\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Date)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Name, phone number, email address)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**UC Cooperative Extension provides key services in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County**

In light of past budget cuts and continued rising costs, [UC Agriculture and Natural Resources](http://ucanr.edu) (UC ANR) is reaching out to state leaders and the public to share the important role this division of the UC system plays all across the state of California, including \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County.

California gets a 20 to 1 return on the state’s investment in UC ANR programs, contributed by the UC Cooperative Extension ag production research serving every county, 4-H Youth Development programs nurturing California’s leaders of tomorrow, and the vast network of nutrition educators training the state’s low-income families how to stretch their food dollars while still purchasing and eating healthful food.

In \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County, \_\_(Number)\_\_\_ UC Cooperative Extension advisors work in the areas of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. There are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ local children in 4-H clubs and another \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ benefitting from the 4-H learn-by-doing educational projects at after-school or summer programs. In our county alone, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ families and children have received evidence-based nutrition education free from UC ANR trainers.

UC ANR interacts directly with local farmers and ranchers, the kids and parents in 4-H, low-income families who need help eating right, all the local people who learn from UC Master Gardeners about low-impact home food production, and pest control professionals who depend on the UC Integrated Pest Management program.

In 1990, UC ANR employed 528 advisors and specialists in the state of California. As of July 1, 2017, there are only 278. Many UC ANR academics are covering more than one county to stretch service throughout the state, putting a strain on quality programs. These reductions in ANR’s workforce were made to accommodate cuts in state support; since 2002, ANR’s state support has been cut by $30 million since that time.

In recent years, UC ANR funding has stabilized, but it has not grown to meet the needs of the expanding and diverse California population. In order to help the people of California attain a high quality of life, a healthy environment, and economic success in a global economy, we will need more support.

“A cut to UC ANR’s budget would be devastating to the Californians served by UC Cooperative Extension,” said UC ANR vice president [Glenda Humiston](http://ucanr.edu/?facultyid=30758).