Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2021
Year Ending June 30, 2021
**UFM Vision:** Connecting People and Ideas for Unlimited Learning

**UFM Mission:** UFM Community Learning Center is a creative educational program serving Kansas State University, the Manhattan area, and the state of Kansas. Based on the philosophy that everyone can learn and everyone can teach, UFM provides opportunities for lifelong learning and personal development. UFM serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and as a catalyst for new programs and services that enhance the quality of life for all.

**UFM Values:**
- Community & Collaboration
- Patron Satisfaction & Support
- Purposeful Relationships
- Integrity & Enjoyment
- Creativity & Inspiration

Programs offered by UFM include the Education Program of credit and noncredit classes, the Lou Douglas Lecture Series, Manhattan Community Garden, Teen Mentoring Program, and Project EXCELL. Sponsored Projects include the Manhattan Area Risk Prevention Coalition, Manhattan Nonviolence Initiative, Gro Neighborhood Gardening initiative, and the Martin Luther King Coordinating Committee.

In FY21, UFM programs served 7,779 people.

UFM offers programs for people of all ages, interests, and abilities.

UFM collaborates with many area businesses and organizations to serve the community.

UFM completed its 53rd year of putting the community in education.

FY21 was an extraordinary year. The COVID-19 pandemic, that began in FY20, continued to limit activities in the nation, the state, and the community. Health guidelines mandated social distancing, wearing masks, and limited gatherings. UFM, along with most programs and services, adapted by offering all courses online for the fall and spring and mostly online for the summer session. The result for UFM was smaller class enrollments, no community outreach events, and canceling programs such as Project EXCELL.

UFM was blessed to have instructors willing to move their scheduled courses to a live remote format. We were able to offer a total of 679 noncredit and 191 credit courses during this fiscal year despite the pandemic.

An interesting note is that because courses were online, instructors and students from outside the area were able to participate. Instructors were based in Junction City, Ellis, Westmoreland, Mission, Paxico, Randolph, Topeka, and Wamego in Kansas; Halfmoon, New York, and Hillsboro, Oregon.

Students were able to participate from wherever they were living. The student who participated from the farthest location was Rhonda Janke from Oman!!

The restrictions required by COVID-19 guidelines resulted in changes and reduced activities that affected all program participation. Kansas State University permanently closed the Natatorium. This eliminated the UFM community swim program. This program had served about 1500 unduplicated children and adults a year.
UFM’s education program is the largest activity in the organization. UFM’s philosophy that everyone can teach and everyone can learn provides opportunities for all community members to share their ideas and skills with others. To participate, the only prerequisite is curiosity. In UFM’s 53 years, there have been over 7,200 instructors who ranged in age from 6 to 98. In FY21, UFM offered 679 noncredit classes taught by 115 instructors to 970 students locally (unduplicated). Classes were held online, in a hybrid format, and in person to accommodate students and concerns of the coronavirus.

UFM offers many opportunities for K-State students and others looking for practical experience. During FY21, many students lived at home and participated in activities remotely. In FY21, 262 college students gave time to teach a class, work with UFM projects such as Teen Mentoring, or participate in a UFM program or activity. Due to the pandemic, no interns were assigned in FY21.

UFM added a new educational option in FY21. Lifetime Learning offered classes and events for anyone, but with a focus on interests of those aged 50 and older. We offered 19 classes with a total attendance of 224.

UFM coordinates recreation, dance, and fitness credit courses through K-State Global Campus. UFM works with four campus departments to offer these classes. In FY21, 823 students received credit for 157 courses.
UFM Community Outreach - Beyond the Classroom

UFM Community Learning Center is involved with education well beyond the classes offered. UFM collaborates with many other local organizations to serve the community through diverse educational programs and activities.

Partnerships extend educational opportunities and bring diverse perspectives to the campus and community. Multicultural and international experiences are available through UFM classes offered with groups such as Flint Hills Wisdom Keepers. Other educational partnerships included Riley County Genealogical Society, FrogWatch, Riley County Extension, Manhattan Parks and Recreation, Prairiewood Retreat and Preserve, and Meadowlark.

UFM Programs

UFM Teen Mentoring Program
Fall 2020 marked the 23rd year of offering education, recreation, and emotional support to teens in our community. This program is funded by the City of Manhattan Special Alcohol Fund.

Middle school and high school students interact with college student mentors. The goals of the program are to provide prevention education, improve social skills, and offer recreation opportunities. With the support of parents and appropriate safety measures, groups met in person on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays after school at UFM. Last year, 20 teens and 25 K-State student mentors participated in structured discussions and fun activities as part of this program.

Manhattan Community Garden
The Manhattan Community Garden is the oldest community garden in Kansas, having offered gardening space to residents for 46 years. This food security program allows people throughout the community to share the gardening experience, supplement food budgets, relieve stress, and foster new friendships. A volunteer advisory board governs the garden operations. Because gardening was considered an essential activity, the community garden functioned at full capacity in the summer of 2020.

The Community Garden has two locations: 9th and Riley Lane, leased from the City of Manhattan; and 1435 Collins Lane, leased from Riley County. 182 families gardened in FY21. K-State students, faculty, and staff; retired persons; and others from Manhattan utilized the 280 plots at the gardens.
Because of the pandemic, social distancing, and attendance limitations, the fall lecture was limited to one online program presented with Zoom. “The Long Road to Women’s Suffrage in Kansas,” a presentation and discussion by Diane Eickhoff, was held in September 2020.

Kansas was historically a leader in women’s rights, yet the campaign for voting rights in Kansas required more than half a century of determined effort, as women suffered setbacks in three different statewide initiatives. This presentation explored the courageous individuals who challenged the powerful interests opposed to electoral reform and examined other “firsts” that women achieved on the road to suffrage.

The Manhattan Nonviolence Initiative (MNVI)

The Manhattan Nonviolence Initiative engaged the community in education about everyday nonviolence and its relevance in our lives. In FY21, they were involved in several community activities. They celebrated the annual Season of Nonviolence (Jan. 31 – April 3), offered classes in anger management and peaceful communication, participated in Race and Reconciliation Conversations, and led discussion on nonviolence communication and diversity on a USD#383 diversity task force.

The Manhattan Risk Prevention Coalition (MARPC)

MARPC works through a federal Drug Free Communities grant. The purpose of this project is to create an active community coalition to address substance use and abuse issues, and to address prevention strategies that reduce substance use among youth. The grant’s focus has been media messages. Radio and cable television ads were designed to address social hosting as an area problem that has encouraged underage drinking. In addition to media messages, displays were set up in 11 different locations, including local liquor stores. The messages present ideas about “talking to your kids about drinking.” Sticker Shock in Manhattan and at Fort Riley partnered youth and adult volunteers with police officers to attach responsible alcohol use messages to packaged products in liquor stores. The group is also working on ways to strengthen the community coalition and to increase support in the Manhattan area. Community education for parents to identify drug paraphernalia and mental health concerns were put on hold due to the pandemic.

Project EXCELL (Extended College Education for Lifelong Learning) provides educational enrichment to adults with developmental disabilities. Project EXCELL provides a K-State setting that allows EXCELL students to feel a part of the university community. This program did not offer programming in FY21 due to space restrictions as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Sponsored Projects

Project EXCELL
GRO Neighborhood Gardening Project
The Caroline F. Peine Foundation provided a small grant to explore interest in small neighborhood gardens. The GRO Gardening Initiative is a project which aims to make a significant impact on the food security of gardeners and their families by increasing knowledge and skills needed to grow and consume their own food in a convenient neighborhood location, and to build ongoing communities of mutual support and interdependence around food production activities.

Two organizations sponsored gardens and five neighborhood plots were created. GRO provided consultation on garden design, supplies, materials, tools, and planting materials for the gardens.

Martin Luther King Coordinating Committee
UFM served as the fiscal agent for the Martin Luther King Coordinating Committee during the spring of 2021. This group organized and offered several celebratory events around Martin Luther King Day, January 18, 2021, including a speaker event, a prayer breakfast, and the MLK Week of Service. The group also led the movement to rename 17th Street to Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. They had 255 participants in these events.

Grassroots Award
The Grassroots Community Education Award is an annual recognition given by UFM Community Learning Center to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to grassroots community education and learning. This year marks the 37th time UFM has presented this award.

Dr. C. Clyde Jones, retired dean of the College of Business Administration at Kansas State University was presented the UFM Community Learning Center Grassroots Community Education Award at the 2020 annual meeting.

Dr. Jones was recognized for playing a broad role in grassroots community organizing to serve many local community service needs. He served as a member of the Manhattan Social Services Advisory Board. Beginning in 1990 and many times following, Jones was involved with periodic community needs assessment surveys.

Clyde has worked with Shepherd’s Crossing since it was founded in 2001, working as a counselor before becoming development coordinator. With his efforts, funds have increased from $100,000 to more than $400,000 per year.

Clyde has also been active in the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation. He played a key role in organizing a one-stop community search engine that holds information about community programs and services. It is called MIDGE, after his wife.
UFM is self-supporting and depends on class fees, donations, and program grants to operate. Class fees make up the largest part of UFM’s revenue, 79% in FY21. These funds cover instructor costs, class materials, facility rental, advertising, printing, and other costs associated with coordinating class activities.

In FY21, UFM received $181,178 in grant funds to support several projects including Teen Mentoring, Lou Douglas Lectures, Project EXCELL, the Manhattan Nonviolence Initiative, and MARPC.

Donations are used for youth and adult scholarships, facility needs, and infrastructure expenses. All donations to UFM are tax deductible. For more information about donating to UFM, call 785-539-8763 or email linda@tryufm.org.
UFM puts the community in education.