

Annie's Project Program Descriptions

Annie's Project is an educational program dedicated to strengthening women's roles in the modern farm enterprise. Annie's Project has two levels of programming Annie's Project and Managing for Today and Tomorrow.

Annie's Project, is taught through six educational sessions, Annie's Project fosters problem solving, record keeping, and decision-making skills in farm women.

The six educational sessions of the course include:

- Financial ratios, balance sheets, and record keeping systems, enterprise analysis
- Human communication and management styles, insurance needs, succession planning
- Legal and environmental issues, estate laws, property title, employee requirements
- Marketing plans, access to market information, contracts, basics of futures and options
- Production tools, farmland leasing, USDA programs, soil maps, crop insurance
- Topics chosen by participants

Managing for Today and Tomorrow, a second level Annie's Project course, teaches business, estate, retirement and succession planning. Farm women will develop networks and skills key to making successful farm transitions.

Creating a transition plan to make sure a farm continues as a productive, agricultural business can be challenging, Farm women can have a key role in successful farm transitions. Managing for Today and Tomorrow, a new Annie's Project course for women, is divided into the following planning areas:

- Succession Planning-Transferring Knowledge, skills, labor, management, control and ownership between generations.
- Business Planning Developing goals, strategies and actions that form a road map to business growth.
- Estate Planning- Managing and individual's asset base in one's lifetime, at death or after death.
- Retirement Planning Designing an enjoyable and productive time in life.

Extension specialist and local professional will teach the sessions on business, estate, retirement and succession planning. Besides brief presentations, there will be discussions based on participant questions and follow-up activities for family members to complete at home.

Managing for Today and Tomorrow is supported by the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA, Grant # 2011-49400-30584. This new Annie's Project course is offered by state university extension programs, Farm Credit Council, Farm Credit National Contributions Program, and several local Farm Credit associations.

Information has been gathered from the National Annie's Website hosted by the Iowa State University.