Kentucky 4-H Youth Development Update
February 2015

Kentucky 4-H continues to grow and touches the lives of a greater number of youth than in the past. We reach 256,345 youth or 32% of K-12 grade population. We have 154,257 members enrolled in our 4-H Clubs which is an increase of 39,000 over last year. I want to continue to stress the importance of the 4-H Club model as you develop your county 4-H program.

The club model is a delivery mode that has all of the essential elements of positive youth development which include a safe environment, a caring adult, an inclusive environment, engagement in learning, opportunity for mastery, seeing oneself in the future, opportunity for self-determination, and service to others. Recent research indicates that the outcomes of having these elements in our 4-H program leads to confidence, competence, caring, character, and connection in our youth which impact our society by youth contributing to their community and a reduction of at-risk behavior. Continue your great efforts!!

Kentucky 4-H 2015 Report-Making a Difference
The Kentucky 4-H 2015 Making a difference fact sheet can be found at http://4-h.ca.uky.edu/sites/4-h.ca.uky.edu/files/about/Kentucky%20handout%202015%20edit.pdf and summarizes the impacts and successes in the Kentucky 4-H Youth Development program. Please share with your leaders and other stakeholders.

You may wonder about how this report is generated. Data are collected from several sources including testimonials, program evaluations, the ES 237, Featured Program evaluations and Priority Indicators. Reports do make a difference in telling our “Kentucky 4-H Story” which is why reporting and accountability is important to our organization.

Specialist Responsibility Changed
Jennifer Tackett has assumed the state responsibility for 4-H Clubs to better manage and provide resources related to “delivery modes” in the 4-H Program. She will have afterschool, enrichment, club and Cloverbuds as part of her responsibilities.
Charlene Jacobs, Assistant Director for 4-H Youth Development

PERSONNEL: 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENT POSITIONS
New Agents: Two agents joined our ranks in January.
  • Kristen Kirkland, Fayette County
    Kristen fell in love with agriculture as a child, growing up on her family’s cattle farm. That passion set her on a course to make a difference in the field of agriculture. She was a very active 4-H member. After high school, she worked one-on-one with contractors and architects on the design and development of Locust Trace Agri-Science Farm in Lexington. She comments, “Seeing something from paper to speaking at ground breaking, to being able to work as farm manager is very fulfilling.” During college, she had opportunities to put her leadership skills into action through work on research projects, planning field days, being a member of the UK Meats Judging Team and planning the UK Agriculture Economic Centennial Celebration. She completed a BS in Agriculture Economics at the University of Kentucky.
• **Leslea Barnes, Crittenden County**  
  Leslea has a BS in agriculture with a minor in photography from Murray and is very excited to be the new 4-H Agent in Crittenden County. She has held positions in the Murray State Agriculture Department, the local newspaper, a photography studio, as a kitchen consultant and most recently, as office manager for a rural health clinic. She has three children and has volunteered in the organizations with which they have been involved—school site-based council, PTO, Girl Scouts, basketball and soccer, and church youth groups. Her husband, Adam, is the ANR agent in Livingston County.

*Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development*

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**4-H Health Month**
Take a break for health during your 4-H programs in February! You can find ways to do so on the website below as well as our Facebook page! Snap a picture or video and upload it to our Facebook page with #KY4HHealthmonth #4HHealthyselves! Each picture and video will be entered in a drawing for an ION Party Rocker Bluetooth Portable sound system with built in light show!

* [http://4-h.ca.uky.edu/4HHealthMonth](http://4-h.ca.uky.edu/4HHealthMonth)
  [https://www.facebook.com/4HHealthMonth](https://www.facebook.com/4HHealthMonth)
*Jennifer N. Tackett, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development*

**Shooting Sports**
The deadline to register volunteers for the Spring Coach’s Certification Workshop is February 20th. Registration is online at [https://apps.ca.uky.edu/agentforms/web/shootingsportsworkshop/](https://apps.ca.uky.edu/agentforms/web/shootingsportsworkshop/). The paper copy of the registration form and workshop fee should be mailed to the state office to confirm space in the workshop. The payment must be POSTMARKED by the deadline date of Feb. 20th. RSO training is not available for this workshop.

*Donna M. Fox, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development*

**4-H Camp**
We welcome our new Camp Directors who will begin their journey with the 4-H Camping Program this month!

*Donna M. Fox, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development*

**2015 National Ag Day**
The National 4-H Council is once again offering college students the opportunity to represent 4-H during the National Ag Day in Washington D.C. The Agriculture Council of America sponsors 100 student representatives from across the country to participate in the training and attend the National Ag Day activities on Capitol Hill. The students—from FFA, AFA, 4-H and Student NAMA—put a face on the future of agriculture and personally emphasize the importance of agriculture in our everyday lives. We are pleased to announce that Anna Meador (Simpson County, D6) and Haley Coppage (Ohio County, D5) will be representing 4-H and Kentucky at this prestigious event. Selected from a competitive pool of applicants, they will attend a welcome and dinner, participate in a full day of agriculture leadership and advocacy training and participate in the National Ag Day events on Capitol Hill. During this time, they
will have an opportunity to schedule Congressional visits with Kentucky’s elected officials. Congratulations to these two outstanding, young, agriculture leaders!

Mark Mains, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

National Beekeeping Essay Contest
This is a reminder about the National 4-H Beekeeping Essay Contest. Each agent should judge and select the best essay from his/her county and forward it to Tom Webster by February 23. He will appoint a committee to judge the essays. The top three essays will win awards from the Kentucky State Beekeeping Association. The top essay will be submitted to the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, for the national competition. Kentuckians have won the national first place award twice in recent years. For details please see http://preservationofhoneybees.org/essays or contact Thomas Webster.

Thomas C. Webster, Associate Professor, College of Agriculture, Food Science and Sustainable Systems, KSU

National Extension Conference on Volunteerism
The National Extension Conference on Volunteerism is held during odd-numbered years and is absolutely the best professional development opportunity for Extension professionals interested in volunteer programming. The 2015 conference will be held in May 4 – 7 in Portland, Maine. This conference is designed for professionals of all disciplines within Extension who work with volunteers and/or coordinate volunteer programs. Workshops, keynote presentations, poster sessions, lightening talks and super seminars will address key issues related to volunteer development, volunteer administration and volunteer program management. Complete information about the conference, including a schedule, registration and hotel information and the complete agenda is available at http://extension.umaine.edu/programs/necv/

Registration is now open! Register online
- Early bird registration fee (January 18 – March 6): $250
- Regular registration fee (March 7 – April 15): $300
- One-Day Registration Fee (Tuesday or Wednesday): $150

Kentucky is well represented on the program!

Please promote this opportunity to share volunteerism expertise and experiences to all Extension professionals. Send to all appropriate listservs and link the website to all appropriate webpages. See you in Portland!

Ken Culp, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

Volunteer Conference of Southern States
Kentucky will serve as host at the 2015 Volunteer Conference of Southern States to be held October 1 – 4 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center near Eatonton, Georgia. The VC of SS is designed to engage 4-H volunteers and staff across the southern region, in contemporary educational opportunities, that will impact, enhance and foster quality, excellence and achievement in the essential elements of youth development programming and to provide experiential educational opportunities to 4-H volunteers and staff across the southern region, which are designed to improve the quality of 4-H programming in their own activities, projects, clubs and communities.
The Workshop Call for Proposals will be available soon. Please mark these dates on your calendar, share them with volunteers and staff, and plan to join us at Rock Eagle for what promises to be an outstanding opportunity to learn, network and renew.

Ken Culp, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

Kentucky Volunteer Forum
The 2016 Kentucky Volunteer Forum will be held February 11 – 13 at the Hyatt Regency Lexington and the Lexington Convention Center. Significant changes are being implemented. The KVF will feature over 100 workshops, divided into more than a dozen educational tracks a dozen Seminars on Wheels, networking opportunities, educational, commercial and entrepreneur exhibits and volunteer recognition. Volunteer recognition will be updated and streamlined. The application process has been revised to make it easier to make nominations. Additionally, the Hall of Fame Banquet will be streamlined significantly and will last no more than two hours. We hope to have every county represented at the Kentucky Volunteer Forum. Additional information will be added to the website in April 1, 2015.

Ken Culp, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

Tax Time, 4-H and the IRS

Exempt Status: Now is a good time to take a look at the information recorded in KERS about the tax status of your 4-H council and 4-H clubs/groups that handle money. Go to KERS and click on “Tax Exempt/Volunteer Entities.” Check the information listed for each group. Make changes as appropriate. This information needs to be updated annually. In the future, it will be checked by administrators during county program reviews.

501c3 Exempt Status: If your 4-H Council or clubs have applied for and received 501c3 status, it may be time to file a 990 tax form. The appropriate version of the 990 is filed by the 15th day of the 5th month after the financial year ends. So...if the financial year of these groups is January to December, they have until May 15 to file the form.

Groups that Derive Exempt Status from Extension District: Groups that derive their exempt status from the Extension District do NOT file a tax form.

Tax Status and Grants: I’ve gotten lots of questions recently about documentation or proof that a 4-H Council or club is tax exempt. If a group has applied for and received its own 501c3 exempt status, they should have an official document from the IRS which declares just that. Only a few 4-H groups have done this.

Most 4-H councils and clubs that handle money opted about 5 years ago to derive their exempt status from the Extension District. As documentation, an officer of the Extension District Board needs to prepare a letter that explains the exempt status of the 4-H group. A template for this letter is available through the Agent Resource Guide under “Tax Exempt Status.”

Email messages and the IRS: Generally, the IRS does not contact people by email unless you initiate it. Scammers have found that a mention of the IRS tends to cause people to respond out of fear when
they should not. If you receive an email claiming to be from the IRS and you didn’t initiate it, chances are, you should ignore the request. Generally, the IRS makes contact through the US Mail.

Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

Ideas for In-Services to be held July 2015-June 2016
We strive to offer a wide variety of in-services each year that will be of interest to 4-H agents. In order to do that, we need to hear from you. When you submit an idea, include the overall topic, and list specific sub-topics that you would like covered in the in-service. If you do that, the resulting in-service is more likely to be what you want and need. If subtopics are not listed, the presenters are left to come up with subtopics which may or may not align with your intentions. The idea submission form was emailed to you on 12-15-14 or you may go to the resource guide, “Professional Development,” then scroll down to “In-Service Idea Submission Form.” The deadline to submit ideas is February 23, 2015.

Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

Credit for In-Service Attendance—4 things to do
After you complete an in-service, be sure to go back to KERS about a week later to make sure that your attendance has been marked. If it hasn’t, contact the presenter. If you attend a session for which you did not pre-register, you must go to KERS, sign up and then tell the presenter that you have registered. About credit hours—partial credit is not given so if you leave early, arrive late or are out of the room a significant portion of the session, credit will not be given even if your signature is on the sign-in sheet.

Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development

UPCOMING IN-SERVICES FOR 2015
Be sure to pre-register for in-services that are of interest to youth in your county. Here’s a quick list of sessions specifically planned for 4-H agents but refer to the catalog in KERS for additional sessions targeted to all Extension agents.

- **Home Energy Detectives**: offered via Lync--Feb. 19; Mar. 26; Apr. 16; May 21; June 18 (part of FCS—Home Env. Core)
- **Biotechnology—Investigation, Discovery, and Inquiry**: Feb. 17, Good Barn, Lexington
- **Camp Basics for New Agents**: Feb. 5, TBA
- **It’s Your Reality**: Feb. 18, Madison CES
- **The Art of 4-H and More**: Feb. 26, Scott CES
- **Basic Training for New 4-H Agents**: date changed to Mar. 17-18, Weldon Suite, Lexington
- **Robotics—Incorporating 4-H into Science Classrooms**: Mar. 24-25, Hopkins CES; Mar. 30-31, Madison CES
- **Healthy Adventures for Teens**: April 27, Hiking, Pennyrile State Resort Park; April 29, Kayaking, Franklin County; April 30, Bicycling, Johnson CES
- **Environmental Certification over the River and through the Woods**: FULL, May 7-8, Kentucky River and KSU Environmental Education Center in Henry Co.

Martha Welch, Extension Specialist for 4-H Youth Development