement to continue to adapt to the needs and understand the assets of the community.



Durham County Cooperative Extension awarded

\$167K USDA

Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production Grant



Supporting Immigrants and Refugees in the Durham Community

The Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Coordinator, Kokou Nayo, a native of Togo and an immigrant to the US was hired with a collaborative and diverse interview team at Durham Extension and started the role in August 2022. With the creation of a joint Immigrant & Refugee Affairs Coordinator position based at Cooperative Extension, Durham City and County are rapidly adapting to the needs of their communities and actively working to build more integrated communities that focus on equitable engagement and representation. Nayo is already working collaboratively with our Agriculture and Food Security staff, supporting French language needs in our office, grant writing for additional resources, coordinating with other organizations, and building a framework for future work to better support immigrants and refugees in the Durham community. We are proud that Extension shares in this important work.

USDA Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production Grant

In June 2022, the Durham County Cooperative Extension was awarded a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production (UAIP) planning grant totaling \$167,015 to conduct a feasibility study of "Durham County Farm Campus." This grant was a joint effort by Food Security Coordinator Mary Oxendine, former Agriculture Agent Janel Ohletz, Durham food systems expert Georie Bryant, North Carolina A&T State University Professor Kathleen Liang, North Carolina State University Professor Dara Bloom, and Durham County Open Space and Real Estate Manager Jane Korest. The grant project will explore many possible next steps for a Durham County Farm Campus, including the possibility of finding and purchasing accessible land for an incubator farm site. This planning project aims to support a more resilient food system that systemically addresses the root causes of food insecurity by launching the next generation of farmers through increased access to land, infrastructure, and markets for new and beginning farmers, and fostering racial equity and development of generational wealth by centering Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) priorities in design and development.



White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health

The first White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health in 50 years was held on Wednesday, September 28. A result of the strong relationships Durham County Food Security Coordinator Mary Oxendine made with the Kresge Foundation, the Equitable Food Oriented Development (EFOD) Collaborative, and the Duke World Food Policy Center, she was invited to attend the conference in-person and received a \$3,000 travel stipend. The Biden-Harris administration issued a National Strategy and made it clear during the conference that it will take a whole of society approach to “end hunger and increase healthy eating and physical activity by 2030, so that fewer Americans experience diet-related diseases like diabetes, obesity, and hypertension.” After presenting to the Board of County Commissioners about her experience at the conference, she has been asked to share ideas with County leadership on what Durham County’s response will be to this call to action.

Investing in Community Leadership

Over the past 3 years, Durham County Cooperative Extension staff, the Durham Children’s Initiative, and over 150 parents and members of our early childhood community worked together to develop and begin implementing an Early Childhood Action Plan for Durham. In June 2022, the Grown in Durham Steering Committee selected a team of parents and community leaders to lead the plans. This decision came from a core value of Grown in Durham—that those closest to the challenges should have the power and the funding to create the solutions. The Durham Collective for Equity in Early Childhood team brings lived experience and content expertise in areas like culturally-affirming learning environments, early childhood advocacy, reproductive justice, language justice, and violence prevention. The County approved funding and a contract for this parent and community-led team, which is one of the first of its kind for Durham County. They are focusing on amplifying parent voices and kicking off the implementation of our Grown in Durham 5 to Thrive strategies—like affirming and inclusive child care, cash payments, safe spaces, supports for mental and social-emotional health, and sustainable funding for our child care system that will help all families with young children thrive.





ROOTS TO SHARE



Community support has had a huge impact on the success of Durham County Cooperative Extension for many years. Hundreds of volunteers were very excited to be back in-person to participate across multiple program areas. Extension extends our reach through the talents of these trained volunteers. Many thanks to our volunteers!



13,891 total hours

of volunteer labor provided to Durham County Cooperative Extension programs, which has a market value of \$416,035



A Revitalized and Diversified Advisory Council Rises in Durham County

Durham County's Advisory Council has been redeveloped. Staff went through a period of reflection and reimagining our Advisory Council and engaged the support of a County ICMA Fellow along with a staff leadership and consultation about Extension best practices. It was evident the Advisory Council should more closely reflect the Durham County population and that the staff desired to take an approach that reflected our commitment to equity. Durham County successfully recruited a racially and socioeconomically diverse Advisory Council, which included formal and informal community leaders, parents, county partners, and more. 17 members were selected, including 3 members who identify as Latino--2 of whom are active Spanish-speaking parents in our programs. Advisory Council Members currently include:

- Alix Adrian
- Samantha "Sam" Gasson
- Yesica Perez Rico
- Meytal Barak
- Yesenia Carlon Gonzalez
- Ethel Simonetti
- Cheryl Cheek Carroll
- Kathryn Hamilton
- Rhonda Stevens
- Kathleen "Kat" Causey
- Carl Hodges, Jr.
- William Taylor
- Wanda Crutchfield
- Robin B. Mason
- Justin Wooley
- Michele Easterling
- Clarice Pinkard

Food Security Network

In early 2022, the group changed its name to the Food Security Network (the Network from the COVID 10 Food Security Task Force) with the stated purpose of uniting efforts and transforming systems to ensure that all people have access to enough safe and nutritious food. This county-wide group aims to create a food system that is equitable, resilient, and sustainable for all people of Durham. Modeling an equity approach, in September 2022, the Network shifted decision-making and leadership by creating a Steering Committee made up of community members. Steering Committee members currently include:

- Adrian Tucker
- Erika Smith-Punches
- Fiorella Horna
- Kate Brodie
- Kelly Warnock
- Kylee McCombs
- Linden Thayer
- Monique Bethell
- Shaneeka Moore
- Lawrence Taniscia Davis





DEEP ROOTS TO NEW FRUITS



The Durham County Extension and Community Association (ECA) volunteer service organization has been a pillar of the community for the last 100 years. As part of the larger North Carolina Extension and Community Association, this adult volunteer organization helps to strengthen families in the community through leadership development, volunteer work, and educational support. Currently, there are two remaining community clubs within Durham County engaging in great work. Below is a list of all the valuable contributions made to the community by ECA in 2022.

2022 Community Service Activities

- Food pantry
- School supply drives
- Christmas gifts for food pantry children
- Easter bags for children
- Community-wide children's Christmas party featuring:
 - Visit with Santa
 - Gifts of fruit
 - Hand-made crafts (ornaments/toys)
 - Refreshments
 - Home-made candy-filled pinata
- Summer community ice cream social
- Community blood donor drive
- Scholarship through ECA
- Individual (confidential) family needs
- Craft Making:
 - Blankets for Seniors
 - Towels for Salvation Army
 - Gifts for community children at Christmas



New Skills Learned Through NC and District ECA Associations in 2022

- Arts and crafts classes
- Sewing projects:
 - Teddy bears
 - Mastectomy pillows
 - Clothing repair, etc.
- Gardening:
 - Home gardens
 - Briggs Avenue Community Garden
 - Pollination
 - Plant propagation
 - Soil care, etc.
- Environment care:
 - Recycling
 - Roadside trash pickup
 - Revitalizing old fabric
- Food and nutrition:
 - Attending/teaching cooking classes at various locations
 - Cooking meals for organizations and individuals





OUR PARTNERS

We would like to extend a special thanks to the partners, donors, and contributors who worked with us in 2022 to better serve our community.

- Aging Well Durham
- Alliance for Equitable Disability Inclusion in Education
- Bahama Ruritan Club
- Believers United for Progress
- Beyu Caffé
- Birth and Beyond
- Black Farmers Market
- Book Harvest
- Born in Durham, Healthy for Life
- Botanical Interest Seeds Company
- Bull City Farm
- Butner Federal Correctional Complex
- Carolina Farm Stewardship Association (CFSA)
- CASCADES
- Catholic Charities
- Center for Child and Family Health
- Century Farm Orchards
- Child Care Services Association
- City of Durham Neighborhood Improvement Services Department
- City of Durham Office on Youth
- Cocoa Cinnamon
- Communities in Partnership
- Community Food Strategies
- Craig LeHoullier
- Croasdaile Garden Club
- Diaper Bank of North Carolina
- Duke Children's Primary Care
- Duke Family Medicine
- Duke Health
- Duke University including the Offices of Civic Engagement, Durham and Community Affairs, and Sustainability
- Duke University World Food Policy Center
- Durham ACEs and Resilience Taskforce
- Durham Center for Senior Life
- Durham Children's Initiative
- Durham Congregations, Associations, and Neighborhoods
- Durham Congregations in Action
- Durham County Beekeepers' Association
- Durham County Board of Elections
- Durham County Department of Public Health including Obstetrics Care Managers, DINE Team, and Care Coordination for Children
- Durham County Department of Social Services
- Durham County Library
- Durham County Open Space and Real Estate Management
- Durham County Parks and Recreation
- Durham County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Durham Environmental Coalition
- Durham Garden Center

- Durham Housing Authority
- Durham Parks & Recreation
- Durham Partnership for Seniors
- Durham's Campaign for Grade Level Reading
- Durham's Partnership for Children
- Durham Public Schools, including the Office of Advanced Academics, Family Engagement, the HUB Farm, and Family Academy
- Durham Public Schools Foundation, HOPE Network
- Durham Public Schools, School Nutrition Services
- Durham Racial Equity Task Force
- Durham Skywriter
- Durham Technical Community College, including the Center for Student Involvement and the Harvest Food Pantry
- Early Childhood Mental Health Taskforce
- El Centro Hispano
- Empowered Parents in Community (EPiC)
- End Hunger Durham
- The Endayo Company
- Eno River Ruritan Club
- Equity Before Birth
- Families and Communities Rising
- Families Moving Forward
- Family Connects Durham
- Farmer Foodshare
- Fatherhood of Durham
- Feed My Sheep Food Pantry
- First Fruits Farm
- First Presbyterian Church
- The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina
- The Food Security Task Force
- Grow at Home/EAT
- Guardians As Parents
- Guilford County Cooperative Extension
- Healthy Families Durham
- HEARTS NC
- Herndon Hill Farm
- Hoffman Nursery
- Hosiery Mill Senior Residence
- IBM
- Iglesia Presbiteriana Emanuel
- Dr. Nicole Imbraguglio
- Immaculata Catholic School
- Interfaith Food Shuttle
- ISLA
- JFK Towers Residence
- JJ Henderson Senior Residence
- Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties
- La Leche League of Durham
- Laurel's Garden Design
- Local Interagency Coordinating Council (LICC)
- MAAME
- March of Dimes
- McGill Compost
- Meals4Families
- Meals on Wheels
- Measurement, Inc
- MomsRising NC
- Montagnard Dega Association (MDA)/Montagnard American Organization (MAO)
- Mount Calvary United Church of Christ
- Museum of Life and Science
- North Carolina Central University
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- North Carolina Integrated Care for Kids
- North Carolina School of Science and Math
- Orange County Beekeepers' Association
- Page Farms
- Partnership for a Healthy Durham
- PORCH Durham
- Preiss-Steele Senior Residency
- Reach Out and Read
- Ready Project Young Child Wellness Council
- Refugee Community Partnership
- Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Durham County
- Safe Kids Durham
- Sarah P. Duke Gardens
- SEEDS
- Senior PharmAssist
- Stone Bros and Byrd
- Summit Church
- Together for Resilient Youth
- Town and Country Garden Club
- TreesDurham
- Triangle Nonprofit & Volunteer Leadership Center
- Triangle Parenting Support
- UNC APPLES Service-Learning Program
- UNC Health
- United Way of the Greater Triangle
- Urban Community Agronomics (UCAN)
- The Well Carried Child
- Dr. Tom Wenger
- White Rock Child Development Center







NC Cooperative Extension Durham County Center

721 Foster Street, Durham, NC 27701

(919) 560-0525

<https://durham.ces.ncsu.edu>

Cooperative Extension



NC Cooperative Extension prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex (including pregnancy), disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, and veteran status.