

THE ONEIDA OBSERVER

A UW-EXTENSION MONTHLY UPDATE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES
BY MYLES ALEXANDER

Monthly Update



The local food system work is gaining momentum. Brittany Bayer - Grow North, Angie Close - Langlade County Economic Development, Lisa Rettinger - Langlade county producer, Karly Harrison - Area 4 Foodwise Coordinator, and I met. We will invite additional people to meet next on January 8th to consider an initial local food system strategic planning workshop in March 2019. UW campus-based specialists Erin Peot and Greg Lawless connected me with faculty in Madison and Milwaukee who have aggregation and distribution expertise we will need.

The Extension housing issues work group has met monthly by phone for most of 2018. We will consolidate that work and plan next steps on January 15th at a face-to-face meeting in Madison. I participate to get help with how to address the Oneida County workforce housing shortage.

Before the All-Colleague conference, staff from the Center for Community and Economic Development presented work they have done as a U.S. Dept. of Commerce Economic Development Administration "Center." CCED staff will travel to present results of the work to Wisconsin communities. Chris Stark, UW Extension community development in Vilas and Forest counties, and I began to plan a CCED visit to the Northwoods.

Most important for the direction it can set for the county, I am ramping up to return to the Oneida County shared vision project.

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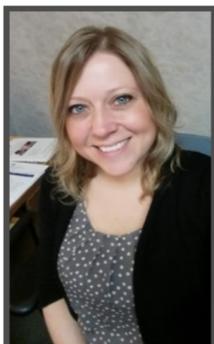
4-H Digital Ambassadors Project

4-H PROGRAM COORDINATOR
BY ANDREA RIPPLEY

Something that we have been taking for granted in recent years is broadband access. I know this to be true since I moved up to the Northwoods. My home county of Buffalo was lucky enough to have fiber optic internet as a rural area of Wisconsin. I thought all of Wisconsin had this same opportunity but I was shocked when I found out that residents in Oneida and Price County still struggle with internet access. When the opportunity arose to help educate about this topic I ran with it. Both Oneida and Price county have been chosen to participate in a project between the National 4-H Foundation and Microsoft to do broadband education. For more information visit Microsoft Airband: An update on connecting rural America - <https://news.microsoft.com/rural-broadband/>. This is a high honor for our county to participate in. I have assembled a group of six people, including myself, for both counties who are willing to attend national trainings to learn about what we can do to educate about broadband. The first leg of this journey is training in Washington D.C. in January, which I will be attending. With the commitment to this program the volunteers and I will hold six to ten learning sessions upon the completion of our trainings. If there are any questions about this topic or if you want to learn more feel free to contact me at andrea.ripple@ces.uwex.edu



HEALTH & WELL-BEING BY SARA RICHIE



Trauma Informed Care Team

On January 28th the Oneida County Trauma Informed Care Team will be having a community meeting to address coordinating services for youth. There has been an increased need in services, particularly in youth mental health. The team believes that this is a large enough issue, that it cannot be addressed by one single agency. The idea was sparked after a Trauma Informed Care training in the schools this past fall and will be led by the Trauma Informed Care Team. Most recently, Vilas and Forest Counties have joined together with Oneida, to create a multi-county Trauma Informed Care Team.

This special community meeting will start the conversation with other agencies and professionals in the community to work towards a common goal. Participants will have the opportunity to provide input that will guide us to the next steps. Several community partners have been invited and there has been an overwhelming response. I look forward to the meeting and believe there is potential for our community to become more trauma informed and improve services to youth and families in our area.

For more information on Trauma Informed Care, go to: <http://traumainformedcareproject.org/>
Or, for information on Youth Mental Health in Wisconsin, check out: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p01766e.pdf>
and <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/mh/youth-young-adults.htm>

