
KENTUCKY  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

UK MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
KSU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

An Introduction to the Extension Plan of Work

Fall 2024

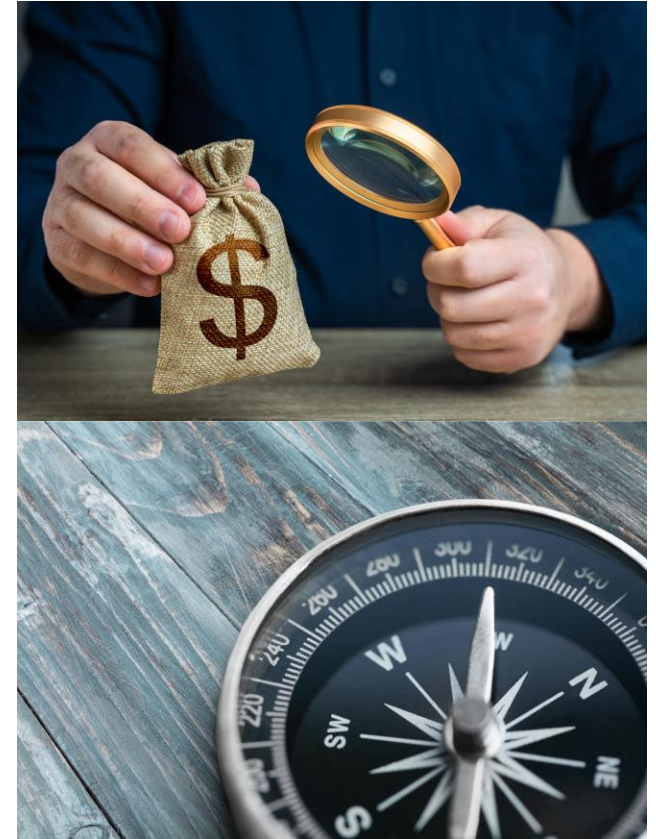
What is a Plan of Work?



- Tool to set focus for local Extension programming.
- Developed based upon priority issues identified at the local level.
- Guides major emphases while allowing flexibility to address emergent issues/situations.
- Sets goals and anticipated outcomes.
- Outlines planned activities and initiatives.
- Defines strategies to measure outcomes and document impacts.

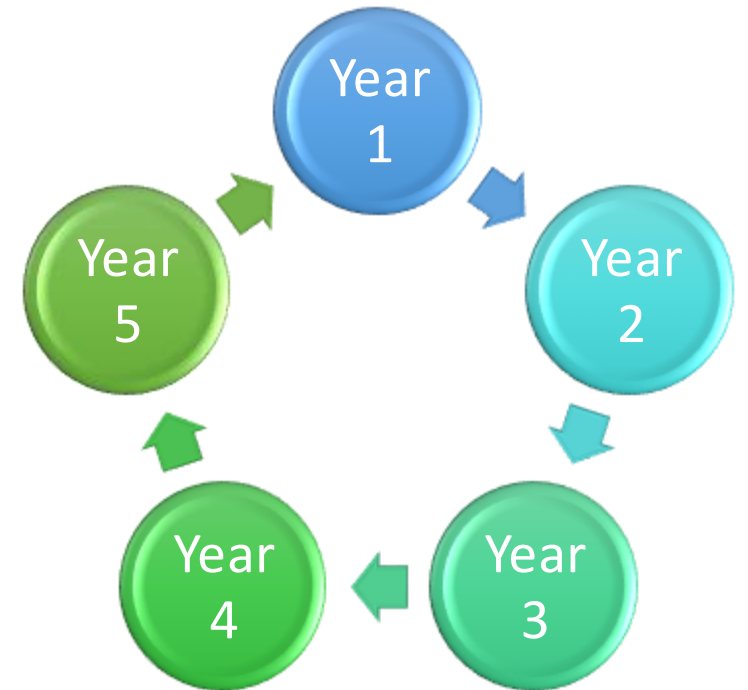
Why a Plan of Work?

- Extension is a public agency supported primarily by public (tax) dollars.
- Accountability for time and resources is expected and necessary.
- Plan of Work is a “contract with the community” built around locally identified issues.
- Provides direction for Extension work locally and holistically and guides use of resources.



Five-year Cycle

- Provides an opportunity to plan, implement and evaluation programming designed to achieve medium-term and long-term outcomes.
- Sets a cycles for comprehensive needs assessment twice per decade.
- Provides flexibility to adjust plans annually while maintaining key emphases.



Advisory Leader Engagement

- Assessment and issues identification.
- Prioritization and planning.
- Implementation of plans.
- Measuring and communicating outcomes.



Step 1 - Assessment

- Collect input through formal and informal assessment processes.
- Review assessment results.
- Consider secondary data.
- Solicit stakeholder insights and perspective.



Step 2 – Prioritize & Plan

- What key issues did the data and discussions reveal?
- What program opportunities do you see?
- Which issues should be our priorities?
- What outcomes should we strive to achieve?
- What strategies can we use to address the priority issues?



Step 3 - Implementation

Advisory Member Roles

- Resources
- Marketing
- Collaboration
- Support



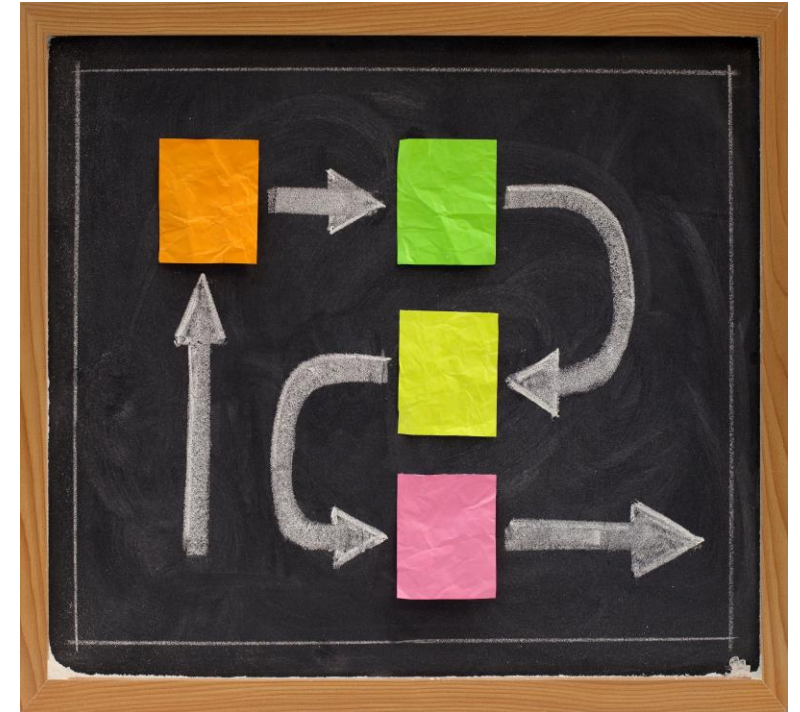
Step 4 - Evaluation

- Evaluation – value or worth of the program.
- Interpretation – what does it mean?
- Communication – who needs to know?



Timeline for the New Plan of Work

- Summer to Fall 2024: Issues discussion and prioritization.
- Fall 2024 to Spring 2025: Finalize priorities and focus on planning.
- July 1, 2025: Implementation begins.



For Today

- Review Extension Community Assessment data.
- Consider secondary data.
- Share input on important needs and issues.
- Identify priority areas of programming for the new plan of work.



Our Top 15

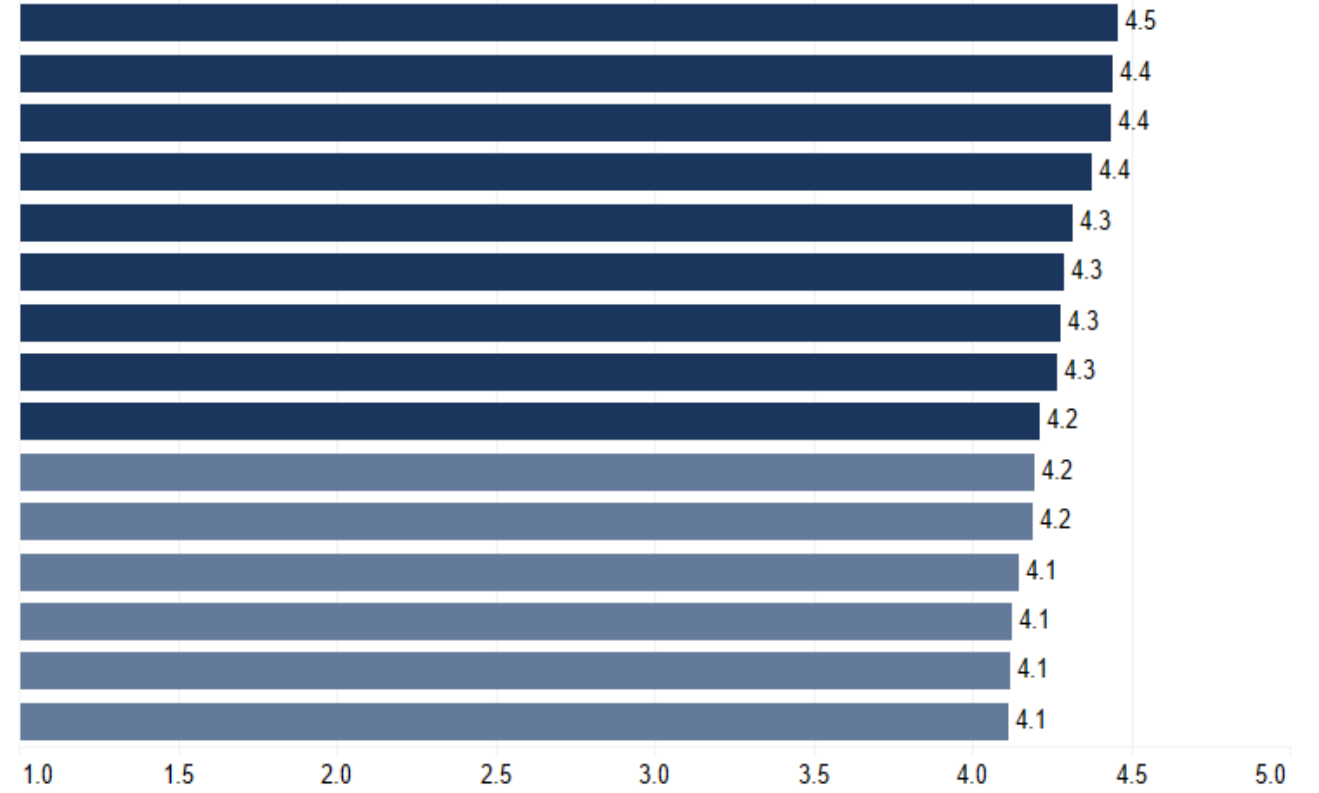
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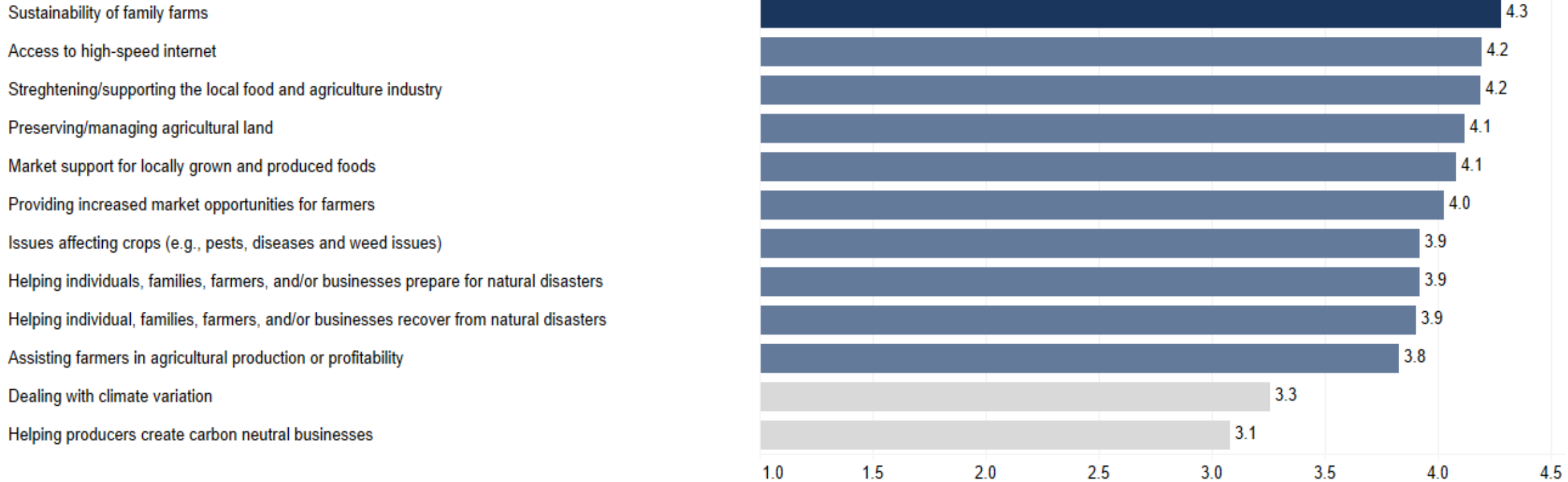
- Minimizing youth substance use
- Youth life skill training opportunities (e.g., leadership and communication skill building opportunities)
- Strengthening youth workforce readiness (including entrepreneurship, business development skills, etc.)
- Ensuring individuals and families have access to affordable nutritious food
- Support for substance use addiction prevention/recovery
- Building financial literacy and/or resource management skills
- Sustainability of family farms
- Senior citizen support programs
- Improved access to mental health and wellbeing resources
- Access to high-speed internet
- Strengthening/supporting the local food and agriculture industry
- Stronger parenting and relationship-building skills
- Reducing youth obesity through nutrition education and/or exercise
- Strengthening youth-adult or mentorship relationships
- Food as health: addressing food insecurity and diet related chronic diseases

All

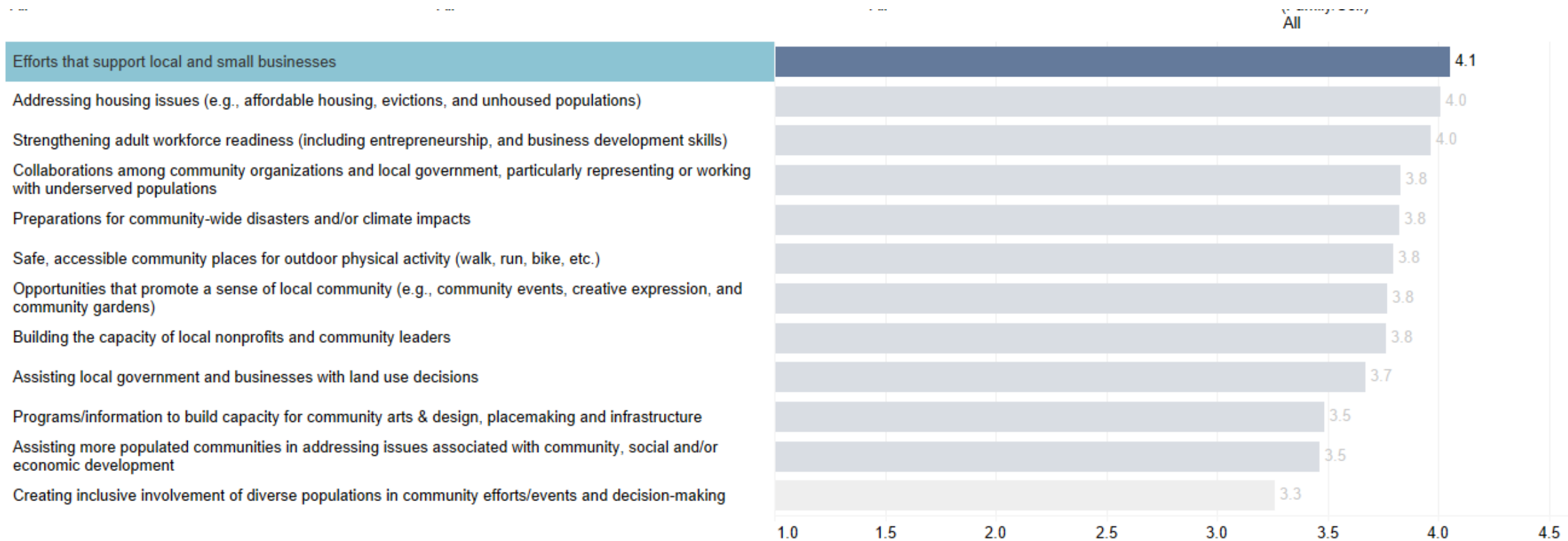
(Family/Senior)
All



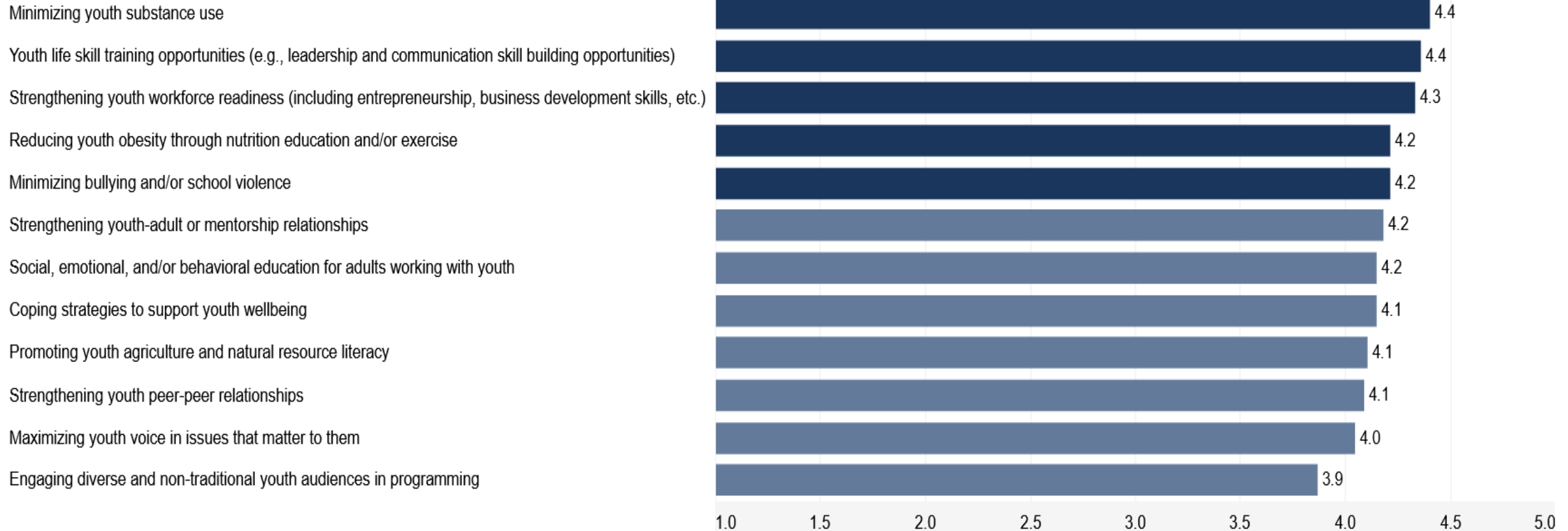
Agriculture and Natural Resource Needs



Community & Economic Development Needs



Youth Development Needs



Family & Individual Development Needs

Ensuring individuals and families have access to affordable nutritious food



Support for substance use addiction prevention/recovery



Improved access to mental health and wellbeing resources



Building financial literacy and/or resource management skills



Stronger parenting and relationship-building skills



Senior citizen support programs



Food as health: addressing food insecurity and diet related chronic diseases



Building employee soft skills (e.g., communication, productivity, and teamwork skills)



Building life skills of community members



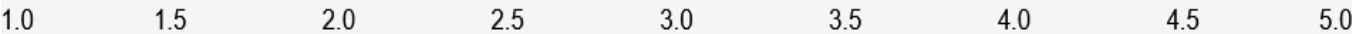
Educational opportunities about home food safety practices (e.g., food preservation and canning)



Educational opportunities to promote healthy homes (e.g., mold prevention/treatment and home safety)



Prepare community members for formal/informal leadership and/or volunteer roles



Our Respondents Said...

Data from community assessment survey *comments*:

- 16% of comments related to public schools and educational needs.
- 35% related to youth development needs.
- 17% related to recreation and physical activity needs.
- 18% related to support food access, nutrition, and healthy eating.

Our Community Is...

- Population is increasing gradually – from 25,746 in 2010 to 26,631 in 2022.
- Unemployment rate is 4.6%
- Poverty Rate 17.1% (child poverty rate: 22.4%)
- 32% ages 18-44, 26% ages 45-64, 23% ages 18-under, 18% ages

Remember

- Your voice is **valued!**
- The Plan of Work is a **team effort** – agents and advisory councils working closely together.
- Volunteer leader contributions **enhance and expand** Extension's impact.



Let's Hear From You...



Let's Hear From You...

Based on your experiences, the materials you received and information you have heard today, what are the *key needs and opportunities for Extension programming?*

THANK

YOU

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or

fax:

(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442;

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