



# NORTH CENTRAL REGION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION IMPACT REPORT 2025



CENTRAL STATE  
UNIVERSITY



# OHIO



Extension

Location: Wilberforce, Ohio  
<https://www.centralstate.edu/academics/science/extension>



5,069



## IMPACT INDICATORS

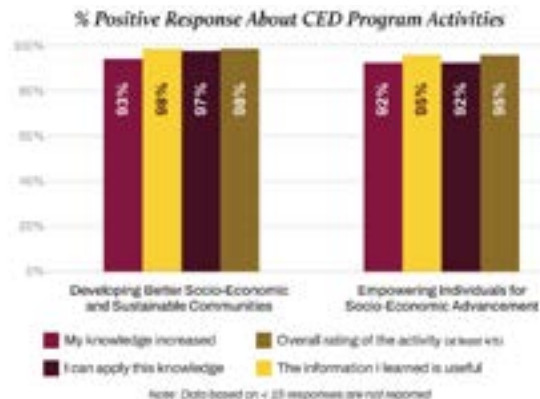
Educational Contacts	5,069
Number of activities offered through Community Development Extension	359

359 ACTIVITIES



The Central State University (CSU) Extension Community and Economic Development (CED) team creates pathways to success by providing education and technical assistance to communities, organizations, and individuals. CED focuses on workforce development by connecting people with resources to build skills and prepare for employment.

In 2025, CED educators offered 359 activities and engaged 5,069 participants across 13 counties. Programs supported small business and agribusiness owners and community members, covering entrepreneurship, farm financial management, community development, money management, and workforce development.



## IMPACT STATEMENTS

### ■ GodRich Farms – Central State Extension Growing Equity Workshop

The Central State University Extension Community and Economic Development's Growing Equity Grant Program was conducted in Akron Ohio in partnership with GodRich Farms.

The six-part workshop covered agribusiness topics including business startup, business planning, marketing, and financial statement record keeping. Fifteen participants who complete the program consisted of community members as well as current Ag-entrepreneurs. CED Akron will host its third quarter Growing Equity Workshop Series in August.

The 2025 Growing Equity Workshop participants (left to right): Jennifer Hall, Michelle Cobbin, Kisha Parker, Louise Johnson, Ronald Blackmon, Cheryl Clements, Vernon Clements, Richard Jones, and Lucille Johnson



### ■ Collaboration Brings Financial Literacy Workshop to Veterans in Northwest Ohio

Central State University and Owens Community College TRIO Veterans Upward Bound Department joined together to provide a 4-week financial literacy workshop to Veterans. Lisa Lawrence, CSU's Community Economic Development Extension Educator, Northwest Ohio and Heather Vincil, Project Specialist, collaborated and offered an engaging, impactful workshop to Veterans.

Lawrence said, "It was a privilege and an honor to work with those who have faithfully served our country. The classes were filled with conversation and great ideas. We learned from each other!"

But the workshop was more than just learning about financial literacy. Education was the first step and assistance with applying what was learned was the next step. Central State University has another partnership with Neighbor Works Toledo. This partnership allowed Neighbor Works Toledo to come to the last session to share all their resources and programs, such as credit counseling, home ownership program, free taxes, and much more. Veterans were given contact information to sign up. Teamwork really does make the dream work!



CSU Extension Educator Lisa Lawrence (standing) and Northwest Ohio Veterans during one of the financial literacy workshop sessions.