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Giving to Help Youth Grow
Possibilities and opportunities

Dear Friends,

4-H offers its members possibility and opportunity—the possibility of trying something new in a nurturing environment, and the opportunity to channel creativity and imagination toward a specific goal.

Statistics show that 4-H is a leading organization in youth development and is helping to develop responsible, concerned, and engaged youth who will assume significant future roles in our communities, our country, and our world.

Everyone involved in 4-H can take pride in individual contributions essential to keep the organization moving forward and offering opportunities for learning and growth to today’s youth.

Projects and clubs may look different from those of decades past. Today 4-Hers join Special Interest (SPIN) clubs, such as robotics clubs (see page 9), where they learn about mechanics and programming, compete in competitions, and advance their interest in science and technology.

4-H plays a critical role in creating possibilities for youth in this era of declining state finances, when schools may be underfunded and cutting programs.

The Clark County 4-H Jazz Band is a SPIN club with a different twist. The group played for an appreciative audience at the 2013 Illinois 4-H Family Event at the State Fair in August. The dedicated volunteers who lead the club provide the opportunity for young musicians to use and develop their abilities and have fun together.

Through SPIN clubs and other 4-H activities, our members learn and practice such skills as completing a project, giving a talk, keeping records, organizing and writing a report, running meetings governed by parliamentary procedure, and serving as leaders. As adults they will apply these skills and be assets in their workplace and in their communities.

Through 4-H, we have the possibility of guiding, mentoring, and aiding the youth of today who will become the leaders of tomorrow. What a precious opportunity that is—to plant a seed, an idea, or an interest that will blossom and grow with care and nurture. Countless dedicated 4-H volunteers, committed to the value of 4-H, contribute their time, talent, and money.

The Illinois 4-H Foundation raises funds from private sources, including businesses that are our Project Partners and individuals who recognize that donations are essential to realize the possibilities and opportunities of 4-H.

These supporters and donors are part of the 4-H legacy of passing it forward. You, too, can be a part of that mission—by contributing, by telling the 4-H story to others, and by getting them involved—as 4-H continues, in its second century, to make the best better!

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Clark
Chair, Illinois 4-H Foundation
Board of Directors
Dear Friends,

Thinking of the Illinois 4-H Foundation brings a smile to my face—not because this charitable organization raises a great deal of funds to support 4-H programs across the state (which is true), but because it is a vibrant, growing, and committed group of individuals who are making a difference.

I have seen them labor over each important word of their mission statement, share the joy of record-breaking attendance at an event, and dedicate themselves to learning more about philanthropy and planned giving. Like all 4-H volunteers, they give of their time, talents, and resources to make Illinois 4-H great!

Over the past four years as Illinois State 4-H program leader, I have watched as the total gifts given to the Illinois 4-H Foundation has steadily increased. What a joy it is to know that people such as you believe in the work we are doing with young people in Illinois.

Your gifts go directly to 4-H members in the form of scholarships, to clubs in the form of grants, and to counties to cover program supplies. When you operate a “learn by doing” organization, it takes lots of supplies.

Certain youth learning experiences have been relevant for many years—such as providing award winners an opportunity to attend national conferences—and the Illinois 4-H Foundation cares deeply about them. At the same time, the Foundation has been a strategic partner in resourcing new work.

In 2012, the Foundation made it possible for numerous 4-H Special Interest (SPIN) clubs to have the equipment they needed to enhance learning (see page 9).

In 2013, the Foundation has stepped up to support Teens as Teachers, an exciting new way to involve our older youth in vital experiences which improve their leadership skills, such as team building, understanding others, and communicating (see page 8).

Like the Foundation board members themselves, the Illinois 4-H program is vibrant, growing, and committed to high quality. Your support, through our partnering charitable organization—the Illinois 4-H Foundation—is sincerely appreciated.

Yours in 4-H work,

Denise Oberle
State Program Leader, Illinois 4-H Youth Development

PLEDGING THEIR HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE

Our Board of Directors is a diverse group of volunteers who are passionate about Illinois 4-H and help guide the Foundation’s fundraising, marketing, and communication efforts. You, too, can help lead the way. Contact us to learn more about serving as a board member by phone at 217-333-9295 or by email at illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu.

Front (from left): Roger Clark, Cook County; Jerry Hicks, Sangamon County; Lila Jeanne Eichelberger, Champaign County, Barbara Rundquist Clark, Cook County; Jessie Crews, Clark County • Back: Eric Yoder, Knox County; Dean West, Saline County; Steve Launius, Washington County; Jim Schmidt, McLean County; Cheryl Wormley, McHenry County; Paul Hadden, Cook County; Karl Barnhart, Sangamon County

Not pictured: Kevin Carey, Grundy County; Mariah Dale-Anderson, McLean County; Emily DeSchepper, Knox County; Beverly Haselholt, Stephenson County; Sharon Scherer, Monroe County; Mark Sturgell, Macon County; Sharon Tenhouse, Adams County
Finding the right word

Dear Friends,

What's your 4-H word?

Do you have a word—or even a couple of them—to describe your 4-H experience? Mine are “showing hogs” and “Scott Scotties” (the name of my 4-H club, where I learned so much about meeting new people, giving presentations, and being a leader).

At this year’s annual state fair 4-H Family Event (with record-breaking attendance!) and at the 2013 Farm Progress Show, the Foundation board members asked current and past 4-Hers for their “4-H word.” It was great fun to hear the outpouring of people’s 4-H experiences as a result of asking for ONE word.

Leadership, confidence, self-reliance, cooperation, and knowledge were mentioned by many. Those of us who have been involved in 4-H as members or volunteers know that such words paint a picture of the lifelong impact of the 4-H program on its members. Often, the experiences behind those 4-H words were available only because of the generosity of others.

This edition of the CloverSeed highlights how the spirit of giving has enriched our program. Illinois 4-H is thriving, and because of your generosity, many youth are experiencing opportunities that allow them to learn and grow in leadership, compassion, and community involvement.

As you continue to turn the pages of the 2013 CloverSeed, take the time to read the stories and reflect on the pictures. Because of your support, we are helping a new generation of 4-Hers discover their own 4-H words. Thank you for helping to make the best better!

With warmest regards,

Angie Barnard
Executive Director, Illinois 4-H Foundation

Keep up with Illinois 4-H Foundation

Today it is easier than ever to keep up with the amazing things 4-Hers are doing throughout the state. Browse the new Illinois 4-H Foundation website for details on how to support 4-H members, volunteers, and programs. Share your 4-H story on the alumni webpage, make a gift online, and sign up for e-news. Check out the Illinois 4-H Foundation Facebook page for fun photos and to find out more about how you can help 4-H make the best better.

Website: 4hfoundation.illinois.edu
Facebook: facebook.com/pages/Illinois-4-H-Foundation/96722531961

While you’re connecting with the Foundation online, check out what Illinois 4-H members and staff are doing throughout the state through the Illinois 4-H website, Facebook page, and Twitter feed. Don’t forget to share your own 4-H experiences through these social media tools. Post pictures and comments to the Illinois 4-H Facebook page and include the @Illinois4H handle or #ILLINOIS4H in your tweets.

Website: web.extension.illinois.edu/state4h
Facebook: facebook.com/Illinois4H
Twitter: twitter.com/Illinois4H
Growing Illinois foods together

A group of 4-Hers in Hamilton County are taking action to provide fresh, locally grown produce for soup kitchens, nursing homes, and others in their community.

This year the Hamilton County 4-H GIFT garden—Growing Illinois Foods Together—produced more than 1,500 pounds of tomatoes, cucumbers, carrots, watermelons, squash, beets, peas, green beans, cantaloupe, pumpkins, herbs, and more. Over five months, 469 youth and 517 volunteers tended 21 raised beds, 69 vining mounds, and 6 berry bushes.

“It takes many hours of labor to care for a garden of this size,” said Paula Hatfield, the Hamilton County 4-H extension program coordinator. “But it’s worth it to provide educational opportunities for people of all ages about every aspect of the gardening process while supplying food to fight hunger in our small community.”

The volunteers donated food and helped wash, chop, and bag vegetables for the Hungry Hearts program that serves free sack lunches to children while school is out for the summer. They also donated and served food for the Come and Dine community dinner hosted by churches in McLeansboro. The Crisis Closet local food pantry also received food from the GIFT garden.

Yellow tomatoes were grown for residents at the Heritage Woods assisted living community who are restricted from eating red tomatoes, which are high in acid.

“The goal of this project is to give back to the community,” Hatfield said. “But as the national trend of fewer gardens and locally grown vegetables continues, we also hope to offer educational opportunities for youth and residents in Hamilton County.”

“The goal of this project is to give back to the community.”

The GIFT volunteers learned how to garden and prepare and preserve food. By running a weekly booth at the Hamilton County farmers market, they learned about product marketing, display, and pricing as well as how to interact with customers.

It takes a lot of financial resources to plant, maintain, harvest, and distribute produce from the GIFT garden. Extension staff have applied for grants, and in the meantime, the community has generously supported this initiative. Still, more support is needed to purchase additional supplies and food items for meeting community needs.

To support this program, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation by phone at 217-333-9295 or by email at illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu.
4-Hers become integral to real-world research

As 4-H Citizen Scientists, Illinois 4-H members are truly impacting their clubs, their communities, their country, and our world as they conduct real-world research.

Illinois 4-H has partnered with Illinois RiverWatch to train 4-H members and volunteers to collect vital data about the health and vitality of Illinois streams. These emerging scientists and volunteers collect data in the summer, fall, and late winter. Their data is submitted to the Illinois RiverWatch Network for organizations to use in their efforts to maintain healthy waterways.

The 4-H Citizen Scientist program helps youth develop skills in observation, evaluation, communication, and other important arenas that prepare them to pursue careers in science and other fields.

4-H Citizen Scientists can also use these skills to serve their communities, said Bill Million, an extension specialist in 4-H youth development.

4-H Citizen Scientists study Illinois streams as part of the Illinois RiverWatch initiative. (Photo by Elizabeth Nicol.)

“These youth recognize that informed citizens can make improvements for the good of many,” Million said. “4-H is growing our next generation of scientists and leaders who are willing to improve their little corner of the world.”

Illinois 4-H needs financial support to provide youth with more science programs, Million said. “Dollars invested today will help prepare youth for exciting careers tomorrow.”

To support this program, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation by phone at 217-333-9295 or by email at illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu.

Know a youth who would be interested in becoming a 4-H Citizen Scientist? Contact Bill Million by phone at 217-333-0910 or by email at wmillion@illinois.edu.

BECOME A 4-H CITIZEN SCIENTIST

What is a 4-H Citizen Scientist? A citizen scientist is a 4-H member, twelve to eighteen years old, who collects and processes data as part of a larger scientific inquiry, such as monitoring Illinois streams.

What’s involved? 4-H Citizen Scientists receive hands-on training in proper stream monitoring techniques. Teams of at least five 4-H members and an adult leader are assigned a stream site in their community, which they monitor using their 4-H Citizen Scientist tool kits. They collect data pertaining to water quality and stream health in several categories.

• Physical characteristics: Observe and record stream habitats and the physical features of the stream.

• Chemical characteristics: Test levels of nitrate, phosphate, dissolved oxygen, pH, biological oxygen demand, and more.

• Biological characteristics: Sample benthic macro-invertebrates such as mayfly and dragonfly nymphs, dobsonfly larva, and snails.

What is expected of 4-H Citizen Scientists? 4-H Citizen Scientists are expected to participate in face-to-face and online training sessions and demonstrate teamwork and cooperation at all times. Proper apparel, including boots, is also required.
Deciding where to attend college can be a tough choice, and for some, choosing what to study can be even more difficult. Through Illini Summer Academies (ISA), 4-H provides Illinois teens the opportunity to explore the University of Illinois and potential careers.

Based on an area of interest, participants choose an academy, which includes classroom, lab, and field activities organized by Illinois faculty and staff. These academies were offered in 2013:

- Aerospace Engineering
- Agricultural and Biological Engineering
- Art and Design
- Bioengineering
- Creative Writing
- Crop Science
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning (cancelled due to low registration)
- Leadership
- Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences
- Physics
- Veterinary Medicine

“I believe that ISA serves complementary purposes,” said Deb Stocker, an extension specialist in 4-H youth development. “It provides young people in Illinois a chance to explore their land-grant university and various college majors, and it offers colleges and departments throughout campus a chance to promote their programs and future career options to high school youth.”

During their four-day stay on campus, teens get to experience college life. From staying in a college dormitory to walking to classes and visiting campus town, they see firsthand what it would be like to be an Illinois student.

This year, the Illinois 4-H Foundation offered a limited number of $50 scholarships for Illinois 4-H members attending their first academy. Individuals can help provide these scholarships by giving to the Youth Leadership Development fund.

“ISA is a great experience to take advantage of,” said Jordan Mingus, who attended the 2013 ISA with support from the Illinois 4-H Foundation. “You learn many interesting things and meet great people. ISA helped me figure out what I want to do in college and definitely put Illinois on my list of universities to consider. I highly recommend attending this event, especially the cellular and molecular biology academy.”

Companies can also support this unique program by supporting a specific academy. For several years, DuPont Pioneer has sponsored the crop science academy, which has helped decrease the cost for each youth attending ISA.

If you would like to provide assistance for a youth to attend ISA or help with the conference costs, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation by phone at 217-333-9295 or by email at illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu.
When Ashala Miller was asked to join the Teens as Teachers program, she figured it would be glorified babysitting. But she quickly discovered it was so much more.

“I thought it was just going to be like watching kids,” said Miller. “But we did a lot of hands-on activities, which I liked. I felt like I owned the room, like I was important to the kids.”

Last summer Miller and other teens from across Illinois taught younger youth through a range of interactive learning activities. Miller’s favorite activity involved giving eight students test tubes whose contents have one of four distinct scents. The students have to find their match in the group using only their sense of smell—a bit like how insects use pheromones to find a mate.

Illinois 4-H is building a statewide cohort of teens to engage with younger youth in STEM—science, technology, engineering, and math—education programs. With the support of a grant from the Noyce Foundation and National 4-H Council, 38 teens from Rock Island, Peoria, Springfield, and the East St. Louis area have participated in extensive training in five tracks: biotechnology, gardening, health/nutrition, robotics, and videography.

The teen teachers attended a retreat at the University of Illinois, where they worked with content experts, engaged in hands-on lab experiences, practiced inquiry teaching methods, and explored future STEM careers. Follow-up training has been provided to help these teens plan and teach educational programs in their communities.

4-H teen teachers have gone on to make a difference across the state: 50 teen leaders reached more than 2,000 youth in summer nutrition camps, 20 teen leaders reached more than 100 youth in biotechnology camps, and nearly 300 leaders facilitated experiments for younger youth as part of the 2012 4-H National Youth Science Day experiment.

“Older youth are an untapped resource in providing role models, mentors, and teachers for younger youth,” said Lisa Bouillion Diaz, an extension specialist in technology and youth development. “Teen teachers are deepening their own learning and development while simultaneously contributing to the growth and learning of others.”

In 2013, the Teens as Teachers program was identified as a statewide priority area. Diaz is leading a group of 4-H educators to build on the success of existing models and expand the program to involve more teens across the state.

Teens as Teachers is a valuable addition to any resume or college application, participant Miller said. But what’s more, it is helping prepare her for her future career as a social worker. If you know a teen who is interested in joining this program, contact Lisa Bouillion Diaz by phone at 217-333-0910 or by email at lbdiaz@illinois.edu.

The Illinois 4-H Foundation, along with help from Illinois 4-H Project Partners, supports this statewide priority. If you would like to make a gift, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation at 217-333-9295 or by email at illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu.
Each year, the financial support of Project Partner businesses, corporations, and trade associations allows the Illinois 4-H Foundation to continue to support our 23,000 community club members with their very own 4-H Annual Organizer, an organization mechanism that is seen touted across the state in each and every county.

Project Partners are also helping us incorporate a new teaching model that assists Illinois 4-H in building a statewide cohort of teens to engage with younger youth in STEM—science, technology, engineering, and math—education programs. (See “Teens teaching kids” on page 8.)

As companies face the need for more scientists, they anticipate workforce pipeline challenges as they look into their future. We know that only a minority of students report an interest in studying or working in science, and we also know that interest in science declines sharply with age in grades 4 to 12. 4-H has the opportunity to get kids excited about science, engineering, and technology, and that is what we are doing with the help of our Project Partners!

4-H members spend years gaining knowledge in project areas, mastering conceptual and technical skills that translate into future employability. Illinois 4-H will be launching a new online website where 4-H members will develop and share “how-to” videos to demonstrate mastery. The youth-produced videos will be reviewed by subject-matter experts who provide feedback on content accuracy along with ideas and information youth can consider as they continue to explore and learn in their project area. This new opportunity allows 4-Hers to share their knowledge while practicing their technology skills and preparing to be an active partner in a tech-infused workplace.

Selected videos will be posted to the State 4-H website to highlight skills gained through 4-H project exploration, serve as a connection between projects and careers, and be a component of the online learning environment. 4-H members who create the selected videos will receive a small monetary incentive that can be used to support expanded project learning experiences or transition a project into a business.

The youth-produced videos will be a go-to source of information for other 4-Hers and will show the broader public what 4-H youth are learning and doing in their communities. A video may teach the viewer how to edit photos, groom a dog, test corn germination, or program a robot. The next time you search the web for guidance on how to roll out the perfect pie crust or wire a 3-way switch, you may find yourself learning from a 4-H expert.

Would you or your company like to be represented here? If so, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation at Illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu or 217-333-9295.
Helping students achieve their academic goals

Lucille Korsmeyer, like many, knows a young man who wouldn’t have been able to attend college without financial aid. She knew that she wanted to help other deserving individuals receive the fiscal support they needed to graduate.

“I don’t think they should have this constant worry in the back of their minds,” she said. “I don’t want them to think, ‘If I don’t have the money then I can’t go on.’ ”

The Lucille and Lester Korsmeyer 4-H Scholarship Endowment provides an annual scholarship that supports the recipient throughout all four years of undergraduate education. Lucille decided to award the scholarship to a 4-Her because of the values 4-H instills in its members.

“If 4-Hers really and truly follow the 4-H pledge, then they will naturally come out a good person,” she said. “These young people who have been in 4-H are great citizens now, and I thought, That’s the way I want to go. I want a 4-Her.”

This is the first year that the Illinois 4-H Foundation has awarded this scholarship.

“This girl, she’s a top-notch student. She is active not only in school but also in her church,” Korsmeyer said. “I sent her a note to congratulate her, and she sent me the most beautiful letter back. Her letter told me what kind of a girl she is. I know she really appreciates this scholarship.”

For 56 years, she was a part of 4-H. As a charter member of the Alhambra Morning Glories, Korsmeyer spent 10 years as a youth member, then more than 45 years as an adult leader. Her late husband, Lester, was a Boy Scout, but he accompanied his wife to 4-H events “all the time.” He was often known to help 4-Hers with their woodworking projects, providing clues about how to finish a project.

“He just loved the kids, and I do too,” Korsmeyer said. “During the county fair, when they handed out the ribbons, we enjoyed it as much as they did. We enjoyed every minute of it.”

Korsmeyer’s first 4-H memory is “a good one.” She joined an all-girls 4-H club that made cookies for their 4-H projects. Each month, the leader would select a recipe and assign girls different ingredients to bring. They got to sample their creations.

“The first cookie I took to the county fair was an oatmeal cookie,” she said. “I’ll never forget it because I got a blue ribbon, and I was so happy. It was my first try, and I got a blue ribbon.” She hasn’t stopped baking cookies since.

As a 4-H leader, Korsmeyer would have girls over to her house on Saturdays to practice cookie baking. Today, at 86 years old, she is still “busy, busy, busy”—frequently making cookies for her two great-grandsons and volunteering at her church. This fall, she plans to make rolled pumpkin sugar cookies for Thanksgiving. The recipe is a family favorite—from a 4-H cookbook.

4-H cookbooks are almost gone. Do you have yours?

You don’t have to be in the 4-H Chefs Cooking Club to try out great 4-H recipes. Favorite Recipes of Illinois 4-H through the Years features 150 quintessential 4-H recipes from the past 60 years. These recipes were gathered from 4-H food project books. Buy your copy today by visiting 4hfoundation.illinois.edu or your local extension office. Orders can also be placed by phone at 217-333-2007.
Three new clubs put a new SPIN on 4-H

4-H Special Interest, or SPIN, clubs bring together 4-H members with common interests or hobbies. A SPIN club can be started with just one adult volunteer leader and five 4-H members. While an adult leader provides expertise and guidance, members take an active role in planning and running their own activities.

Today there are a number of different types of SPIN clubs in Illinois. We highlight just three of them here.

“Rock Stars” Club
The Logan County “Rock Stars” have been on a roll. Dennis Campbell, a professor at Lincoln College, taught members how to identify rock properties. James Daniel, a Logan County 4-Her who has exhibited geology projects at the State Fair, shared his rock collection with the club and taught the group how to test rock hardness. The members grew borax crystals on pipe cleaners and broke geodes open. The club shared what they learned with residents at the Castle Manor Senior Living Center.

4-H Chefs Cooking Club
At the beginning of each meeting, the 4-H chefs reviewed the nutritional information for the recipes they would make. Working in pairs, they made their recipes, washed their dishes, and refilled their cooking kits. The members found that there is much more to this club than cooking. They gained new friends and became more independent and comfortable in the kitchen. They learned to be good citizens by sharing their cooking creations with others and donating food to food pantries.

Panther Science Club
In the morning before school, Pinckneyville Junior High teacher Haven Hicks helped 28 seventh- and eighth-grade students discover their knack for science. The members worked with the Lego Mindstorm robotic kits and built rockets and blasted them off. (Luckily, everyone was able to find her or his rocket afterward so they could be shown at the county fair.) This year, Hicks is looking forward to helping members learn even more with K’Nex building sets and more robotics. The team will continue to explore aerospace as they build new rockets.
The Metro Club Program Fee Grant, made available through the Illinois 4-H Foundation, helps Illinois youth who live in populations of 100,000 or more reap the benefits of positive youth development. These youth learn “belonging, independence, generosity, and mastery” (BIG-M) through a variety of educational opportunities led by adult volunteers. The grants help offset the $20 4-H program fee by supporting the entire Metro club.

Lisa Bouillion Diaz, an extension specialist in technology and youth development, talks about how this grant benefits metropolitan youth.

What is a Metro club? Illinois 4-H impacts metropolitan communities through a range of programs. In addition to community and SPIN clubs, after-school programs engage youth in gardening, science, robotics, technology, citizenship, and healthy living. Illinois 4-H also received a national grant to expand the Teens as Teachers initiative through Metro clubs.

Why is this grant initiative important? Local community support is not always sufficient to ensure that the 4-H experience is accessible to youth with limited resources. This grant is critical to ensuring that 4-H clubs form in all types of neighborhoods, without regard to socioeconomic factors.

What else is 4-H doing to support these youth? The addition of 13 metro educators to the Illinois 4-H team is an important component of our effort to create accessible and meaningful programs that will serve the needs of Illinois youth. These 4-H metro educators bring valuable experience in positive youth development, partnership development, program design, volunteer management, and evaluation.

How do the Metro club members benefit? The benefits for youth who participate in 4-H Metro clubs parallel those we see in our statewide clubs. Youth experience a sense of belonging as they are empowered to develop important life skills. They are given opportunities to value and practice service, to engage in learning, and to experience self-determination in leadership roles.

What excites you about Metro club programming? Youth everywhere want to be supported by adults who will help them pursue their interests. They want a chance to be taken seriously and make a difference for others. I have seen youth in our 4-H Metro clubs do amazing things. They want to learn. They want to be challenged. It’s a privilege to be part of making those opportunities possible.
Foundation grants support local needs

The Illinois 4-H Foundation 4-H Program Grant encourages innovative local projects that promote the 4-H mission and supports positive youth development experiences.

“The 4-H Program Grant helps meet local needs and encourage 4-H expansion projects that probably would not be possible without the grant’s support,” said Pat McGlaughlin, an extension specialist in 4-H youth development. “These funds allow staff to target unique requests that will make a difference locally.”

Financial support is available for each extension unit to pursue educational projects in Employable Youth, Physically Fit, Thinking Green, and these four project areas:

Youth Development
4-H members in Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle Counties practiced team-building and leadership skills as they planned a weekend leadership conference where youth engaged in interactive, skill-building activities.

Science Excited
4-Hers from Henry, Mercer, Rock Island, and Stark Counties interacted with community scientists at the Citizen Scientist and Science Saturdays programs. Through hands-on activities, they focused on becoming science literate and learned about career opportunities in science.

4-H Club Expansion
Clay, Effingham, Fayette and Jasper County 4-Hers used local 4-H member retention data to implement strategies for engaging and maintaining their membership.

Healthy Relationships Extension
Educators developed fact sheets about healthy eating and stress management during harvest for 4-Hers from Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Moultrie, and Shelby Counties to deliver to farmers at local grain elevators.

“This grant supports programs that help 4-H members gain the skills they need to lead healthy, fulfilling lives,” McGlaughlin said. “These youth have learned how to put together a resume and prepare for a job interview. Others have learned how to make healthy choices that will impact their level of physical health and fitness. Youth have also gained a greater interest in science through programs engaging them in hands-on learning experiences and retreats.”

More than $30,000 is available through 4-H Program Grants. Each multi-county extension unit can apply for up to $1,200 annually to support youth education initiatives that meet local needs and contribute to the expansion of 4-H programming.

For more information about the grant program or how you can help support these initiatives, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation by phone at 217-333-9295 or by email at illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu.
“Better make sure you are passing on good traits,” said JD Schulte, talking about livestock. “You have to get your priorities right from the ground up,” he continued, describing the importance of an animal’s feet and legs, which will support it throughout its life.

But in touting good traits, he could have been referring to himself.

For the past 15 years, JD has been passing on good traits to dozens of kids from Rock Island and its surrounding counties. He’s taken it upon himself to help these kids get their priorities right, inside and outside the judging ring.

Humble beginnings
In high school, JD was active in FFA and competed on the chapter’s dairy judging team. Back then, he’d joke that he was on the team’s second string. Eventually, JD graduated from high school and became a mechanic. He married his wife, Sheryl, and they had three kids, Travis, Taylor, and Tyson.

It was Travis, the eldest, who had the initial interest in judging livestock. But there wasn’t a judging team in the area. JD and Sheryl held meetings at their local U of I Extension office to spark the interest of other kids. No luck. So Travis judged as an individual throughout high school.

Several years later, Travis’s enthusiasm caught on. Younger kids began judging, and soon JD had himself a team.

From mid-February through the end of June, JD spends almost every weekend with his team. “These kids will probably tell you there aren’t too many Saturdays that they have slept past 5 o’clock”—which means not many that he is sleeping in either.

“The fortunate thing for us is that we’ve got good kids,” JD said. “The majority of kids who have gravitated to livestock judging are the kind you like spending your free time with. I never begrudge them my weekends.”

JD welcomes anyone who wants to work with the team, including “some kids from Whiteside” County and “a young fella” from Mercer County.

He doesn’t know how many kids he’s worked with over the past 15 years. He guesses dozens.

Lessons learned
“When we first start out, I say ‘Let’s just mark some cards,’” JD said. “‘Let’s get started and look at these animals. It’s just prioritizing in a pen.’”

JD doesn’t let his team members “get hung up” on how the judges might place the animals. He sees most of the contests as a workout or practice session to build on.

The Illinois 4-H Foundation supports 4-Hers who represent Illinois at national judging contests. On average, the Foundation provides more than $30,000 to support these hard-working and dedicated members. To contribute to the Foundation’s efforts, contact the Illinois 4-H Foundation by phone at 217-333-9295 or by email at illinois4h.foundation@illinois.edu.
"These kids don’t get discouraged," he said. “I try to keep them motivated. It’s just one more activity to get them more confident in their priorities and how they view livestock.”

He tells them to keep it simple. Take it back to the basics. Don’t overthink it.

Regardless of the breed or purpose, when his team members walk away from a class, JD says, he should be able to take their notebooks and know which animal is which based on their notes alone.

It’s not long before the team members develop an eye for what they like to see in the judging ring. Once they become confident, they start bringing home ribbons and “hardware”—judging lingo for impressive trophies and belt buckles.

**Going places**

Some kids take home more than hardware—they make the Illinois 4-H judging team or earn scholarships to colleges. This year, JD has coached two of the five team members (including his youngest son, Tyson) who will compete at the National 4-H livestock judging contest. Right now, two of the kids he coached, Dayton Coyne and Jacob Baker, are at Illinois Central College on livestock judging scholarships.

“It’s rewarding to see them reap the rewards of all that time and dedication,” JD said.

But it’s even more rewarding to JD to see his team members become responsible and respectful adults.

“Early on, I would always tell them, ‘These people who are putting this contest on, they are all volunteers who give back to their community and their youth,’” JD said. “You go up and thank them and shake their hands because, if it wasn’t for them, you wouldn’t have these opportunities.”

Over the years, I don’t even have to tell them anymore; they know it’s the right thing to do. It’s nice to see that growth and maturity, that development of life skills.”

JD said these kids meet a lot of good people along the way. He believes it is these relationships that will “go a lot farther” than any experiences with the livestock.

**It all comes out in the wash**

It all comes out in the wash—that’s what JD says about financing his judging operation. Parents are asked to pitch in, and those who can, cover for those who can’t.

When the team competed in Denver, the Illinois 4-H Foundation provided $250 to help with expenses. “It was real nice that they did that for us,” said JD, still grateful for the contribution that covered a couple tanks of gas.

“My folks taught me long ago that the community doesn’t grow if people aren’t willing to give a little,” JD said. “It’s all about the big picture. These kids are all going to grow up to be civic-minded. They are going to grow up to be good, upstanding members of the community. Hopefully, I’m showing them the right way to do things.”
Commodity Carnival teaches risks to bring commodities to market

Options, futures, commodity trading, hedging. For most of us, these terms can be unnerving, despite their influence in the agricultural market, which Illinois counts on to feed its families and support its economy.

4-H is partnering with the CME Group, the world’s largest futures exchange company, to teach adults and children in 11 states about the realities associated with bringing commodities, like hogs, to market.

This year, Illinois 4-Hers hosted “The Commodity Carnival” at 10 county fairs across Illinois. The youth helped thousands of people participate in two hands-on mini-carnival activities that simulated raising a hog and trying to sell it for a profit.

“This activity taught kids the value of what a hog is really worth and what can impact its market value,” said Dan Jennings, an extension educator in 4-H youth development. “Corn prices can fluctuate, hogs can get sick—these are realities farmers face every day. Sometimes they lose money. Sometimes they make money. For most livestock producers, it’s worth the gamble.”

At county fairs across Illinois, 4-Hers teach families about the benefits and risks of producing commodities through the Commodity Carnival.

Commodity Carnival Activity Stations

Station 1: Invest and Grow

Participants receive an activity sheet and a plastic egg representing their hog. Participants fill their plastic container with a range of items that represent the various investments needed to raise their hog, such as feed, health, and facility costs.

Station 2: Pig-Linko Game

Participants send their sealed container down a “Pig-Linko” board obstacle course representing risk factors beyond the producer’s control that affect a commodity’s price at market. Each container ultimately falls into a slot representing the commodity’s final price.

“The project was a big success in terms of fairgoer participation, fun learning, and a super teaching experience for our 4-H youth,” said Denise Oberle, the Illinois 4-H state program leader. “This program is a unique opportunity to help the public better understand livestock production and support a fun, educational activity at county fairs.”
How groups become teams with help from 4-H

4-Hers know there is no “I” in team, but they might be tempted to sneak in four extra H’s—for head, heart, hands, and health. Supporting the Illinois 4-H Foundation helps countless people learn how to work together to overcome obstacles at the 4-H Memorial Camp’s Team Challenge course—and maybe even a thing or two about those four H’s.

“The Team Challenge program forms tighter group bonds,” said Andy Davis, an extension educator at 4-H Memorial Camp.

“It also helps develop the leadership potential in individuals.”

During the Team Challenge, groups of 15 to 20 participants rally to climb a 12-foot wall, squeeze onto a platform 2 feet square, pass each other through a giant spider web, balance on top of a huge teeter-totter, walk on cables while moving to different locations, and climb over a giant spool suspended between trees—all in the name of building a more creative and effective team.

The concepts individuals take away from each activity can be applied in school groups, businesses, and other organizations. Past participants have included members from 4-H, FFA, University of Illinois, churches, and other groups. In 2012, more than 3,500 people participated in the Team Challenge program.

“These programs are in such high demand during certain times of the year that we run out of available dates and times to accommodate everyone who contacts us,” Davis said. “The positive impact seen by past groups creates a desire to bring future groups out.”

The Team Challenge course is a major component of the 4-H Memorial Camp, which is supported by the Illinois 4-H Foundation. In the past, the Foundation has helped by increasing awareness of the camp, improving its facilities, and providing scholarships—some supporting participants who might not have been able to attend otherwise—for programs like Fish Camp and Summer Youth Camp.

“When you give to the 4-H Foundation, you know your money is going to have a large impact,” Davis said. “The programs they support are ones that have a proven track record and the potential to improve the quality of life, education, and abilities of youth in Illinois.”

The more support the camp receives, the lower they can keep their fees.

Lower fees means we are able to reach an even wider audience, giving all who want this experience an opportunity to achieve it,” Davis said. “Our goal is to provide as many people with quality programs that we possibly can. The 4-H Foundation is helping us do that.”

For more information about the challenge course as well as the camp’s additional amenities, including lodging, meal service, and other programs, visit web.extension.illinois.edu/4hmemorialcamp/teamchallenge.cfm.
Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team

The Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team offers 4-H members and recent alumni an opportunity to give back to the 4-H program while enhancing their leadership skills.

The team reviews 4-H curriculum, represents Illinois at National 4-H Conference, and helps the State 4-H Office plan, implement, and evaluate various 4-H events and activities, including Illinois 4-H Jr. Leadership Conference, Illini Summer Academies, Illinois State Fair, and the Speaking for Illinois program. The members also serve on many statewide 4-H committees and boards, such as the Illinois 4-H Foundation board of directors, the Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee, and the Recognition for Excellence Committee.

Team members are selected based on an application, an interview with team members and advisors, and personal references. Applications are accepted in the summer, and interviews are held at the Illini Summer Academies and Illinois State Fair. New team members begin their two-year terms on September 1.

The Illinois 4-H Foundation helps the Youth Leadership Team in numerous ways, including attending events and purchasing their signature shirts.

4-Hers connect with the Illinois legislature

Each year, Illinois 4-H members share their personal stories of “making the best better” in their clubs, communities, country, and world with Illinois state legislators and state officers through the Legislative Connection.

For Bradley Braddock, a member of the Youth Leadership Team and a native of Marion County, communicating through Legislative Connection seemed an obvious choice.

“In light of the state’s continuously tightening budget, we need to keep 4-H at the forefront of our legislature’s agenda,” Braddock said. “4-H members’ personal stories of how they have benefited from the program really hit home with legislators and help to ensure funding for the 4-H program. It is a truly rewarding experience.”

The Legislative Connection is made up of members from the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team and past participants of the Speaking for Illinois 4-H program. They emphasize the importance of University of Illinois Extension and 4-H programming efforts throughout the state and keep their legislators informed of local Extension and 4-H activities throughout the year.

2013 Legislative Connection participants posed with Representative Ester Golar (above) and Senator John Sullivan (below).
Legacy of Leadership Scholarship supports 4-Hers

The Illinois 4-H Foundation recognized six Illinois 4-H members as 4-H Legacy of Leadership Scholars during the annual 4-H Family Event at the Illinois State Fair. The merit-based scholarship is available to 4-H members who are high school seniors or in their last year of 4-H membership. Six 4-Hers are the 2013 recipients of this prestigious $1,000 scholarship:

- **Aleska Barkoviak**, a 10-year member of the Stylistics from McLean County. Barkoviak currently attends Cedarville University, with a double major in music and worship and a minor in Bible. Scholarship sponsor: Lila Jeanne Eichelberger.
- **Bethany Frick**, a 10-year member of the Pin Oak Progressors and the Champaign Mixed Clover Club from Madison and Champaign Counties. Frick will attend Missouri State, majoring in speech pathology. Scholarship sponsor: Keith Parr.
- **Jaylene Jennings**, a 10-year member of the Green Meadows 4-H Club from DeKalb County. Jennings will attend Kishwaukee College and plans to major in microbiology and eventually attend a school of veterinary medicine. Scholarship sponsor: Nannette Armstrong.
- **Cameron Jodlowski**, a nine-year member of the Logan County Town & Country Club. Jodlowski will attend Iowa State University to pursue a degree in animal sciences and dairy science, with a minor in biochemistry. He plans to continue his education in veterinary medicine. Scholarship sponsor: Farm Credit Services of Illinois.
- **Megan Schwenk**, an 11-year member of the Home-Spun Club and Stylistics from McLean County. Schwenk attends Illinois State University, pursuing a degree in music education with an emphasis in piano. Scholarship sponsor: The Paul A. Funk Foundation.
- **Larisa Sica**, an 11-year member of the Kane County Westdel 4-H Club. Sica attends Kansas State University, pursuing a degree in animal science and industry. Scholarship sponsor: The Nellie R. McCannon Trust.

Since the inception of the Legacy of Leadership scholarship in 2003, 61 4-H members have been named as scholars. For more information about the scholarship, or how to sponsor a Legacy Scholar, visit 4hfoundation.illinois.edu/legacyscholar.

Illinois delegation to 2012 National 4-H Congress

For more than 90 years, 4-H members have gathered at National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, Georgia, to meet peers from across the country while participating in educational workshops that focus on diversity, cultural experiences, leadership, and team development. The Illinois 4-H Foundation is proud to support each delegate by providing $750 to offset travel and other expenses.

To attend National 4-H Congress, an Illinois 4-Her must be selected as a State 4-H Award Winner in one of 10 project award areas and complete an extensive summary of accomplishments. Those who are selected as semifinalists are interviewed before being selected as delegates. Project award areas include achievement, community involvement and global awareness, engineering and technology, environment and natural resources, animal sciences, home and family, plants and soils, personal development, dairy, and food, nutrition, and health.
At National 4-H Conference, youth from across the country come together to share ideas and increase their knowledge, resources, and skills to be empowered to make an impact in their communities. In 2012, six delegates from Illinois learned about bullying prevention; preventing distracted and impaired driving; STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education; and nutrition and healthy living.

“These youth are empowered to take what they have learned and discussed back to their home states and local communities and create positive social change in meaningful ways,” said Deb Stocker, an extension specialist in 4-H youth development. “They become more invested in the 4-H program and often return home to increase their promotion of 4-H on all levels.”

The 4-H Key Award recognizes members who exemplify characteristics valued by 4-H. It focuses on the “hands to larger service” part of the 4-H pledge.

This award is generously sponsored by the H. Richard and Sarah F. McFarland Endowed 4-H Youth Leadership and Character Development Support Fund through the Illinois 4-H Foundation. Recipients and their guests are invited to the 4-H celebration program during the Illini Summer Academies to be recognized for their accomplishments.

The 2013 recipients are Patricia Benedict, Will County; Andrea Bonetto, Woodford County; Sarah Brackney, Effingham County; Brianna Brockmann, Boone County; Jenelle Brodzik, Lake County; Sarah Brown, Morgan County; Ann Clary, McLean County; Miranda Fulton, Macoupin County; Annie Geitner, Knox County; Lauren Johnson, Boone County; Alyssa Kreeschel, Macoupin County; Paige Logan, Effingham County; Lauren Parks, McLean County; and Tyler Perkins, Kendall County.
The Illinois 4-H Foundation was proud to recognize five individuals this year in three Illinois State 4-H Award categories during the ACES College Connection reception on Friday, September 6.

**Illinois 4-H Alumni Award** recognizes an elite group of Illinois 4-H alumni for their outstanding career accomplishments and leadership in civic, community, and professional activities.

**Friend of 4-H Award** is an annual recognition of a person or organization whose leadership, actions, and support have contributed to the involvement and promotion of statewide Illinois 4-H youth development programs.

**Leadership and Spirit Award** honors a 4-H or county Foundation board member or fundraising volunteer who exemplifies the spirit of “making the best better” for their county’s 4-H or Extension fundraising efforts.

**Online applications are being accepted for these awards. Nominate someone today at 4hfoundation.illinois.edu/awards.**
**Illinois 4-H Foundation inducts largest Hall of Fame class**

During the 4-H Family Event at the Illinois State Fair, the Illinois 4-H Foundation recognized 65 new Hall of Fame inductees. These individuals have a track record of exemplary service to 4-H or have demonstrated outstanding career and community achievements. In recognition of that service and dedication, each inductee received a commemorative medallion and has been added to the virtual 4-H Hall of Fame at 4hfoundation.illinois.edu/hall_of_fame.

**Family receives 2013 4-H Family Spirit Award**

The J. Miles and Maribel McGrew family of McDonough County was presented with the Illinois 4-H Foundation 2013 Family Spirit Award during the 4-H Family Event at the Illinois State Fair. The family’s 11 children were all involved in 4-H. Over the years, 17 spouses, 31 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren have been part of 4-H in seven states. The McGrew family agrees that 4-H has affected them in innumerable ways, teaching them teamwork, leadership, and communication skills. Perhaps most importantly, 4-H helped them build strong, responsible families. We are grateful to the family for creating the J. Miles and Maribel McGrew 4-H Memorial Endowment as a way to commemorate their honor.
Illinois 4-H joined AT&T’s “It Can Wait” campaign to encourage the more than 23,000 4-H members and others across the state not only to take the pledge to never text while driving, but to be advocates for this important effort.

In an effort to make Illinois roads safer, 4-Hers are asking drivers to commit to putting the safety of others first by texting “4H4ICW” to “50555.” Take the pledge today. (Standard text and data rates apply.)

“We, as 4-Hers, are committed to making a difference in our communities,” said Ann Clary, a member of the Illinois 4-H Youth Leadership Team. “The ‘It Can Wait’ campaign will be an outstanding way for 4-Hers all across the state to really fulfill our promise to the 4-H program and our communities.”

Already, Illinois 4-H has made an impact. 4-H members conducted “Texting Time Out” events at local Friday night high school football games to spread the message and to help others make the pledge.

They also distributed “Don’t Wreck Your Ride” flyers at local car dealerships to encourage new drivers to never text while driving. The Illinois 4-H Facebook posts about the campaign reached far beyond the borders of Illinois, with “likes” and “shares” from as far away as Tennessee, Oklahoma, Connecticut, North Dakota, Minnesota, Florida, Maryland, and even Japan.

According to the National Safety Council, more than 100,000 crashes a year involve drivers who are texting. AT&T’s own surveys indicate that 75 percent of teens say texting and driving is “common” among their friends. AT&T’s surveys also found that 97 percent of teen drivers say texting while driving is dangerous, yet 43 percent admit to doing it.

To learn more about the dangers of texting while driving and the “It Can Wait” campaign against it, visit ItCanWait.com.

(From left) John W. Quinn, AT&T external affairs director; Barnard; Tracy Major, AT&T store manager; Rep. Naomi Jakobsson, 103rd District representative; Dr. Denise Oberle, Illinois 4-H state program leader; and Carole Lindholm, Illinois 4-H Foundation office assistant, at a press conference promoting the “It Can Wait” campaign.
A Guide to Giving

There are so many ways to contribute to Illinois 4-H—through gifts of time, talent, and financial support. The Illinois 4-H Foundation provides several avenues to financially promote and sustain 4-H. Learn here how you can support the programs written about in this edition of CloverSeed.

Local 4-H Program Fund: This avenue allows you to give a designated amount to a specific Illinois county or extension unit.

4-H Annual Fund: These dollars are donated without restriction. This is a good option for people who want to support Illinois 4-H in general and have gifts directed toward programs and other 4-H priorities.

Memorial Gift: You can use this option to make a gift in memory of someone. The gift is deposited in the 4-H Annual Fund unless otherwise specified.

Honorarium: You can also make a gift to honor a person or an occasion (a birthday, anniversary, etc.). These gifts also go into the 4-H Annual Fund unless otherwise specified.

Program/Activity Support: Specific programs or activities can be supported financially as well. Some of the funds that have been established include those highlighted in this issue of CloverSeed.

Endowment: Generate a lasting impact by creating an endowment with a minimum gift of $15,000. An endowment can be named in honor of an individual or family and can benefit statewide programming, a county, or a specific initiative.

Bequests: A bequest is a transfer of cash, securities, or other property through a will or a living trust. A bequest to Illinois 4-H can be made for a specific amount, for a percentage of your estate, or even for all or a portion of what is left after you have made specific bequests to your family and others.

Still have questions? No problem. We are here to help. Just give us a call at 217-333-9295 or email us at illinois4hfoundation@illinois.edu. We will be happy to personally guide you through the giving process and answer any questions you may have.

Update: Illinois 4-H License Plate Effort

The Illinois 4-H Foundation and many others across the state envisioned 4-H license plates going down the highways and byways of Illinois, an endeavor that could have provided the Foundation about $40,000 annually from the sale and renewal of the specialty plates.

“Unfortunately, the State of Illinois requirements for new applicants are tougher than before, and 4-H fell short of the minimum requirement,” said Denise Oberle, the Illinois 4-H state program leader. “But fortunately, if you sent $25 to the State of Illinois during the pre-order period, the 4-H Foundation has received your gift, and we thank you for it.”

Part of the $7,500 that was raised has already been put to use to purchase sail banners for the 2013 Illinois State Fair.

“These large banners marked the entrance to the four locations where fairgoers could find 4-H exhibits on display,” Oberle said. “The banners will travel the state during this next year to be used at local and state events.”

The remaining funds will be used to purchase additional banners and signage for the next fair season.

“The clover is a highly recognized symbol,” Oberle said. “Members, volunteers, staff, and donors are proud to be a part of the 4-H program. Thank you for helping 4-H multiply the ways that we make the clover visible to Illinoisans.”

Still like the idea of having a clover on your vehicle? Shop online at the 4-H Mall (www.4-Hmall.org) to purchase license plate frames and decals.

Part of the money raised by the Illinois 4-H license plate effort was used to purchase sail banners for the 2013 Illinois State Fair.
All that is right with 4-H

by Holly Martin

The cattle barn isn’t all that big. The boy is sitting on his showbox next to his heifer. She’s not all that big, but he only weighs 50 pounds if he has a couple of rocks in the pockets of his worn jeans. When it comes time to lead her to the wash rack, he gets pushed around. He’s doing well, but his dad is injured and he just hasn’t been able to help the boy like he wishes he could have.

So it doesn’t take long. Before the boy, or his parents, knows what is happening an older 4-Her jumps up to help him rinse. Later on, an older boy offers to help. And then two girls wonder if they can help him practice showmanship.

And so it goes. The older kids help him and he learns.

Not too far away, a little girl stands on the fence looking down at her pig. “She was afraid of them at first,” her mom says. But now, she’s clearly comfortable. An older girl at least 10 years older leans down and says something to her. The younger girl hops down and picks up a hose and quickly cools her pig down from the stifling heat. It’s obvious the older girl has been the younger one’s guide—teaching her what to do but letting her become comfortable with what was once a scary proposition.

It happens time and time again. Not only in this barn, in this county, at this county fair, but all over the country in other barns, at other fairs.

It happens in the kitchen, when one 4-Her shows another how to smooth the buttercream just right to get the even look she wants. It happens on the shooting range, when a teenager holds a shotgun showing the younger boy how to aim quickly.

It’s yet another example of what is so right about the 4-H program. Young people take on the role of teachers to younger members. They become leaders, without even knowing it is happening. They remember being there—not knowing how to keep their pig from bolting out of the gate—and so they share what they have learned.

It’s a legacy. The responsibility of that legacy is passed down every year with no ceremony or fanfare. The 4-Hers who have the honor today didn’t ask for it. They simply knew that someone once helped them and that’s what you do. It’s what is right.

Those older 4-H members become role models. They are the “good kids” parents of young children feel happy their child can emulate. And perhaps that’s the best thing to watch: a younger child watching an older one doing what is right—not because it means they will win an award, but because they have learned kindness and leadership by example.

Some day, when those older 4-Hers become parents themselves, only then will they appreciate how important their acts were.

And the mom of the boy who received all of the help with his heifer? She will be eternally grateful for the kindness of those young people. It means more than they will ever know.

This essay, reproduced by permission, was published in High Plains Journal on July 29, 2013. Holly Martin can be reached by phone at 1-800-452-7171 ext. 1806, or by email at hmartin@hpj.com.
Annual Report on Giving

“Real generosity toward the future lies in giving all to the present.” – Albert Camus

The Illinois 4-H Foundation would like to thank the many individuals, businesses, trade associations, and organizations that provide financial support for our 4-H programs. Your financial assistance is the reason we can continue to fund outstanding 4-H programs in Illinois that give our youth opportunities to grow, learn, and succeed. The following contributions—each one important and appreciated—were made between July 1, 2012, and June 30, 2013.

Individuals

$5,000+
- McLean County: Eugene Funk III
- Rock Island County: Lucille Korsmeyer
- Sangamon County: Evelyn Brandt Thomas
- Indiana: Monica Masten

$2,500–$4,999
- Champaign County: Michael and Carol Terstriep
- Kendall County: Nannette Armstrong
- McHenry County: James and Cheryl Wormley
- Maryland: Kristina Herriott

$1,000–$2,499
- Champaign County: Lila Jeanne Eichelberger, Jo Menacher, Paulette Sancken
- Cook County: George and Barbara Rundquist Clark, Christine Wicklein and Theodore Schwartz

$500–$999
- Cass County: Todd and Deborah Lasswell Burrus
- Champaign County: Matt and Angie Barnard, Stephen and Marni Boppart, George and Nancy Daigh, Denise and Ron Oberle, Dale and Debra Stocker, Dorothy Vissen, Delmar and Phyllis Wilken
- Clinton County: Julie and Kenneth Maschhoff
- Cook County: Sandra Lignell
- Dewitt County: Virgil Marbach
- DuPage County: Linda Henkel

Peoria County: Sidney and Florence Banwart, Kenneth and Jody Baum, Betty Church, Frances and Steven Streitmatter
- Piatt County: William and Sheila Lanker
- Putnam County: Thelma Holmbeck
- Richland County: Collins Stoll
- Rock Island County: David and Carol Close
- Saline County: Dean and Trudy West
- White County: Roger and Roselle Hubale
- Whiteside County: Marc Schutz

Arizona: Philip and Juanita Francis
- Florida: Carol Keiser-Long
- Iowa: Carroll and Patsy Bolin
- Texas: George and Barbara Frock
- West Virginia: Linda Kutlik and David Pyle

$250–$499
- Adams County: Roger Shupe, Randy and Mary Ann Sims
- Boone County: Lon Hoegberg

Bureau County: Douglas and Patricia Wiggim
- Carroll County: Walter and Lavonne Nelson
- Champaign County: Andrew Edwards, Rodney Stoll, Douglas Walsten
- Clark County: Steven and Beth Macke
- Clinton County: Gerald Diedemper, Nelson Heinzman and Bonita Heinmann
- Cook County: Steven and Janet Hser-Bowscher, Patricia Clickener, Larry Dean, John and Anne Huston, William Runzel IV
- DeKalb County: Barry and Karen McCandie Aves, Edward and Martha Gillespie, Robert Johnson and Jeanine Whetzel Johnson
- Douglas County: James and Janet Winningham
- Ford County: Raymond and Ellen Hankes, Roger and Kathleen Reum
- Franklin County: Kenneth Bolin
- Fulton County: Rodney and Rosemary Aten
- Hancock County: Donald Owings
- Henry County: Mindy and Jeffrey Brown, James and Nancy Roberts
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Alan Scott and Lori Higgins
LaSalle County
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Frank Mynard III and Suzanne Mynard
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Macon County
Stuart Hawbaker
Deloris Pourchot Trust
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Donald Wettstein

Colorado
Wayne and Joan Hoelscher
District of Columbia
Robert Hillman
New Jersey
Melva Gage
South Carolina
Stanley and Sylvia Stroup
Tennessee
Keith and Donna Hannold
Wisconsin
Christopher and Ann Keim

$100–$249
Adams County
Terry Asher
Gary and Lia Balke
Jerry Faber
Larry and Tamara Fischer
James and Melba Funk
Boone County
David Bullard
Janet Chapman
Joel Kelsey
John Pepper
Bryan Stinde
Robert Trojan
Jane Zeien and Paul Zeien Jr.
Bureau County
Marlyn and Jane Holmbeck
Helen Kenney
Robert Kenney
Cass County
David and Althea Carl Gregory and Diane Lepper
Judith Taylor
Champaign County
Ralph and Jolene Allen
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Leanne Rodgers Courson
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James and Carol Nelson
Charles and Janice Olson
LeAnn Ombsby and Kim Gelke
Karen Peck
Russell and Elaine Peppers
Roscoe and Annette Pershing
Bruce and Debra Readland
Elaine Sampson
Richard Schicht
Mark and Regina Taylor
George and Marilyn Tjardes
John and Nancy Tolar
Thelma Turner
Robert and Mary Twardock
Brian Wabel
Michael Weber
Jack and Sally Walholm
Bradley and Paula Zwillinger
Christian County
William Beck
James and Linda Blakley
James and Sondra Bugg
Joan Miller
Richard and Francie Schmitz
Ralph and Eva Sloman
Clark County
Eleanor Markwell
Melissa Wells
David and Jane Williams
Clinton County
John Ruth
Coles County
Robert Meier
Cook County
Sharalyn Barchers
Connie Campbell
Nancy Sue Carlson
Roger Clark
Martin and Rosann Conroy
Robert Curley
Patricia Fuchs
Paul and Kristen Hadden
Mary Harland
Donald and Andrea Henderson
Michael McCully
Daniel and Patricia McGrath
Caryl Shettel
John and Tania Wilken
Donald Yunker
Crawford County
Raymond and Ann Emken
DeKalb County
Don and Denise Frost
John and Julie Greek
Richard and Kim Grever
LeAnn Ombsby and Kim Gelke
Karen Peck
Russell and Elaine Peppers
Roscoe and Annette Pershing
Bruce and Debra Readland
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Roger Clark
Martin and Rosann Conroy
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Patricia Fuchs
Paul and Kristen Hadden
Mary Harland
Donald and Andrea Henderson
Michael McCully
Daniel and Patricia McGrath
Caryl Shettel
John and Tania Wilken
Donald Yunker
Crawford County
Raymond and Ann Emken
DeKalb County
Don and Denise Frost
John and Julie Greek
Richard and Kim Grever
William and Lisa Kuhn
Norman and Barbara Larson
Donald Mack
Michael and Lynn Martz
Honorable Robert and Mary Pittend
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Larry Wilson
Dewitt County
Terry Ferguson
Duane and Pam Runyon
Douglas County
Adam Lauwers
Charlotte Wex
DuPage County
Lois Boecker
Ruth Johnson
Jay and Tama McWhinney
Gregory and Carla Rassi
Edgar County
Pama Lee Brown
Dale and Jane English
Effingham County
Bruce and Carol Martino
Ford County
Wayne and Martha Webb
Grundy County
Dale Bertsch
Ramy and Carol Gourley
William and Betty Kelch
Thota and John Lee
James and Kay Miller
Gregory and Linda Muehling
Ernest Potter
Carmi Rice
Daniel Yates
Jasper County
Larry and Jane Casey
Jersey County
Henry and Marie Kallal
Jo Daviess County
Roger Higgs
Gregory and Eileen Lawfer
Marvin and Elizabeth Schnitzler
Johnson County
Katherine Webb
Kane County
Sherry Anzio
Daniel and Pamela Attno
Identa Austin
Anne Carson
William Eckhoff
Patricia Hartmann
Scott and Michele Horton
Linda Langner
Peter and Debra Petges
John White
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Kankakee County
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Bob and Donna Kohl
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