Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2023
Year Ending June 30, 2023
**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 and Collaboration
- Patron Satisfaction and Support
- Purposeful Relationships
- Integrity and Enjoyment
- Creativity and Inspiration

Programs offered by UFM include the Education Program of credit and noncredit classes, the tutoring program, the Lou Douglas Lecture Series, Manhattan Community Garden, Teen Mentoring Program, Queer Liberation Project, and Project EXCELL. Sponsored Projects include the Manhattan Area Risk Prevention Coalition, and the new Youth Build Program.

In FY23, UFM programs served 9,120 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 55th year of putting the community in education.

FY23 was a time of great change. We took risks. We tried new things. We made mistakes and learned a great deal from them. As we welcomed new staff, board members, community partners, we grew our programs and services while holding on to the legacy programs that have made UFM Community Learning Center what it is today. Together, we have accomplished so much, and we continue to serve so many. We are proud to be UFM.

We offered a total of 939 noncredit courses, an increase of 8% from FY22, and 245 credit offerings, an increase of 9%, were also offered to K-State students.
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 55 years, there have been over 7,500 instructors who ranged in age from 6 to 98. In FY23, UFM offered 939 noncredit classes taught by 218 instructors to 1,496 students locally (unduplicated).

English as a Second Language classes were added to meet a need for local non-English speakers to learn practical ways to communicate with schools, medical providers, businesses and others in the community.

UFM coordinates recreation, dance and fitness credit courses through K-State Global Campus. UFM works with four campus departments to offer credit courses. In FY23, 1,171 students received credit for 245 courses offered.

UFM offers many opportunities for K-State students and others looking for practical experience. In FY23, 917 college students gave time to teach a class, work with UFM projects such as Teen Mentoring or participate in a UFM program or activity.

UFM continued to offer Lifetime Learning classes and events for anyone, but with a focus on interests of age 50 and older. We offered 24 classes with a total attendance of 315.

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 experiences to the community. Multicultural and international experiences are available through UFM classes offered with groups such as Flint Hills Wisdom Keepers, Hospitality Management at KSU, and Ecumenical Campus Ministries. Other educational partnerships included Manhattan Trolley Co; Brew Bros Hops and Sprockets; Meadowlark Hills and Riley County Genealogical Society. Special event partners included Manhattan Public Library, K-State Libraries, Beach Museum, Riley County Historical Museum, and the K-State College of Education Math Circle.

UFM piloted a K-6 tutoring program in the spring of 2023 which served underrepresented underserved ethnically and linguistically diverse youth and youth from the free and reduced lunch program. Many of the youth were ESL students coming from an immigrant family. The tutoring program focused on culturally responsive programming as well as reading and math tutoring with a programmatic framework incorporating visual, kinesthetic, and auditory learning. This model also emphasizes mentoring and belonging as core values of the program. UFM served over 15 youth in the program with around 10 tutor mentors, 4 UFM Staff, and many episodic volunteers. We raised around $8,750 for scholarships for the youth so no family in need had to pay out of pocket. Given the successful pilot, UFM staff and community members went on to facilitate a summer learning experience inspired by the K-6 spring tutoring program.
UFM Teen Mentoring Program

Fall 2022 marked the 26th 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. Groups met on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays after school at UFM. Last year 54 teens and 47 K-State students participated in structured discussions and fun activities as part of this program.

Lou Douglas Lectures

Mr. Eric Dozier came from the Big Apple to the Little Apple to tell the story of racial healing and reconciliation through song exploring racial dynamics in our families, public schools, systems of higher education, community, and world. UFM hosted Mr. Dozier at both K-State Forum Hall, in K-State leadership, social work, and business classes as well as at the Boys and Girls Club of Manhattan. Additionally, there was a community-engaged performance at the Douglass Community Recreational Center.

Equal parts live performance, lecture, and revival meeting, this Lou Douglas Lecture series is a unique way of experiencing the impact of music on American culture, identity, and social progress. Through his wealth of experience working with groups of all ages and his unique blend of Down and Dirty Blues, Socially Conscious Soul, and Spirit Fueled Gospel Music, cultural activist, and musician Eric Dozier takes you on a journey. He shines a light at the crossroads of music and American race relations by performing songs and discussing key musical figures and themes from the Abolitionists, Civil Rights, labor and anti-war movements, as well as other contemporary voices of change both within the US and internationally. By the end, participants understand what it means to be an active and creative advocate of diversity and equity imbued with a renewed sense of mission and commitment to showing the world what community SOUNDS like.
Community Garden
The Manhattan Community Garden is the oldest community garden in Kansas, offering gardening space to residents for 49 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.

The Community Garden has two locations: 9th and Riley Lane leased from the City of Manhattan, and 1435 Collins Lane leased from Riley County. 176 families gardened in FY23. K-State students, faculty and staff, retired persons, and others from Manhattan utilized the 280 plots at the Gardens.

Sponsored Projects

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. 63 students participated this year. Over 50 K-State students from the College of Education and other university departments served as classroom aides and ambassadors to assist the students during class and break time.

Manhattan Area 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. In January 2023, the group sponsored a national speaker on the dangers of fentanyl as well as risky products sold and packaged as harmless that are easily available at convenience stores. MARPC is also worked with the Riley County Health Department on a program called RESIST, that focuses on youth awareness of tobacco use.
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 celebrates the 43rd time UFM has presented this award. The recipient in 2022 was Linda Inlow Teener. Linda served as the UFM Executive Director for 32 years. During that time, she expanded the number of noncredit courses, added the credit class program, created the teen mentoring program, and added a second community garden location.

YouthBuild Department of Labor Grant
In the Spring of 2023, Manhattan Housing Authority and UFM Community Learning Center (sub awardee) were awarded a $1.5 million grant for their YouthBuild application. It was the only award made in Kansas. The grant supports pre-apprenticeships that will educate and train young people from ages 16 to 24 for jobs in high-demand industries including construction, for which YouthBuild will focus student learning on building or rehabilitating affordable housing in their communities for low-income or unhoused families. The 3-year grant cycle to serve 65+ youth started June 1, 2023.

Queer Liberation Project
UFM seeks to extend its service to the people of Manhattan by providing a platform for historically underserved communities.

The Queer Liberation Project is an open and affirming place that commits to celebrating and educating queer peoples and allies about the cultures, experiences, stories, and needs of the Manhattan LGBTQIA+ communities. In partnership with local communities, we are dedicated to promoting social justice and transformation through education.

The Queer Liberation Project facilitates...
- Community-engaged projects that highlight the presence and histories of the queer peoples of Manhattan
- Courses that directly relate to queer lives and experiences
- Opportunities for enhancing Allyship from both within and outside the queer communities
- Resources for queer-identifying peoples and gender/sexual affirming clothing & supplies

The Queer Liberation Commons (abbreviated to QLC, pronounced “click”) offers all the communities of Manhattan a space that celebrates the queer communities. These commons are open to all community members.

QLC Open House on National Coming Out Day: Wednesday, October 11th at 7PM. Refreshments will be provided.
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, 75% in FY23. These funds cover instructor costs, class materials, facility rental, advertising, printing, and other costs associated with coordinating class activities.

In FY23, UFM received $157,633 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.
Thank you to our donors!

Your generosity helps UFM put the community in education.