

Johnson County 4-H



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K-STATE
Research and Extension



Johnson
County

Welcome to 4-H!

We are so glad you decided to join Johnson County 4-H! 4-H is full of information and opportunities! We have created this guide to help you navigate through your first year and beyond. We are always willing to answer any questions you might have. Give us a call at 913-715-7000. Also, look in Clover Clips for other important information throughout the year. We suggest you attend our new member orientation (dates found in Clover Clips).

History

Increasing corn yields, developing safe canning methods and increasing egg production were just a few reasons why 4-H began around 1890.

But why 4-H and youth? Boys and girls clubs were created in order to fill this void. The youth formed a motto of “learning by doing” while their parents oversaw the work that they did.

This is how the idea of a “community club” was formed, having volunteer leaders provide the necessary educational material.

The first known case of a 4-H type activity was at Cornell University in 1898. Liberty Hyde Bailey helped to assist in the planning of what were called “nature study clubs.”

In 1907 the United States Department of Agriculture recognized 4-H, following in 1914 with the Smith-Lever Act which established Cooperative Extension with land grant universities.

What is 4-H?

- 4-H is a volunteer led, informal educational program for youth ages 7-18 years old.
- 4-H is for everyone regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or socioeconomic status.
- 4-H is for rural AND urban youth.
- 4-H is youth having fun and learning with their friends as well as families.

Kansas 4-H Mission:

Kansas 4-H Youth Development uses unique strategies and opportunities to engage youth in reaching their full potential through partnerships with caring adults.

Kansas 4-H Vision:

Kansas 4-H Youth Development provides a world where youth and adults acquire and advance positive life skills by learning, growing, and working together.

What are our goals?

4-H is youth and adults growing and coming together to become better citizens. 4-H uses teaching methods such as learning by doing, club meetings, community service projects, and event experiences for youth and adults as they work toward attaining life skills, which can be used in everyday situations.

Kansas 4-H focuses on the mastery of five life skills:

1. a positive self-concept
2. an inquiring mind
3. a concern for the community
4. healthy interpersonal relationships
5. sound decision-making

The subject matter content in 4-H focuses primarily on three mission areas: science, healthy living, and citizenship and leadership.

Positive Youth Development

4-H focuses on meeting needs of young people through positive youth development. Positive youth development is a theory and practice based on positive experiences and positive relationships within positive environments. Positive youth development is most likely to occur within positive and sustained relationships between youth and adults, activities that build important life skills, and opportunities for youth to use the life skills both as participants in and as leaders of valued community activities.

Motto

“To Make the Best Better”

Emblem

The 4-H emblem is the four-leaf clover with the letter “H” on each leaf. The “H” stands for Head, Heart, Hands and Health.

Colors

The 4-H colors are green and white. Green symbolizes nature’s most common color and represents life, spring-time, and youth. White symbolizes purity.

Pledge

I pledge:

My head to clearer thinking,

My heart to greater loyalty,

My hands to larger service, and

My health to better living for my club,

My community, my country, and my world.

4-H Year

A new 4-H year starts October 1 each year and ends September 30 of the following year; however, we allow youth to join 4-H at any time of the year.

Age for Membership and Events

4-H membership is open to all youth who are 7 years old and have not passed their 19th birthday by January 1 of the current year. Some events do require age limits, in this instance; 4-H age is determined once again by age as of January 1 of that current 4-H year.

Cloverbuds

Youth ages five and six years old are eligible to participate in the Cloverbud program, which is offered through some clubs in Johnson County. Check with your local club leader for more information regarding the club’s Cloverbud program.

Websites that you will find useful

- <http://www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/> This is the Johnson County K-State Research and Extension 4-H Youth Development website.
- <http://www.ksre.k-state.edu/> This is the Kansas State University Research and Extension website. You can find information relating to all fields of Extension here.
- <http://4-h.k-state.edu/> Kansas 4-H website
- <http://www.jocokansasfair.com/> Johnson County Fair’s website
- <http://www.4-h.org/> National 4-H Website

Enrollment

Online enrollment can be found at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/forms-resources/. Directions on how to enroll can be found at the same link. The 4-H year starts in October but youth can enroll at any time during the year.

Scholarships

Kansas 4-H Scholarships are available to current or past 4-H members who are seeking to further their education after high school. General criteria include high academic standing, 4-H achievement and leadership, and financial need. Kansas may also nominate members for several national 4-H scholarships. Most applications are due March 1. Johnson County also offers a local scholarship that seniors and alumni can apply for.

There are also local and state scholarships offered for several of the different 4-H events throughout the year such as 4-H camp, Discovery Days and Kansas Youth Leadership Forum. Information on available scholarships can be obtained from the Extension office as well as Clover Clips.



Head, Heart, Hands and Health

Studies show that there are eight elements for successful development; 4-H has reduced these eight elements to form four concepts that 4-H instills in its youth. These are as follows:

1. Independence- “I pledge my head to clearer thinking”--Youth need to know that they are able to influence people and events through decision-making and action. By exercising independence through 4-H leadership opportunities, youth mature in self-discipline and responsibility, learn to better understand themselves and become independent thinkers.
2. Belonging-“I pledge my heart to greater loyalty”--Youth need to know they are cared about by others and feel a sense of connection to others in the group. This “fellowship” has always been an important part of the 4-H experience. 4-H gives youth the opportunity to feel physically and emotionally safe while actively participating in a group. Current research emphasizes the importance for youth to have opportunities for long-term consistent relationships with adults other than parents. This research suggests that a sense of belonging may be the single most powerful positive ingredient we can add to the lives of children and youth.
3. Generosity- “I pledge my hands to larger service”--Youth need to feel their lives have meaning and purpose. By participating in 4-H community service and citizenship activities, youth can connect to communities and learn to give back to others. It’s clear that these experiences provide the foundation that helps us understand the “big picture” of life and find purpose and meaning.
4. Mastery- “I pledge my health to better living”--In order to develop self-confidence youth need to feel and believe they are capable and they must experience success at solving problems and meeting challenges. By exploring 4-H projects and activities, youth master skills to make positive career and life choices.
Youth need to have a safe environment for making mistakes and getting feedback, not just through competition but also as an ongoing element of participation. They need the breadth and depth of topics that allow them to pursue their own interests.

Selecting a 4-H Project

Each member should select at least one project each year and keep records for that project.

In choosing a project the 4-H'er will consult with their parents and 4-H leaders. The 4-H'er should base their project selection on:

- Their own personal interests, needs and capabilities.
- Their family situation.
- Suitability of the area in which they live.

Once chosen, the member will attend project meetings. These meetings will be conducted by project leaders who will notify the members throughout the year of scheduled meetings.

Each member is encouraged to exhibit a completed project from their 4-H project at the county fair.

Early in their 4-H career, a member should consider developing a project plan. This means selecting projects which complement each other, giving the 4-H'er a deeper understanding of his or her basic project idea. However, the first two years should be used for exploring the youth's interests.

A list of projects can be found at www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/project-club-resources/projects.html.

Countywide Projects

Some project leaders hold meetings that are open to all of Johnson County 4-H. This is a great way to meet 4-H'ers from across the county. For more information and a list of current countywide projects visit <http://www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/events-programs/countywide-projects.html>. Other countywide project opportunities will be listed in Clover Clips throughout the year.



4-H Project Records

One of the true 4-H learning experiences is record keeping. This does take time, but the 4-H'er actually learns important skills that will benefit them in the future. Keeping records throughout the year helps to ease the pressure of deadlines some feel when record books are due. Parents are advised to oversee the child's work, but the records should be completed by the child as part of their 4-H learning experience.

Parts to the record book include:

- Personal Page- This is completed yearly by the 4-H'er. The 4-H member will write basic information about themselves for the current year.
- 4-H Project Story- The 4-H'ers project story is an important part of their records. It conveys how their total 4-H year impacted them and their family. This is where the 4-H'er expands on facts and figures by telling what the project experience meant to them. This story should include an introduction, the major project information, project leadership, citizenship and information about the 4-H'ers personal satisfaction and future goals.
- Permanent Record- This is completed yearly and is a summary of what the 4-H'er has completed within the last year. This document is also kept and added to for each additional 4-H year completed.

A 4-H'er that completes their record book will receive a record book seal based on their achievements. Receiving a record book seal will also help your 4-H community club earn a Club seal for their achievement.

Kansas Award Portfolio (KAP)

In addition to keeping a 4-H record book is the competitive side of record keeping i.e. - project recognition. This is an optional activity for 4-H members. A KAP is a record kept on one specific project. You can do a KAP on one of your projects or all of your projects. ALL youth competing at the Area or State level MUST utilize the State KAP form. The KAP is project specific and requires that each project be submitted in separate folders/notebooks.

Membership Pins

Membership pins are designed to recognize youth for achieving that level of participation in the 4-H program. This is not a competitive process. All youth who complete an application and whose application is judged as complete will receive a recognition pin.

Available membership Pins:

- Membership Pin (1st Year)
- Bronze Pin (2nd Year)
- Clover Pin (3rd Year)
- Emerald Pin (4th Year)
- Silver Pin (5th Year)
- Silver Guard Pin (6th Year)
- Leadership Pin (7th Year)
- Gold Pin (8th Year)
- Gold Guard Pin (9th Year)
- 10 Year Membership Pin
- 11 Year Membership Pin

Key Award

The Kansas Key Award is one of the highest honors awarded to 4-H members across Kansas. As a 4-H award, the applicant needs to highlight 4-H related events, activities and achievements accomplished within the 4-H club, county/district, region or state.

Officer Pins

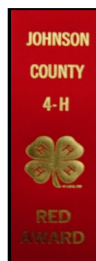
Pins will be awarded providing the community leader fills out the nomination form and the officers complete the requirements listed in the Johnson County Award Procedures. Pins will only be awarded to the officer positions listed in the Award Procedures. Any additional officer positions should be recognized at the club level.



Danish Award System

Johnson County 4-H uses the Danish Award System, which competes each exhibit on its own merit against a set scorecard or recognized standard. The judge will place contestants in one of five ribbon groups based on the quality of their performance or exhibit. This system is used at the Johnson County Fair as well at County Club Day. The ribbon groups and their significance are:

Purple	Blue	Red	White	Green (Participation Ribbon)
An outstanding performance/exhibit that met all of the class requirements. Contained few, if any, flaws. Top Purples may be awarded for truly exceptional performances.	A very good performance/exhibit that met all of the class requirements. The performance contained few flaws, and was well above minimum standards.	A good performance/exhibit that met all of the class requirements. It was slightly above or at minimum standards.	An average performance/exhibit that met the requirements of the class, but was below minimum standards.	This ribbon is awarded to those who take part in a noncompetitive portion of 4-H.



Volunteer Screening Process

One principle of positive youth development is based on the benefit of a positive, sustained relationship of the young person with a caring adult. Youth gain the confidence, connections, and caring they need to achieve their potential. In Kansas, nearly 1,000 individuals apply to become new 4-H volunteers each year, and the organization depends on thousands of volunteers to help fulfill the role of a caring adult.

Who Must Complete the VIP Process?

4-H volunteer screening must be completed by:

- any individual who works in close, ongoing interaction with youth, or
- any adult or youth with authority to independently plan and conduct 4-H educational experiences for youth with other adults present or in a public setting.

Volunteers who do not fit into one of the above criteria would be considered episodic and do not need to complete the screening.

Steps to Become a Registered Volunteer

1. Application
2. Face to Face Interview
3. Orientation
4. Background Checks
5. Approval by the Johnson County Extension Council

For more information visit our website at <http://www.johnson.k-state.edu/4-h/volunteers/>.

4-H Events

County Level Activities

4-H Camp - A four day, three night experience at Rock Springs 4-H Center, located outside of Junction City, Kansas. The camp is organized by a camp association which includes Douglas County, Marias des Cygnes District, Frontier District, Wyandotte County and Johnson County 4-H Organizations. The youth are supervised by trained camp counselors (ages 15 and older) who are then supervised by 4-H agents.

4-H Sunday - A Sunday set aside for clubs to worship together. Each club conducts this event as they feel appropriate. National 4-H Sunday is held during National 4-H Week.

Achievement Celebration - An event to honor 4-H members and leaders usually held in November. The county champions, achievement awards and key award winners are named. Everyone involved in 4-H is encouraged to attend.

Club Day - A 4-H Council event that provides 4-H members the opportunity of developing public appearance skills. Youth are encouraged to give demonstrations, talks, talents, skits or dances. 4-H'ers may enter as individuals or teams. The presentation is evaluated by a judge and presented a purple, blue, red, or white ribbon. The top contestants in each category will advance on to Regional 4-H Day.

Club Exchange Meeting - Clubs may invite another club from their county or outside their county to join them in a meeting at their regular meeting location, usually, a reciprocal invitation from the invited club is issued.

Club Float - A 4-H display designed as a moving exhibit promoting 4-H and entered in a parade. Floats are often made as a community service activity, helping 4-H'ers to be involved in a community event.

Club Tour - A special event/meeting where club members visit each others homes sharing their 4-H project accomplishments.

Conference Judging - This judging is designed to increase the value of the 4-H exhibit judging experience for the 4-H members. The process involves an experienced and knowledgeable judge interviewing the 4-H member while evaluating the project exhibit.

Exchange Trips - Out-of-county or out-of-state trips where 4-H'ers live with, or host, another 4-H'er in their home. The purpose is to meet new people and experience new 4-H ideas.

Food Fare - This is a great event for 4-H'ers to have a chance to try new foods and learn about different cultures. Each club involved will pick a topic relevant to the theme for the current year. They decorate and make food pertaining to the topic. Participants that attend Food Fare then get to visit each of the stations and sample the food.

Gavel Games - Done before a judge at 4-H Club Day consisting of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and an optional club member. Participants will conduct a meeting using correct parliamentary procedure. Criteria for scoring are available from the county Extension office in score sheet format.

Johnson County Fair - The annual event where 4-H'ers exhibit an end product of their current 4-H projects for evaluation. Judging is done by a variety of evaluation methods. Exhibitors are awarded purple, blue, red, or white ribbons based upon a judge's decision. Purple winners are eligible for State Fair if age requirements are met. A fair book explaining rules and classes is available late in June.

Judging Contest - In these contests 4-H'ers evaluate and rate animals or products best to least desirable. In addition, a 4-H'er may be asked to explain their decision. This is also called oral reasons.

Leader meetings - Held three or four times a year, the purpose is for leaders to come together to discuss issues that they deem pertinent. This is also a time for the 4-H agent to train the leaders and 4-H'ers on specialized interests.

Model Meeting - An enactment of a typical 4-H meeting for judges at 4-H Club Day. Criteria for scoring are available from the county Extension office in score sheet format. The entire club should be involved in this presentation.

Officer's Training - A short training session for newly elected club officers. It's purpose is to explain the responsibilities, leadership techniques and basic knowledge of each office.

Parent's Night - A celebration honoring parents is traditional for some clubs. Often skits or spoofs are staged by or for parents. Sometimes parents and 4-H'ers exchange roles for an evening. This activity is optional for a club.

Project Fair - A public display of projects to be offered for the current year, usually held on a weekend. Experienced 4-H'ers will be available to answer questions about various project areas. This is open to current 4-H'ers wanting to learn more about specific projects as well as new families.

Project Meeting - A small interest group conducted by a leader. Usually separate from monthly club meetings.

Public Fashion Revue - A time for 4-H'ers who enrolled in clothing to model garments for an audience. This event is usually held as part of the county and/or state fair.

Quiz Bowls - A formal setting for testing 4-H member's knowledge on project areas. Each team consists of four members. Two teams compete at the same time. A monitor asks questions and team members receive points for correct answers and lose points for wrong answers. 4-H has Quiz Bowls for beef, dairy, dog, home economics, horse, and sheep.

Weigh-in/Animal Identification -

Beef, Sheep, Swine and Goats- Must be weighed and tagged in spring in order to be shown at county and state shows.

Horse- All horses must have a Horse ID signed and filed by May 1 of that year.

Dog- All dogs must be current on all vaccines.

Area, State and National Activities

4-H Showcase - Held in conjunction with the State Fair where 4-H'ers can share their talents with the public.

Area Awards Judging - Usually during late January or early February, committees of volunteers and Extension agents meet to select the top two applications in each award program, which are then sent on to state awards judging in March.

Citizenship In Action (CIA) - The purpose of the event is for Kansas youth to learn how the state legislative process works and how their voice and participation in decision-making can make a difference in their local communities. The legislative visit will not only familiarize youth with the capitol building, but will also show them how they can affect the legislative process. This takes place at the Capitol building in Topeka.

Citizenship Washington Focus (D.C.) - Each summer Kansas sends delegates to the conference at the National 4-H Center outside Washington D.C. The high school age 4-H'ers are involved in citizenship/leadership workshops in addition to viewing the historic area. Delegates are selected by applications submitted to the state in January. 4-H Council offers some partial scholarships with the balance being paid by the 4-H'er.

Discovery Days - Held at Kansas State University. Members, leaders and parents may attend. Classes and learning activities are the focus of this mini-college event. 4-H youth must be at least 13 years old to attend.

District Horse Show - Held at a state assigned location within determined geographical area. This horse show limits the number of State Fair participants as 4-H'ers must receive a purple or blue at district competition.

Encampment - The building located on the state fairgrounds which houses 4-H'ers, parents, and leaders who are exhibiting or performing at the State Fair. Accommodations are dormitory style and must be reserved well before fair time. The county Extension office will handle these reservations.

IFYE - International 4-H Youth Exchange provides opportunity for young adults 19-25 to live for six months or more with families in another county. Similarly, young adults from foreign countries come to the United States and live with families. The National and State 4-H Foundation, 4-H Council and the delegates provide funding.



Japan/4-H Exchange - Each year Kansas 4-H'ers host 75-100 Japanese youth for a period of five weeks as part of a national Japan/4-H Exchange. The Japanese youth, between the ages of 12-20, come to learn about family life in the United State and are to be treated as a member of the family. In exchange, Kansas sends 10-20 4-H'ers each year to Japan to complete the exchange. Funds are provided by participants.

Kansas Junior Livestock Show - 4-H'ers can enter beef, sheep and swine in this competitive show and the sale is held Hutchinson, Kansas, usually in September.

Kansas State Fair - 4-H'ers age 9 and older who have met all requirements to enter, can compete at the State Fair. Each division has special requirements for eligibility at State Fair, based on County Fair awards. The fair is held in Hutchinson and starts the first weekend after Labor Day and runs through the following weekend.

Kansas Volunteer Forum - 4-H volunteers from across the state may attend this two day event. Numerous educational sessions are presented to help participants upgrade their skills. Informal sharing sessions allow for the exchange of valuable ideas.

Kansas Youth Leadership Forum (KYLF) - an event where youth can build their leadership skills and potential through workshops, consulting groups, inspirational speakers and more. In addition, the State 4-H Youth Leadership Council will be elected at KYLF.

National 4-H Conference - 4-H'ers who are 15 and older are eligible to apply to attend the National 4-H Conference at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Four youth are selected to attend, based on application and personal interview of finalists. The four youth represent Kansas 4-H at the national planning meetings in April. Upon their return home, they help with Discovery Days, serve on the State 4-H Advisory Board for one year, and the State 4-H Citizenship Project Action Committee for one or two years. Expenses for the National Conference are paid by donors.

National 4-H Congress - The recognition event for 4-H members who have achieved state and national recognition for their projects. National and local sponsorship of the trip, which occurs after Thanksgiving each year, provides a one-week educational experience for approximately 35-40 Kansas youth. Youth from all 50 states are represented at this event.

National 4-H Week - The first full week in October is set aside each year to recognize and promote 4-H. Each year a theme highlights the week and is used throughout the year. 4-H clubs may have window displays, booths or special promotions of 4-H in their communities.

Regional 4-H Club Day - Top entries from county 4-H Club Day gather with nearby counties to compete with one another for regional awards. Some county groups do not participate in a regional event.

Rock Springs 4-H Center- The statewide camp and conference center located near Junction City, Kansas. This facility is funded by the Kansas 4-H Foundation and is available for a variety of recreational and educational activities to both Extension and non-Extension groups.

Wheat Show (State) - Each August, 4-H'ers are invited to enter the 4-H Wheat Show at a central location. Participants can exhibit a five-pound clean, bin-run sample of wheat seed they have grown or may "adopt a farmer" and exhibit their wheat. Educational tours, 4-H Wheat Marketing Quiz Bowl, and other activities are also provided.

Wheat Variety Plot - This specific activity is geared for members who can plant a small wheat test plot. Seed wheat for five varieties and identification signs are provided to each member. Records are kept on each variety and a booth exhibited at the county fair. Ten booths are invited to show at the Kansas State Fair.

Glossary of Terms

Local Club Level

4-H Families - An essential element to a successful 4-H experience. Families are strongly encouraged to attend monthly meetings with their child. All county-wide events are open to the public.

4-H member- A youth enrolled in 4-H. To be eligible youth must be 7 by January 1 and have not passed their 18th birthday by January 1 of the current year.

4-H Program Book - Books which break down the 4-H year into monthly responsibilities of members. These responsibilities include demonstrations, talks, and refreshments. These books are provided by the local 4-H Club.

Banner - An exhibit constructed of fabric which displays an idea to promote 4-H. Some counties judge banners, but they are not judged at the State Fair. Many clubs hang their banners at the monthly meeting places.

Club Project - A selected project area that allows club members to work toward goals together. Popular project areas include, but are not limited to, community service, citizenship and safety.

Club Constitution and Bylaws - An agreed-upon, written document, for each 4-H club. It spells out the name, purpose, membership expectations, offices, officer duties, and general rules for club operations. A suggested constitution and bylaws are provided through the Extension office.

Community Club Meeting - The regular monthly meeting with all club members, leaders and family members present. This is when local club business and discussion takes place.

Community Club Leader - A Registered Volunteer who is responsible for the organizational part of the club; helps with club goal-setting and program planning; assists club officers.

Club Seal - Seals are available each year to clubs who have successfully completed the goals and activities they set for themselves and recorded in their Annual Club Summary. Clubs may display the seals on their club charter.

County 4-H Council Representative - Each chartered club is given representation on the Johnson County 4-H County Council. The 4-H Council plans and carries out county activities, plans a budget and selects county trips and award winners.

County Wide Projects - Most project work is done with your club or on your own. However, there are a few projects that have countywide meetings that are open to all 4-H'ers.

Community Service Committee - Clubs may choose to participate in a community service project. The committee helps design ways of carrying out the plans made by the club and should include 4-H members and adult volunteers.

Enrollment - Completed online and required to be an official 4-H member. For new members enrollment can take place at any time during the year. Returning members must enroll by November 1 of the current year.

Curriculum - There is a variety of curriculum available to help support the 4-H project work. Many projects have a built in progression for skill development and some include a leader guide. They can be purchased at the Extension office for around five dollars per book.

Jr. Leader - A youth who is 12 years old and enrolled in, and takes part in, the leadership project. They take part in helping the younger members in the club. By doing this, they grow, mature and learn leadership skills.

New Family Coordinator - A volunteer that trains new 4-H members and families.

Officers - Members of a 4-H club who handle the steering, recording, and accounting of club meetings and activities. They are usually elected to their position by their peers. Offices needed vary with numbers and ages of club members, but may include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Historian, Recreation Leader, and Song Leader, as well as other locally determined positions.

Parents Committee - Ensures that the club has the necessary leadership to provide positive learning experiences. They also identify and recruit leaders.

Project - A subject area defined by K-State Research and Extension, with applicable research and knowledge literature supplied. A complete list of projects can be found on our website.

Project Leader - Is a Registered Volunteer who helps to teach youth 4-H projects. This person is often a 4-H parent who agrees to provide leadership within a project. It may also be a Jr. Leader or a person from the community who has knowledge in a particular subject matter area. Specific responsibilities include: helping select projects; providing teaching over a named project area; and encouraging participation in other community experiences.

Project or Activity Committee - Some clubs choose to have a club project or may want the club to do several activities as a group. Often the planning for carrying out these activities occurs within a selected group of members and adults called a Project Committee. It reports back to the local club and must always work in conjunction with club agreement.

Project Leader Coordinator - A volunteer who organizes and trains the project leaders within their respective 4-H clubs by providing ideas and encouragement.

Registered Volunteer - (Formally known as the VIP process) A volunteer that has completed the Volunteer Service process and has been approved by the Extension Board. The process consists of an application, orientation, a face to face interview and background checks.

SPIN Club - Stands for SPecial INTERst club. SPIN clubs are short term clubs that focus on one particular topic. Typically 6 to 8 sessions and open to 4-H'ers and non- 4-H'ers.

Two Deep Leadership - Having at least two Registered Volunteers present at all 4-H events so that an adult and youth are never left alone at one time.

County Level

4-H County Council - 4-H clubs each have two 4-H representatives and two adults that participate in this group. They meet every other month for a total of six times a year. This group plans 4-H activities and events for the county, as well as forming a budget for County Council.

4-H Program Development Committee (PDC) - This group is an elected body of six citizens. They are responsible for advising the program direction on a county-wide basis. They work with the agent to help carry out new programs and suggest improvements.

Ambassadors - 4-H'ers 14 and older selected to promote 4-H throughout Johnson County.

Annual Summary - A yearly progress report. Award categories have specific requirements that must be completed to receive honors.

Executive Board - From the 24 members of the County Program Development Committees, nine are selected to serve as the Extension Council Executive Committee. The committee has the responsibility to hire and supervise the Extension agents, to develop and oversee the Extension Council budget, and to set priorities for the five Extension programs.

Extension Agents - Professionals responsible for conducting educational programs for county residents. They are employed by the county, and Kansas State University Research and Extension. Johnson County has six agents specializing in agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences (FCS), horticulture, community development and 4-H/youth development. The Johnson County Extension office is located at 11811 South Sunset Drive, Suite 1500, Olathe, KS 66061. The website is www.johnson.k-state.edu and the phone number is 913.715.7000. Johnson County has one 4-H Extension Agent.

Superintendent - The title given to an adult or teen leader who is responsible for a specific subject matter area at a fair.

State Level

K-State Research and Extension - Short for the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, K-State Research and Extension employs approximately 300 research scientists, 180 faculty specialists and program leaders, 270 county and area specialists, and 400 support staff in 23 departments from 5 different colleges. Personnel are located at the main campus, in 105 county offices, 9 experiment fields, 5 area offices, 3 research centers, and 3 research-extension centers.

Kansas 4-H Foundation - This non-profit organization works to provide additional resources for the 4-H program. They sponsor scholarships, funding for programs and assist where needed.

State Specialists - These people have responsibility for the 4-H program on a state-wide basis. Each specialist has a specific role in the total 4-H program. They are based at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS.

