



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

4-H National
Headquarters



4-H Programming Partnerships

The following partnerships are with Cooperative Extension Service 4-H professionals at the land-grant universities and representatives from National 4-H Council. The Division of Youth and 4-H works with these partners to provide national leadership to the 4-H Program.

Program Leader's Working Group (PLWG)

The 4-H **Program Leader's Working Group** serves as the venue for the partners, *the public, state 4-H program leaders, the Division of Youth and 4-H*, along with the private partner, *National 4-H Council*, to provide the means to have an inclusive, and transparent mechanism for meaningful dialog; and, to provide direction and management, as appropriate, for 4-H positive youth development programming, between and within the partners. Key for the PLWG is how to connect, how to build competency and how to strengthen capacity for the 4-H programs. The PLWG is the vehicle for 4-H that provides opportunities for communications, allows for rapid response, serves as a sounding board, and as a feedback loop for the 4-H programs. This group provides the management to the 4-H Program based upon the direction and guidance of the ECOP National Leadership Committee.

Program Quality and Accountability Task Force

Identify best practices, establish standards, and resources for positive youth development and the national 4-H program. Establishes fidelity of research-based principles to ensure programs are culturally relevant and inclusive.

Professional Development Working Group

Assure consistent and quality professional development standards, competencies, resources and opportunities by networking and sharing existing resources and making recommendations for future direction.

Learning Working Group

To define the 4-H learning experience; identify what makes this experience unique from other learning opportunities; determine how we can tell the story about the 4-H learning experience; and determine what resources 4-H county and state staff might need to make the 4-H learning experience consistent across the country.

Vulnerable Population's Working Group

The purpose is to address part of the System's needs related to the issues of diversity inclusive of engagement impact on underserved populations.

Military Working Group

The Military Work Group (MWG), functions relate to the programs that serve military-connected youth audiences and families through the Land-grant university system and Cooperative Extension. The purpose is to increase communication between NIFA, 4-H, the Land grant system and military partners, address relevant needs and issues, provide current information and training related to military connected families and youth, and connect the logic model/common measures to programming.

National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee

Members of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee take an active role in the overall development and management of the National 4-H Shooting Sports program.

Citizenship Management Team

This 4-H Mission Mandate team supports states in delivering effective 4-H Youth Citizenship programs where youth will make a positive difference by engaging in learning opportunities that give them a heightened sense of responsibility and capacity to connect as active members of their communities, nation and world.

Healthy Living Management Team

To engage youth and families through access and opportunities to achieve optimal physical, social, and emotional wellbeing.

Science Management Team

To foster quality science learning and programming that promotes science literacy and interest in science related education and careers, and to serve as a two-way communication forum for field staff and national 4-H staff working with science programming.

The 4-H Youth Development Program is the youth outreach program from the land-grant institutions' Cooperative Extension Services, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). 4-H serves as a model program for the practice of positive youth development. The Division of Youth and 4-H is housed within USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Additional support for 4-H programming is provided through National 4-H Council. For more information email 4Hhq@nifa.usda.gov.