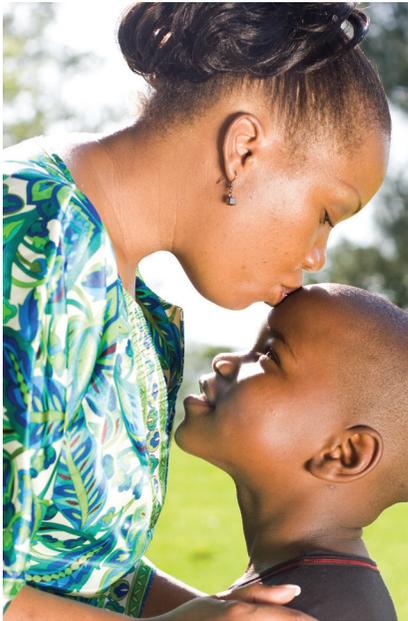


EXTENSION CENTER FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT

Strengthening Minnesota Families



All families have strengths. At times, however, every family can use additional resources and skills to keep on track. University of Minnesota Extension's Center for Family Development strengthens and empowers Minnesota families by working directly with families and the professionals that serve them.

Extension's Center for Family Development strives to reach the most underserved low-income families, older adults, new immigrants and minority populations in Minnesota.

CONTACT US

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION CENTER FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT,

visit us online at www.extension.umn.edu/family/ or contact Karen Shirer, associate dean, at shire008@umn.edu or 612-626-3971.

Extension's Center for Family Development draws upon the knowledge and resources of the University of Minnesota to help families grow and develop to their full potential.

We provide meaningful information and support to families and family-serving organizations — in times of challenge and opportunity.



Education that Strengthens Families

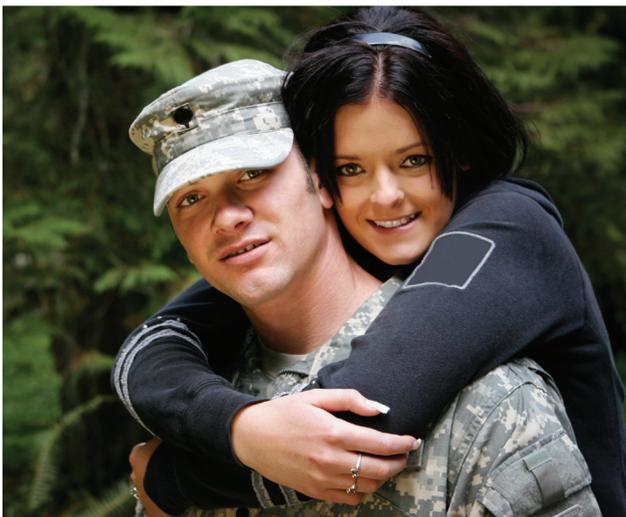
Extension educators work with families in their communities, workplaces and homes, as well as with the community-based family professionals who serve them. Our research-based educational offerings address real issues for families, particularly underserved populations, and help them to make informed decisions for better health and well-being. Extension education helps families:

- improve parent and caregiver skills
- maintain healthier lifestyles
- better manage financial resources
- find safe and affordable housing
- survive and thrive through life transitions
- participate more fully as contributing members of their communities

Educational Offerings and Services

- **Educational programs** that teach families decision-making skills relating to nutrition and health, family finances and resources, and family relationships, delivered in person and online.
- **Research-based and unbiased information** on key concerns for families through our materials, website and phone information line (AnswerLine).
- **Engagement in the community** through networks and collaborations that work to promote family well-being.
- **Disaster response education and resources** for families and family-serving organizations that are experiencing “tough times,” whether natural or man-made.
- **Training and technical assistance** to community-based family professionals and organizations on family issues and delivering our educational programs.
- **Research and evaluation** on issues affecting families and how our educational programs meet the needs of Minnesota families.

We define family as “a group of people who love and take care of each other.” We recognize that families come in many shapes and sizes.



INVESTMENTS IN FAMILIES REDUCES SOCIAL COSTS AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES.

Increasing parenting skills results in:

- reduced incidence of child maltreatment
- increased immunization rates
- increased school readiness of young children

A Partner to Family-Serving Organizations:

Strengthening families to meet life's challenges represents a complex and interrelated set of issues. Partnerships and collaborations with like-minded individuals and organizations is an important part of our work. Extension's Center for Family Development partners with nearly 1,200 organizations across the state and country. Major partners include public schools and early childhood education centers, state and county departments of human services and public health, financial institutions, and other statewide and local social service agencies.

Extension's Center for Family Development offers family-serving professionals and organizations a vast wealth of expertise and resources. Through standard programs and customized trainings, online resources and in-person assistance, we help agencies better understand and serve Minnesota's families. Given our connections throughout every county in Minnesota, we are uniquely qualified to help deliver organizations' programs and reach families where they live, work and play.



Annually, Extension's Center for Family Development:

- Reaches over 100,000 people directly and 1.4 million indirectly through education and online resources.
- Improves behavior around diet quality and food safety for over 50,000 Minnesota youth and 26,000 adults.
- Works to reduce parental conflicts for 2,500 parents while they navigate the challenges of separation and divorce.
- Engages nearly 20,000 Minnesota families on stretching the food budget, managing personal finances, planning for retirement with diminished funds, and teaching youth about money.
- Assists an estimated 6,000 Latino family members with issues related to parenting, school involvement, finances and housing.
- Partners with hundreds of agencies to provide training in resource management. Each agency reaches an estimated 30 Minnesotans with skills to better manage their resources.
- Reaches an estimated 30,000 people with online resources for recovering from floods, tornados and other disasters.
- Trains over 2,000 community-based family service professionals to use Extension curriculum with their clients.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

Extension makes a difference by connecting community needs and University resources to address critical issues in Minnesota.

Extension delivers research and education through four centers: Agriculture, Food and Environment; Family Development; Community Vitality and Youth Development.

Visit: www.extension.umn.edu