

## News Release

# Children Explore World of Animals, Agriculture at UMC April 18-22

By Ron Del Vecchio on Monday, April 17, 2006

CROOKSTON, MN (April 17, 2006) – Some 800 children ages 3 and up will explore the world of agriculture and farm animals during the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) Tours for Tots program this year.

From April 18 to 22, children will travel through the animal facilities at UMC and learn about sheep, beef and dairy cattle as well as horses. Groups will also visit the campus greenhouse and see the wide variety of plants that are grown and view research areas along the way.

"It's never too early to introduce young children to the wonders found in a University setting," says UMC Professor Ron Del Vecchio, who also serves as head of the Agriculture Department. "Farm animals and agriculture are essential to the vitality and growth of the northwest region, and we want children to have the chance to learn a little about the two and have fun at the same time."

UMC Agricultural Education Major Amy Konradi, chair and director for this year's event, says children will have the chance to see and interact with animals and hear about projects and activities from UMC students. The groups are from area kindergartens, preschools, day cares, and Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) organizations in northwest Minnesota and Grand Forks, ND.

For more information on UMC's Tour for Tots, contact Senior Administrative Specialist Amy Lubarski at 218-281-8101 ([apeterso@umcrookston.edu](mailto:apeterso@umcrookston.edu)).

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) is a four-year baccalaureate degree granting institution, celebrating 100 years of excellence in education, research and outreach. To learn more, visit [www.UMCrookston.edu](http://www.UMCrookston.edu).

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