

Regional 4-H Youth Development* (4-H) Program Specialist

Description

Iowa 4-H will focus on positive youth development. Staff will work with youth, volunteers, and professionals to plan, implement, and evaluate a progressive series of educational programs and experiences that work toward multiple life skill outcomes (leadership, citizenship, communications, personal life management and knowledge). Positive youth development programs focus on connecting young people with caring adults and involving them over an extended period of time. Our priorities include: extraordinary learning experiences and capacity building for positive youth development.

Responsibilities

Leadership for Issues Programming and Curriculum Development

- Facilitate the development of county issues programming and align with national, statewide and regional issues programming.
- Collaborate with other Extension program areas to address multidisciplinary issues and national 4-H mission mandates.
- Apply research based educational methods, strategies and approaches to facilitate learning.
- Assure the planning, development and implementation of quality 4-H events and clubs.
- Design systems to provide regional, multi-regional, and statewide 4-H opportunities.
- Develop grants and contracts for statewide issues/curriculum.
- Design evaluations and report impact and accomplishments.
- Provide expertise and assistance to counties in developing or strengthening partnerships to grow the 4-H program.

Leadership for Volunteer Systems, Staff Development, and Accountability

- Assist in the hiring, supervision, support, professional development and evaluation of the 4-H county staff in concert with local County Extension Councils as determined by Memorandum of Understanding.
- Develop and assist counties with volunteer engagement systems (ISOTURE).
- Provide guidance and coaching on volunteer committee development.
- Delegate responsibility and authority according to volunteer strengths and interests.
- Assure county staff promotes 4-H statewide educational experiences.
- Facilitate and encourage positive working relationships with REED, county staff, campus staff, volunteers and stakeholders.

Leadership for Program Policy Direction

- Serve as the authorizing agent for the use of the 4-H name and emblem as designated by the State 4-H Program Director.
- Assure diversity and equal access through planning, program development and implementation efforts that make clubs and other 4-H opportunities available to youth.
- Train county staff and monitor statewide 4-H policies.
- Establish monitoring, evaluating and reporting systems on the implementation and impact of 4-H Youth Development Programs.
- Guide the needs assessments, facilitation of and use of audience data in the development of county action plans.

- Coordinates with REED to assure adequate financial and staffing resources are secured for a strong county 4-H program.
- Promote alignment of 4-H programs across county and regional boundaries.
- Leadership to 4-H organizational support including development of systems, training, and ongoing process improvement.
- Provide expertise and assistance to counties in developing or strengthening partnerships to grow the 4-H program.