



United States Department of Agriculture



# NIFA

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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## NIFA: Federal Leader in PYD (Positive Youth Development)

Positive youth development is well researched, intentional, pro-social systematic approach. PYD engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances youths' strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnish the support needed to build on their leadership strengths. (Federal Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs, 2014)

### How NIFA implements PYD

Identify best practices, establish standards, and provide resources for positive youth development and the national 4-H program. Ensure programs are culturally relevant and inclusive through adherence to research-based principles.

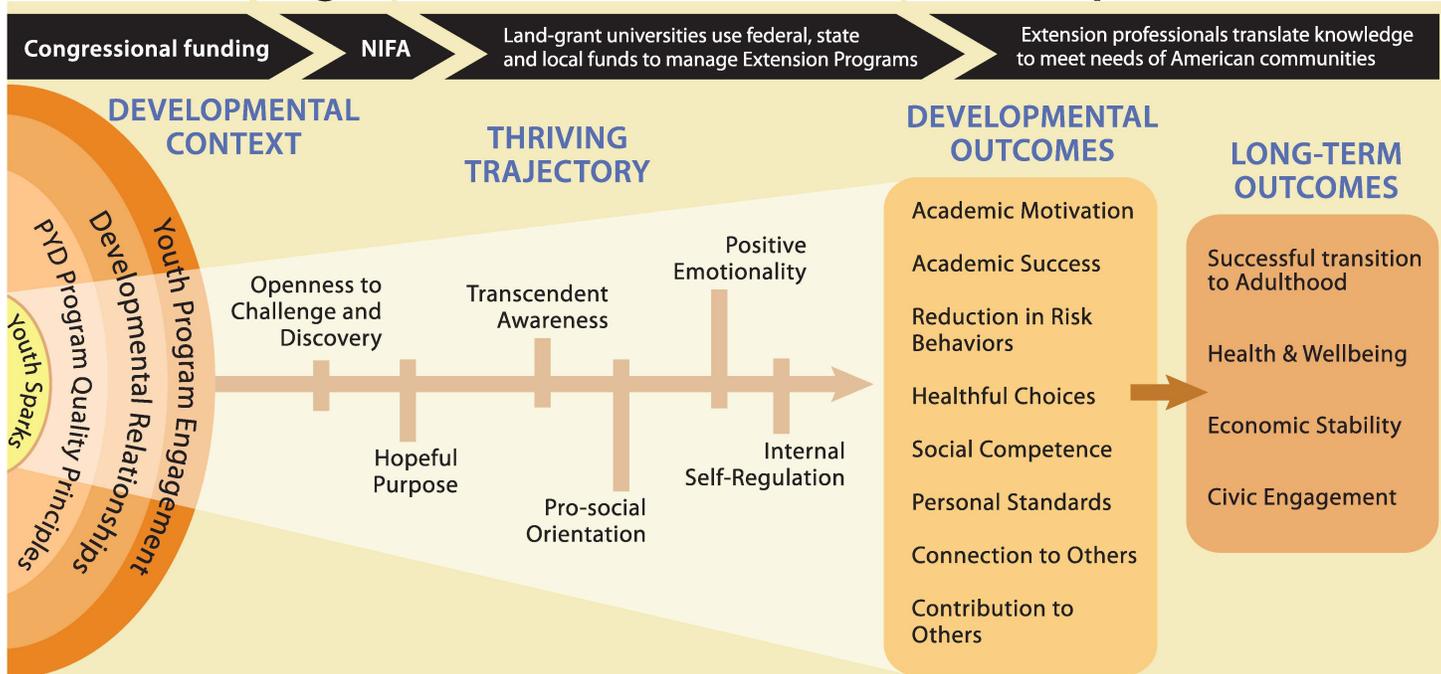
Develop mutually beneficial collaborations within USDA, federal partners, land-grant universities, and community partners. Partnerships are grounded in research, positive youth development, and NIFA's strategic plan.



Lead, inform, and educate 4-H and other land-grant university youth development professionals about learning principles, trends, resources, methods, and delivery techniques that incorporate relevant learning into PYD programs.

Incorporate stakeholder input—identifying relevant issues and solutions, evaluating and sharing results—while ensuring adherence to federal regulations. Develop strategies for providing PYD services to all populations.

### NIFA's 4-H Program is the federal model of PYD implementation



NIFA invests in and advances agricultural research, education and extension and seeks to make transformative discoveries that solve societal challenges. The 4-H Youth Development Program is the youth outreach program from the land-grant institutions' Cooperative Extension Services, and USDA-NIFA. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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