

Who We Are



4-H'ers across the nation are responding to challenges every day in their communities and their world.

With an expansive network reaching every corner of the country, 4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization. More than 6 million 4-H youth in urban neighborhoods, suburban schoolyards and rural farming communities stand out among their peers: building revolutionary opportunities and implementing community-wide change at an early age.

As the youth development program of the nation's 109 land-grant universities and the Cooperative Extension System, 4-H fosters an innovative, "learn by doing" approach with proven results. The 4-H Study of Positive Youth Development (<http://www.4-H.org//about/youth-development-research/>), a longitudinal study conducted by the Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development at Tufts University, shows youth engaged with 4-H are:

- Nearly two times more likely to get better grades in school;
- Nearly two times more likely to plan to go to college;
- 41 percent less likely to engage in risky behaviors; and
- 25 percent more likely to positively contribute to their families and communities.

Unparalleled Reach and Scope

With 540,000 volunteers, 3,500 professionals, and more than 60 million alumni, the 4-H movement supports young people from elementary school through high school with programs designed to shape future leaders and innovators. Fueled by research-driven programming, 4-H'ers engage in hands-on learning activities in the areas of science, citizenship and healthy living.

Leading by Example

The caring support of adult volunteers and mentors inspires young people in 4-H to work collaboratively, take the lead on their own projects and set and achieve goals with confidence. 4-H'ers chart their own course, explore important issues and define their place in the world. 4-H'ers stand up for themselves and their communities.

These pivotal experiences build a foundation of leadership and skills for success in their future careers.

Learn more about 4-H programs (<http://www.4-H.org/http://dev4h.4-h.org/youth-development-programs/>) or find out how you can get involved.

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