

Getting Into It...Tips on Managing 4-H Programs

“Success Markers for Volunteer Club Leaders”

Developed 2001

Outcome Challenge

We intend to see enthusiastic, caring club leaders who advocate for youth by effectively teaching, mentoring and guiding young people in positive, safe learning environments. We also intend to see leaders who learn and grow as individuals by participating in, and leading youth through, successful 4-H experiences.

Expect to See Volunteer Club Leaders Who:

- Have an interest in working with or on behalf of youth
- Are willing to give some of their time in support of youth
- Provide opportunities for youth to successfully meet the club member expectations
- Involve 4-H'ers and other adults in conducting club meetings/activities when appropriate
- Successfully complete volunteer screening process
- Participate in Leader Training (provided by the county office)
- Meet deadlines
- Communicate information and deadlines with 4-H members and parents
- Be aware of (and utilize) written project manuals and understand other resources
- Have an understanding of the role of the 4-H Council its policies

Would Like to See Volunteer Club Leaders Who:

- Take advantage of additional training which includes:
 - Use of 4-H name and emblem
 - Know the 4-H Pledge, Motto, Creed
 - Equal Program Opportunity (EPO) policies
 - Relevant State 4-H and 4-H Council policies/directions which may include fund raising activities
 - The relationship between the University and 4-H
- Share leadership responsibility (organizational, project, Junior Leaders)
- Know and apply the:
 - Experiential Learning Process
 - 40Asset Approach to Youth Development
 - Six Pillars of Character (trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship)
 - 4-H Life Skills (as found in 4-H Pick-A-Project)
- Have an awareness of the different ages and developmental levels of children within their club
- Share subject matter expertise with others in the 4-H Program
- Empower 4-H members and others to share skills.
- Serve as a positive role model and mentor for youth
- Promote good sportsmanship and ethical competition

Would Love to See Volunteer Leaders Who:

- Attend or present at state/regional leader training
- Understand how Extension and 4-H relate to the mission of a land grant institution
- Transfer leadership skills to other areas/organizations
- Market all facets of 4-H and support special events
- Recruit:
 - Other leaders and volunteers
 - New club members
 - Parents to be involved
- Serve on state or national committees