



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

National Institute  
of Food  
and Agriculture

4-H National  
Headquarters



## 4-H Programming Partnerships

The following partnerships are with Cooperative Extension Service 4-H professionals at the land-grant universities and representatives from National 4-H Council. 4-H National Headquarters works with these partners to provide national leadership to the 4-H Program.

### **Program Leader's Working Group (PLWG)**

The 4-H **Program Leader's Working Group** serves as the venue for the partners, *the public, state 4-H program leaders, 4-H National Headquarters - USDA NIFA*, along with the private partner, *National 4-H Council*, to provide the means to have an inclusive, and transparent mechanism for meaningful dialog; and, to provide direction and management, as appropriate, for 4-H positive youth development programming, between and within the partners. Key for the PLWG is how to connect, how to build competency and how to strengthen capacity for the 4-H programs. The PLWG is the vehicle for 4-H that provides opportunities for communications, allows for rapid response, serves as a sounding board, and as a feedback loop for the 4-H programs. This group provides the management to the 4-H Program based upon the direction and guidance of the ECOP National Leadership Committee.

### **Program Quality and Accountability Task Force**

Identify best practices, establish standards, and resources for positive youth development and the national 4-H program. Establishes fidelity of research-based principles to ensure programs are culturally relevant and inclusive.

### **Professional Development Working Group**

Assure consistent and quality professional development standards, competencies, resources and opportunities by networking and sharing existing resources and making recommendations for future direction.

### **Learning Working Group**

To define the 4-H learning experience; identify what makes this experience unique from other learning opportunities; determine how we can tell the story about the 4-H learning experience; and determine what resources 4-H county and state staff might need to make the 4-H learning experience consistent across the country.

### **Vulnerable Population's Working Group**

The purpose is to address part of the System's needs related to the issues of diversity inclusive of engagement impact on underserved populations.

### **Military Working Group**

The Military Work Group (MWG), functions relate to the programs that serve military-connected youth audiences and families through the Land- grant university system and Cooperative Extension. The purpose is to increase communication between NIFA, 4-H, the Land grant system and military partners, address relevant needs and issues, provide current information and training related to military connected families and youth, and connect the logic model/common measures to programming.

### **National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee**

Members of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee take an active role in the overall development and management of the National 4-H Shooting Sports program.

**Citizenship Management Team**

This 4-H Mission Mandate team supports states in delivering effective 4-H Youth Citizenship programs where youth will make a positive difference by engaging in learning opportunities that give them a heightened sense of responsibility and capacity to connect as active members of their communities, nation and world.

**Healthy Living Management Team**

To engage youth and families through access and opportunities to achieve optimal physical, social, and emotional wellbeing.

**Science Management Team**

To foster quality science learning and programming that promotes science literacy and interest in science related education and careers, and to serve as a two-way communication forum for field staff and national 4-H staff working with science programming.

The 4-H Youth Development Program is the youth outreach program from the land-grant institutions' Cooperative Extension Services, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). 4-H serves as a model program for the practice of positive youth development. 4-H National Headquarters is housed within the Division of Youth and 4-H at USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Additional support for 4-H programming is provided through National 4-H Council. For more information email [4Hhq@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:4Hhq@nifa.usda.gov).