2015 PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

Established in 1999, the Extension Partnership Awards recognize vital alliances with agencies, organizations, and others beyond The Texas A&M University System. We honor those partners whose dedicated collaboration and support have significantly enhanced the outreach and impact of AgriLife Extension programs for the people of Texas.

Texas State Rifle Association

When the Texas 4-H Shooting Sports program began in the 1970s, the Texas State Rifle Association (TSRA) was its first major donor. Recent studies show that the program benefits both youth and their families. Many TSRA members have attended the intensive instructor-training course and invested personally in the lives of youth and families. AgriLife Extension uses funds received from the TSRA in many ways, including as award stipends for individuals winning competitions. In addition to Extension, TSRA partners with many other organizations to educate youth on safe, responsible shooting and hunting skills. More recently, TSRA designated funds from its license plate income for both the Shooting Sports program and the Tubb Scholarship program administered by the Texas A&M Foundation. Through its ongoing support, TSRA helps today’s youth become tomorrow’s responsible citizens.

Texas Veterinary Medical Association

In its livestock programs and 4-H education, Extension relies on partners who have extensive knowledge and experience in animal care. The Texas Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) is the perfect example of such a partner. With Extension, it helps students learn how to raise their animals and prepares them to pursue an animal care career. Collaborating with Extension and the Institute for Infectious Animal Diseases, TVMA sponsors the Veterinary Science Certificate Program for 4-H youth and high school students across the state. The program provides a sound platform for students who want to pursue an associate, undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree in the veterinary science field and helps them prepare for and take the Certified Veterinary Assistant qualifying exam. Extension’s partnership with TVMA prepares students for the workforce in the vital role of animal care.

2015 EXTENSION IN THE CITY AWARD

Urban programs are a key component in the impact that Extension education makes on the well-being and prosperity of Texas residents. This award honors elected leaders whose support of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has significantly contributed to the success of our growing, vibrant outreach to urban audiences.

The Honorable Alan B. Sadler, Montgomery County Judge, Montgomery County Commissioners Court

Montgomery County Commissioners Court has long facilitated development of one of the state’s leading Extension learning centers. Over the past 24 years, Judge Sadler and other Court members have sustained the growth and expansion of Extension education with improved facilities, support of Extension staff during difficult budget times, and enthusiasm for Extension learning programs across the county. Judge Sadler helped with the Families Reading Every Day program and encouraged county employees to take part in Walk Across Texas. He was a familiar presence and a helping hand at Extension events and warmly welcomed Extension staff at Court, listening and responding to their ideas. Montgomery County has experienced rapid population growth and diversity, and the Court’s support helped Extension respond to the growing and changing needs of its residents.