



Volunteer Staff Development

4-H Council Handbook Tip Sheet

Purpose

Volunteer development is necessary to ensure that an adequate number of volunteers are involved and ready to offer their time and energy to help make their county 4-H Youth Development Program succeed.

Role of the 4-H Council

Supporting the 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator's efforts to provide volunteer development is a significant function of the 4-H Council. The 4-H Youth Educator is responsible for selecting, screening, and evaluating volunteers. The Council's role in Volunteer Staff Development will include:

- Identify different volunteer roles needed in the 4-H program
- Assist with recruiting volunteers to fill these roles
- Help orient new volunteers so they understand their roles and expectations
- Work with the 4-H Youth Educator to identify training needs of volunteers
- Support and promote training opportunities for volunteers to be well-equipped to fill their volunteer roles

Recognition of Volunteers

4-H Councils are asked to assure that a well-balanced, relevant, and appropriate recognition system is in place for all volunteers. These can include:

- Educational opportunities
- Local acknowledgement
- Tangible awards

As the 4-H Council and 4-H Educator work together, the County 4-H Program will have an outstanding group of well-trained, highly functioning 4-H Volunteers to support the 4-H members and their families!

To learn more about the Volunteer Staff Development function of the 4-H Council, please visit the Volunteer Staff Development section of the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Council Handbook (<http://bit.ly/VolDevelopment>).

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