

ARIZONA



20,000 True Leaders by 2025

Arizona 4-H is the positive youth development organization of The University of Arizona through Arizona Cooperative Extension. Over 5,000 club members participate in Arizona 4-H clubs, and are supported by nearly 700 authorized 4-H volunteers. Annually, 200,000 youth become educational 4-H members through opportunities provided to them by Arizona Cooperative Extension professionals across Agriculture; Healthy Living; Science, Technology, and Mathematics (STEM); and, Civic Engagement education.

The National Strategic plan “4-H Grows: A Promise to America’s Kids” lays out commitments for each state to meet ensuring programs reflect the population demographics, vulnerable populations, diverse needs, and social conditions of our state. Our promise is to serve 1 in 5 youth with high-quality positive youth development experiences. The Arizona 4-H program is committed to ensuring high-quality positive youth development experience for all youth in Arizona. To implement this vision the Arizona 4-H program must expand the number of paid and volunteer caring adults.

Arizona has 1.2 million potential 4-H youth, who deserve high-quality positive youth development experiences. Currently we serve sixteen percent of the potential 4-H youth through Arizona Cooperative Extension programming and outreach. We still have work to do to deliver on our commitment. The Arizona 4-H club and camping programming needs to reach 48,913 youth annually with educational experiences and we need to increase the length and depth of the experience youth have. The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension 4-H program resolves to grow the Arizona 4-H club program to 20,000 4-H members annually by 2025 and support the growth of our volunteer force to 5,000 caring adults.



4-H Participation Pathways



Youth development program quality matters to ensure 4-H youth thrive. Youth thrive when they have meaningful opportunities to partner with caring adults to create sustainable community change and grow in their mastery of civic engagement, healthy living, STEM, and agriculture. As Arizona 4-H aims to grow the number of 4-H members youth and their families must be supported in understanding how their 4-H experiences will achieve thriving for them and their communities. Arizona 4-H youth have eight great pathways to thriving: Agriculture, Camping, Civic Engagement, Community Service, Cultural Understanding, Healthy Living, Leadership, and STEM.

Arizona 4-H Program Great Eight Participation Pathways



Agriculture

Civic Engagement

Healthy Living

Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (STEM)

Leadership

Community Service

Cultural Understanding

Camp

Arizona 4-H supports eight 4-H Participation Pathways for youth engagement. A participation pathway is comprised of project work; educational and competitive events at the club, county, state, and national level. Each pathway will overlap and intersect each other. Over a 4-H career a 4-H youth should turn their spark into mastery in at least one of these eight pathways. A spark is an innate interest that drives a youths engagement on a specific topic. A youth should have a well rounded 4-H experience across multiple engagement pathways. We also hope a youth will grow in their mastery by achieving deep engagement within at least one pathway.

The Building Blocks for 20,000 True Leaders by 2025

Volunteers

Caring adults are provided continuing and ongoing professional development
Caring adults reflect the demographic's of Arizona
Financial barriers are removed for caring adults to provide service

Curriculum

Excellent research informed curriculum adapted for Arizona communities
A national leading positive youth development research agenda
Materials prepared to be responsive to cultural needs of all Arizona communi-

Facilities

Arizona 4-H educational facilities are well maintained
Arizona 4-H educational facilities are self-sufficient
Arizona 4-H educational facilities are maximized to support all Arizona youth

Employees

Employees are superbly trained in positive youth development principles
Employees are increased to serve representative populations in Arizona
Employees are supported in their professional development

Marketing

Effective marketing strategy implemented
Increase awareness of 4-H youth development experiences
Position Arizona 4-H as the premiere youth outreach partner for all of The University of Arizona

Policy

Clear and effective unified policy and procedure
4-H families, youth, volunteers and staff are aware of policy and procedure
Annual review and feedback inform policy and procedure

Financial Resources

Increase long-term stable support for the Arizona 4-H program
Increase private and corporate support of the Arizona 4-H program
Increase partnerships to expand the reach of the Arizona 4-H program
Reduce financial barriers to young people to be able to participate

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension 2021 Strategic Plan

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension is dedicated to engage with people through applied research and education to improve lives, families, communities, environment, and economies in Arizona and beyond. For more information visit: <https://cals.arizona.edu/sites/cals.arizona.edu/files/documents/cooperativeextension.pdf>

4-H Grows: A Promise to America's Kids

National 4-H partners are dedicated to a future in which millions more young people are engaged in Cooperative Extension's high-quality 4-H youth development programs, where 4-H youth, volunteers and staff are representative of the diversity of our nation. For more information visit: <https://nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resources/National%204-H%20Strategic%20Plan%202017.pdf>



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Cooperative Extension

