Oklahoma 4-H

Making a Difference
What is 4-H?

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.
4-H is...

- Youth Development component of the Cooperative Extension Service
- The largest youth serving organization in the world
- Dedicated to education, youth development and service
Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service

- Based at Oklahoma State University and Langston University
- Provide research based information in Agriculture and Natural Resources, Rural Development, Family and Consumer Sciences and 4-H/Youth Development
- An office in almost every county
4-H Focus Areas

- Leadership Development
- Health and Wellness
- Science and Technology
- Environmental Stewardship
- 4-H Visibility
Why 4-H Projects “work”

Youth have the opportunity to:

- Set goals
- Gain knowledge
- Develop skills
- Learn by doing
- Accept responsibility
- Be recognized for their achievements, lead and serve others
Project Work = Life Skills

- Decision-making
- Goal setting
- Planning, doing, evaluating
- Teamwork/Cooperation
- Communication
- Responsibility
- Recordkeeping
4-H Projects

- Consumer, Family & Health Related Projects
- Animal Science
- Personal Development, Citizenship & Leadership
- Science & Technology
- Communications and Visual Arts
- Environmental Education
County 4-H Statistics

- Summarize county 4-H facts & figures on this slide
4-H members gain decision-making skills

Through judging activities
Share knowledge and skills with others

In formal and informal settings, through workshops like this one
Serve Their Communities

Members packaging corn at the Regional Food Bank
Tell the 4-H Story

4-H Day at the Capitol
Lead by Example

Sharing project work and running for office
4-H in your County

- Add information about 4-H in your county to localize this presentation
County Project

- Insert a photo of an outstanding county project to the left and describe it here
A sample* group of 240 4-H teens:

- Reached 25.7 million people through 4-H project work
- Organized 57,108 activities, workshops and presentations
- Spent nearly 380,000 hours planning, conducting and evaluating 4-H activities

*4-H members who submitted 4-H record books and award applications in 2012
4-H Alumni

Are engaged in their communities

A study\(^1\) published in the Journal of Extension found that youth involved in 4-H are:

- More likely to have higher grades than non-4-H members
- Less likely to participate in risky behaviors
- More likely to discuss important issues with their parents
- More likely to hold leadership positions and participate in community service activities

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The Lasting Effect of 4-H on Volunteerism & Leadership

4-H Alumni
- 95% volunteer monthly in their communities
- 80% belong to one or more community groups
- 86% have held leadership positions in a community organization in the last 3 years

Non-4-H Oklahomans
- 77% volunteer monthly in their communities
- 70% belong to one or more community groups
- 62% have held leadership positions in a community organization in the last 3 years
The Lasting Effect of 4-H on Education and Voting

4-H Alumni

- 66% hold a 4 year college degree
- 30% hold advanced degrees
- 96% have voted in the past 3 years

Non-4-H Oklahomans

- 20% hold a 4-year college degree
- 10% hold advanced degrees
- 89% have voted in the past 3 years