

FOR AN IMPORTANT JOB



YOU ARE NEEDED

You are needed for a rewarding experience . . . serving as a volunteer in 4-H youth work. Why? Because there are boys and girls in your city, town or community who cannot participate fully in 4-H youth work unless adults like yourself provide them the needed leadership. These youth need and want your guidance and direction.

It is through adults like you who accept leadership roles in 4-H that there is a North Carolina 4-H youth program.

And through your sharing of knowledge and time, we are sure that your own life will be enriched.

4-H PROGRAM

The 4-H program in North Carolina is conducted through community or neighborhood clubs, special interest groups, project groups and activity oriented groups. Yes, youth may even participate as members at-large. The community or neighborhood clubs are located in urban, suburban and rural areas. Clubs may be co-educational (contain both boys and girls) or single sex (boys only, girls only). Members have the opportunity to enroll in projects; attend club meetings; participate in activities such as camps, tours, exhibits, demonstrations, judging, achievement days, etc.

So you see there are many opportunities for you to help and share with youth in a 4-H leadership position. Four-H is for all youth.

PERSONAL SATISFACTION

You'll enjoy being a leader if you are interested in young people and are willing to spend some time giving them encouragement and assistance when needed. When a youngster says or hints "thank you," the reward is overpowering. There are others:

- ... seeing boys and girls develop poise and self-confidence.
- ... observing their response as they demonstrate talents, skills and abilities.
- ... stimulating your own learning.
- ... making new and lasting friendships.
- ... providing service to youth, community and society.

Dr. C. B. Smith, one of the great pioneers of 4-H work, has said, "A man stands a little straighter, breathes a little deeper and walks a little faster when he knows he has had a part in developing young people."

OBJECTIVES OF 4-H

Four-H is recognized as a great character-building organization. Many values can be attributed to 4-H work. It offers experiences and training for boys and girls which supplements the training received in the home, the school and the church. The program today seeks to develop the boy and girl intellectually, socially, spiritually and physically.

TYPES OF LEADERS

Boys and girls need volunteer adult leaders. In the North Carolina 4-H program, boys and girls depend on these adult leaders: sponsoring committee members, community club leaders, project, activity and special interest leaders.

SPONSORING COMMITTEE

The Sponsoring Committee members organize and promote 4-H clubs in their local community.

They ..

- ...help Extension agents identify communities where clubs could be started.
- ...identify, secure and support community and project leaders for the club.
- ...act as liaison between 4-H club and Extension agents.
- ...organize all 4-H clubs within their community.
- ...help to arrange transportation and other support for members and clubs as needed.
- ... are alert to the needs of leaders and assist them when needed.
- ... encourage and promote 4-H membership and participation in 4-H activities.
- ... help parents understand the value of adult support and guidance for boys and girls.

COMMUNITY CLUB

Community Club leaders guide the operation of the local community 4-H club.

They ...

- ... counsel members on projects, records and activities.
- ... help the members plan a yearly club program.
- ... assist officers in planning and carrying out club meetings.
- ... advise project and activity leaders.
- ... serve as the contact between the club, the community and the county Extension staff.



PROJECT AND ACTIVITY

Project and activity leaders teach subject matter, giving leadership and guidance in specific projects or activities.

They ...

- ... share their hobby, special interest, or profession with eager youngsters with a common goal.
- ...assist members in the development of their personal competence and confidence through "learning by doing."
- ...encourage active 4-H member participation in worthwhile activities and events.
- ...help 4-H members plan and carry out personal improvement and community service activities.

EXTENSION SUPPORT

The support provided by the Extension Service helps to make the leader's job easier. This support takes many forms: group meetings, individual conferences, demonstrations, training meetings, workshops and literature.

PREPARED BY STATE 4-H STAFF

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