



Basic Standards of a Viable County 4-H Youth Development Program

1. A base county 4-H youth development program will consist of a club program, including youth age 5-18, which is balanced with at least one other delivery mode used effectively to reach youth through educational outreach programming.
2. Volunteers (both teen and adult) are a vital component in program development and implementation. The ISOTURE model is utilized in managing volunteers.
3. Advisory group(s) are essential in planning and conducting educational events and programs, and providing other support as appropriate (i.e., resource development).
4. Appropriate educational events are conducted to support youth, clubs and their project work.
5. Comprehensive communication skills development and community service opportunities for 4-H members are key components of the county program.
6. Appropriate recognition (through events, publicity and other methods) is given to youth and adults for their accomplishments.
7. A coordinated marketing and promotions plan that includes a variety of methods to recruit youth and adults is implemented.
8. A viable communication system (newsletter, e-mail listserv, etc.) is used to communicate on a regular basis with members and volunteers.
9. Encouragement and active support of participation at regional, state and national educational events and programs, including 4-H summer camp, are provided.
10. Specific leadership and personal development programs and activities for teens are implemented.

All programs should reflect the needs and demographics of the county. In addition, they should be innovative, based on state programmatic priorities, and reflect the values of the North Dakota 4-H Program as set forth by the Center for 4-H Youth Development at North Dakota State University and the defining factors of a program. This includes documenting and reporting impact for state-wide impact.

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