

## Fact Sheet: The proposed King County budget for WSU Extension

### The situation:

2009 King County support for WSU Extension:	\$671,796.00
Proposed 2010 King County support for Extension:	\$109,000.00
Difference:	84% reduction

Impacts:	Eliminates county funding for Extension agricultural education programs
	Eliminates county funding for Extension forestry education programs
	Eliminates county funding for Extension recycling/solid waste programs
	Eliminates county funding for the Master Gardener volunteer program
	Eliminates nearly \$50,000 in matching funds for office space for the Food Sense and general Extension nutrition education programs
	Reduces county funding for 4-H youth development program

Continuation of these programs is predicated upon an ongoing funding partnership with the county. Loss of county support will therefore result in discontinuation of these programs. Additionally, WSU Extension-led volunteer programs mentioned above will not be continued without adequate WSU staffing for volunteer training, program oversight, and accountability.

WSU 2009 support for King County Extension:	\$2,302,911.00
Personnel/Operations:	\$ 614,435.00
Other WSU support:	\$1,688,476.00
Grants and contracts:	\$1,466,106.00

### Facts you should know:

Because of the funding relationship with Washington State University, every dollar invested in King County Extension leverages \$5.60. WSU support includes salaries and employee benefits, and waiving of normal grant administration costs. Program support and funding from WSU will diminish as county funding is diminished.

Extension is qualified to apply for grants not available to other agencies or organizations. Examples include the U.S. Department of Agriculture funding for the Food Sense (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP-Ed)) nutrition education programs reaching families with limited resources, and USDA Risk Management Agency funding to help immigrant farmers within the county start and maintain farm businesses.

King County Extension provides the delivery mechanism for extramural grant funded programs that reach underserved communities within the county at a time when they are most needed, such as the Food \$ense nutrition education programs, immigrant farmer assistance, and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation-funded King County Food and Fitness Initiative. For example, Food \$ense programs reach approximately 15,000 adults and children with limited resources, many through local food banks, to provide nutrition education.

Extension pursues community partnerships to maximize efficient service delivery, and in so doing brings the unbiased science-based credibility of a major research university to each relationship.

Extension programs such 4-H Youth Development and Master Gardeners generate thousands of hours of community volunteer service that provide cost savings to the county. Our records indicate that the 740 active King County Master Gardeners provide more than 32,000 volunteer hours annually, or the equivalent of approximately 15.4 FTE employees.

More than 5,000 young people are directly involved in King County 4-H programs. Some 500 adult volunteers contribute their time and skills to youth development. 4-H programs rely on Extension's agricultural, environmental, natural resource, and nutrition education programs for information and expertise. Even with the proposed funding, 4-H programs will be diminished without Extension program support from these subject matter areas.