Position Announcement

The Wildcat Extension District is comprised of Crawford, Labette, Montgomery and Wilson Counties in southeast Kansas. The population of the district is about 95,000. The district staff is housed in five offices including Girard, Pittsburg, Altamont, Fredonia and Independence. There are thirteen agents, five office professionals and two program assistants. The district is the home of Pittsburg State University, Coffeyville Community College, Independence Community College and Labette Community College. There are 27 incorporated cities with Pittsburg, Parsons, Independence and Coffeyville having the largest populations.

TITLE: Extension Agent
PRIMARY AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY: Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)
LOCATION: Offices located in Girard, Pittsburg, Altamont, Fredonia and Independence. Primary office location for this position is in Pittsburg, Kansas.
APPLICATION DATE: Applications will be accepted through March 17, 2021. Interviews will be conducted April 14, 2021.

RESPONSIBILITIES:
Extension agents are professional educators who serve as a link between Kansas State University and communities across Kansas. Agents are administratively responsible to the Director of K-State Research and Extension (represented by a designated administrator) and the local extension board.

1. Provide leadership for the development, implementation, and evaluation of research-based nutrition educational programming to support successful families and the systems that serve them in the district. Programming will include, but is not limited to: food preparation, nutrition, food safety, food resource management, household food security, and physical activity. Major efforts will target limited-resource families and individuals.

2. Manage the Wildcat District EFNEP and SNAP-Ed programs including the supervision, recruitment, hiring, and training of paraprofessional nutrition assistant educators and volunteers, developing and sustaining collaborative relationships with local agencies and management of program assets and funds.

3. Programming will include these steps:
   a) Identify local needs and emerging issues related to K-State Research and Extension’s five Grand Challenges (water, community vitality, health, developing tomorrow’s leaders and global food systems) by engaging with program development committees and other community organizations and professionals.
   b) Design appropriate educational strategies to engage clientele. These strategies might include delivering educational programming in a community-based setting, coordinating events and activities that provide experiential learning opportunities, using innovative technologies, providing individual educational consultations and facilitating groups seeking similar educational outcomes. Some overnight travel and evening and weekend work will be required.
   c) Develop and implement strategies to expand the reach of educational programming to under-served audiences and to make certain K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider of educational programming.
   d) Collect and communicate evidence of educational program impact.
   e) Develop specialized knowledge and skills by engaging as a member of the Nutrition Food Safety and Health Program Focus Team.

4. Secure external funding such as grants, gifts and cost recovery to supplement local tax revenue to support and expand educational programming.

5. Serve as a member of the Wildcat District team cooperating in the planning and delivery of district-wide programming and related events.

QUALIFICATIONS
Required:

- Bachelor’s degree
- Academic coursework and/or professional development and professional employment involving to nutrition, community or public health nutrition, dietetics or related field.
- Evidence of strong academic and/or professional performance as documented by college transcripts, acceptance into a graduate program or documented success in increasingly responsible professional positions.
- Demonstrated interest in working with low-income and diverse audiences; experience preferred.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with individuals, groups and through mass media.
- Leadership skills as evidenced by working with individuals, groups and co-workers.
- Access to a personal vehicle and the ability to obtain/maintain a valid driver’s license.

Preferred:

- Master’s Degree.
- Registered dietitian credential or related certificate.
- Experience working with adults and youth from various ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds.
- Demonstrated proficiency working to improve community health through collaborative efforts at the policy, system and environmental levels.
- Commitment to personal professional development.
- Ability to utilize electronic communication and computer applications to fulfill programming responsibilities.
- Self-motivation and ability to work with a minimum of supervision, balancing multiple projects.
- Ability to design, promote, implement and evaluate educational programs.
- Skills in group facilitation.
- Knowledge of adult and youth teaching/learning processes.
- Experience in seeking and administering external grant funding.
- Ability to communicate effectively with both English and Spanish learners.

Other

- Applicants must be currently authorized to work in the United States at the time of employment.

SALARY, BENEFITS, AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Salary commensurate with professional experience and available funding as negotiated by the regional extension director, the local extension board and the applicant. The base starting salary is $41,500 for a BS degree with no professional experience and $45,500 for a MS degree with no professional experience.

2. Extension agents are Kansas State University educators and have the Board of Regents retirement plan, health and life insurance and vacation and sick leave. Depending on the date of hire there is a minimum of 30-day waiting period for health insurance. For a complete list of benefits see: http://www.k-state.edu/hcs/benefits/overview/

3. Reimbursement for travel related to achieving program objectives.

4. New agents are provided approximately 15 days of new agent professional development on the K-State campus or online during the first six to nine months. These 15 days are spread out in four different weeks. In addition, new agents spend at least three weeks with a mentor agent during the first year.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Submit application using the Kansas State University job application site:

For more information about the position, contact Jennifer Wilson, Leader, Ext Operations, 785-532-5790, or jrwilson@ksu.edu.

To hear personal accounts from Extension Agents, preview videos at www.ksre.k-state.edu/jobs.

For more information about K-State Research and Extension, visit: www.ksre.k-state.edu.
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Kansas State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans and actively seeks diversity among its employees.

02/17/2021
Position #21-03

Jennifer Wilson
Leader, Extension Operations