Thank you for your support of The University of Georgia Extension Family and Consumer Sciences ... 

**child seat safety education for parents.** Families understand the importance of proper safety equipment in vehicles and take steps to ensure that their children are transported in a safer manner. As a result, children are less likely to be injured, disabled, or killed in vehicle crashes. Since over 50% of children born in Georgia receive Medicaid benefits, keeping children safer reduces the cost of medical and trauma care to taxpayers. Most importantly, this type of Family and Consumer Sciences Extension program can save the lives of young children.

**nutrition education programs for adults and youth.** Consumers are more likely to make better food choices for themselves and their families. These practices will lead to healthier youth who attend school regularly with better academic success and adults that have the ability to eat healthier and lessen the occurrence of expensive chronic diseases. By improving the overall health habits of Georgians, fewer hospitalizations and medications will be required, reducing health care costs for individuals, taxpayers, small businesses, and corporations.

**food safety education and food preservation programs.** Consumers and participants representing restaurants and other food service establishments adopt safe food handling practices leading to serving safe food. This benefits all Georgians by reducing food poisoning and associated health care costs. A recent study ranks Georgia ninth in the country for the total costs of food-borne illnesses with an annual tab of $4.7 billion a year.

**child care provider education.** Providers are better equipped to offer high quality child care which promotes healthy, safe and thriving environments for children in their care. Children benefit from stable positive relationships with caregivers, increasing their readiness for school success and decreasing future dropout rates. The overall community benefits through a stronger workforce, generation of jobs, support of other working adults, and contribution to the state economy. When you invest in children, you invest in our future as a state.

**chronic disease education, prevention and management programs** for Georgians that are at risk for or suffering from diabetes, high blood pressure, obesity, heart disease and/or cancer. These individuals are more likely to adopt skills regarding the prevention or management of their chronic disease after attending Extension programs. This benefits all Georgians by reducing the cost of health care for both employer and employees, time lost from work, and reduced need for public assistance through disability payments. In Georgia, the cost of diabetes alone due to medical care, lost productivity, and premature death is estimated to be over $5.1 billion per year.

Terri Black, Burke County Extension Agent..........................(706) 554-2119, tcameron@uga.edu
Heidi Flowers, Ware County Extension Agent........................(912) 287-2456, heidel@uga.edu
Janet Hollingsworth, Appling County Extension Coordinator........(912) 367-8330, jholing@uga.edu
Lisa Jordan, Chatham County Extension Agent.........................(912) 652-7982, ljordan@uga.edu
Joann Milam, Washington County Extension Coordinator............(478) 552-2011, jmillam@uga.edu

The University of Georgia Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity, affirmative action organization.