



KENTUCKY 4-H FOUNDATION

114 Moloney Building
450 Cooper Drive, Lexington, KY 40546



KENTUCKY 4-H FOUNDATION

NEWS

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR KENTUCKY'S YOUTH

September 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

- 100 years of 4-H.....1
- Teen Conference
- Scholarships at Teen2
- Conference
- Friends + Alumni Mixer.....2
- Cloverville Storefronts.....3
- Donor Appreciation.....4
- Breakfast
- 2024 Family Hall of Fame.....5
- Message from the.....6
- State President
- Record Year at Camp.....6
- Emerald Award Winners7
- Welcome to Kentucky 4-H.....8
- Ice Cream Social8
- Ag Tag Donation.....9
- National Lifesmarts Team.....9
- Message from.....10
- Head Clover
- Livestock Judging.....11
- Alumni Thriving.....11
- Hannah Snyder
- Emerald Gala.....12



100 YEARS OF 4-H TEEN CONFERENCE

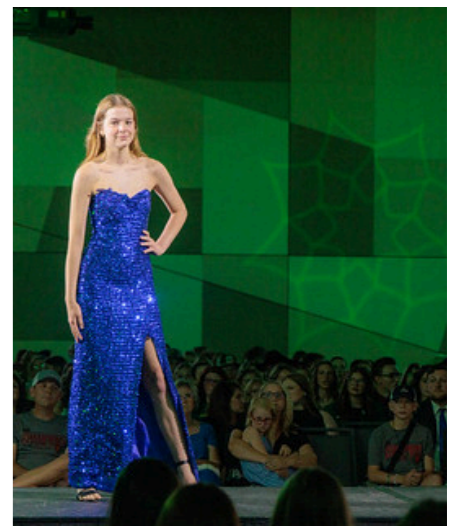
The 100th Kentucky 4-H Teen Conference was a remarkable celebration of the incredible achievements and contributions of 4-H'ers from across the state. This centennial event offered participants an immersive experience, allowing them to explore the vibrant campus of the University of Kentucky, stay in UK dorms, and engage in a diverse range of activities both on campus and throughout Lexington.

achievement winners were recognized, along with four 4-Hers being named Emerald, the highest honor of achievement.

At the Day of Service, Kentucky 4-H put the true meaning into “hands to larger service.” The youth engaged in a variety of impactful projects across the Lexington area, including revitalizing and maintaining the UK Arboretum's gardens, assisting at local food pantries, and restoring historic cemeteries.

Over the course of the conference, 4-H'ers delved into major and minor activities that showcased their talents and interests while also connecting with peers and mentors. Friends and Alumni came together to reminisce and share their favorite Teen Conference memories. Fifteen very deserving 4-H youth were awarded scholarships, and

The 100th Kentucky 4-H Teen Conference truly exemplified the spirit of 4-H—fostering leadership, community engagement, and personal growth. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this milestone event possible and look forward to many more years of 4-H excellence and celebration.



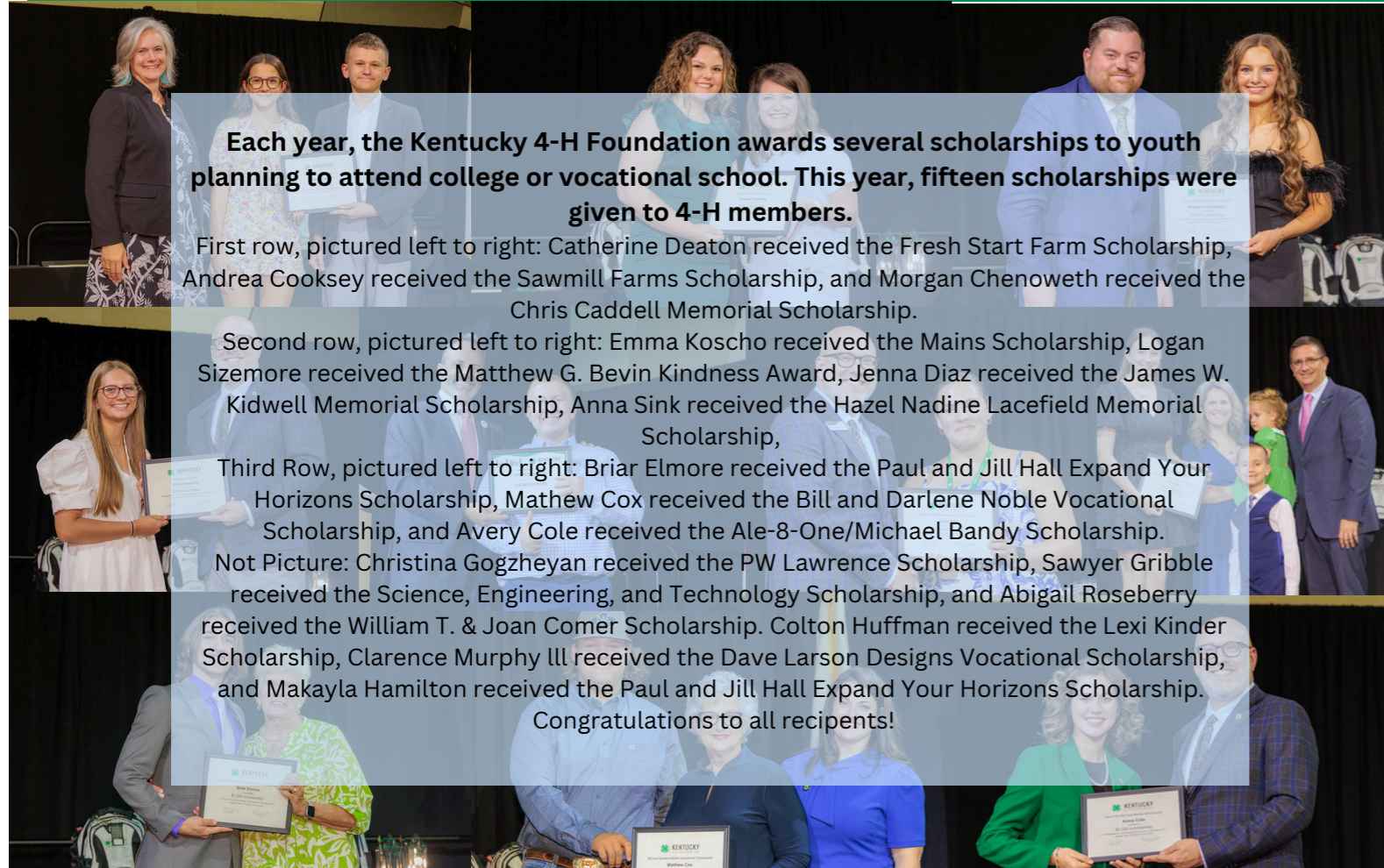
THE KENTUCKY 4-H FOUNDATION
INVITES YOU TO
ATTEND TO THE 2025

Emerald Gala

APRIL 12TH, 2025

The Kentucky Castle | Versailles, KY

Scholarships at Teen Conference



Each year, the Kentucky 4-H Foundation awards several scholarships to youth planning to attend college or vocational school. This year, fifteen scholarships were given to 4-H members.

First row, pictured left to right: Catherine Deaton received the Fresh Start Farm Scholarship, Andrea Cooksey received the Sawmill Farms Scholarship, and Morgan Chenoweth received the Chris Caddell Memorial Scholarship.

Second row, pictured left to right: Emma Koscho received the Mains Scholarship, Logan Sizemore received the Matthew G. Bevin Kindness Award, Jenna Diaz received the James W. Kidwell Memorial Scholarship, Anna Sink received the Hazel Nadine Lacefield Memorial Scholarship,

Third Row, pictured left to right: Briar Elmore received the Paul and Jill Hall Expand Your Horizons Scholarship, Mathew Cox received the Bill and Darlene Noble Vocational Scholarship, and Avery Cole received the Ale-8-One/Michael Bandy Scholarship.

Not Picture: Christina Gogzheyana received the PW Lawrence Scholarship, Sawyer Gribble received the Science, Engineering, and Technology Scholarship, and Abigail Roseberry received the William T. & Joan Comer Scholarship. Colton Huffman received the Lexi Kinder Scholarship, Clarence Murphy III received the Dave Larson Designs Vocational Scholarship, and Makayla Hamilton received the Paul and Jill Hall Expand Your Horizons Scholarship. Congratulations to all recipients!

Livestock Judging

In July, fifteen talented 4-H livestock judging youth traveled across Indiana and Kentucky to showcase their skills. Thanks to funding from the Kentucky 4-H Foundation through Area 2 Funds, these young participants had the opportunity to enhance their public speaking, hone their decision-making abilities, and connect with fellow livestock enthusiasts in the region. This experience, known as “Top 12 Week,” serves as a pivotal moment where the group is whittled down to four finalists who will represent them in the National competition at the NAILE in Louisville. Throughout the year, the Livestock team engages in six diverse competitions, each offering unique challenges and learning experiences.



Agriculture Extension Associate Senior for 4-H Livestock Programs, Wyatt Banks, assisting 4-H youth practicing their livestock judging skills.

Friends + Alumni Mixer



The Alumni and Friends Mixer, thrown by the Kentucky 4-H Foundation, was a fantastic way to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Kentucky 4-H Teen Conference. The lively event brought together former participants and supporters for a fun night of reconnecting and nostalgia. Guests enjoyed delicious food while swapping stories and reminiscing about their favorite teen conference moments. It was a great chance to catch up with old friends, share memorable experiences, and celebrate the lasting impact of the 4-H program. Overall, it was a wonderful evening that showcased the strong sense of community among Kentucky 4-H alumni and friends.

Alumni Thriving- Hannah Snyder



Hannah Snyder is currently the Deputy Clerk for the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence at the U.S. House of Representatives. In this role, she coordinates administrative and policy operations for the Committee. Her responsibilities include traveling abroad on official oversight trips with Members of Congress, recording and documenting Committee hearings, and collecting finished intelligence products from the Intelligence Community.

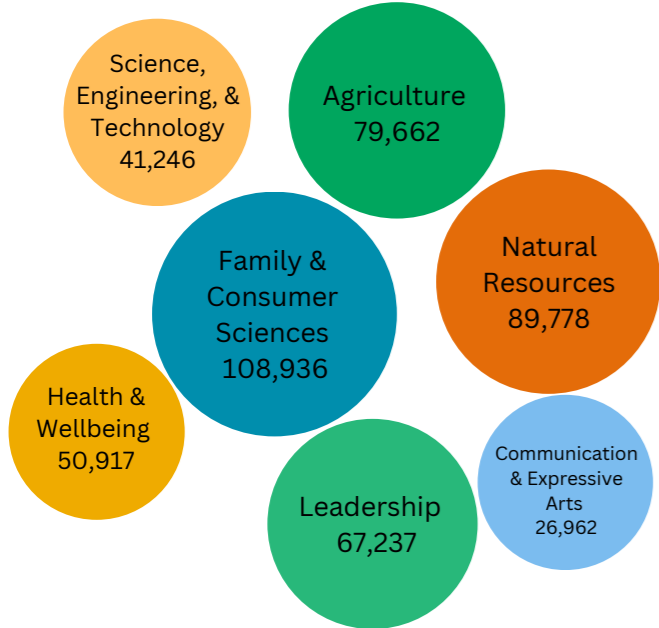
4-H played an instrumental role in equipping her with the skills needed to succeed in her career. She began the program as a Cloverbud with a willingness to learn, progressed to a keen interest in initiative, and ultimately gained self-confidence and leadership experience. The “4-H cycle,” as she refers to it, taught her how to market herself effectively to peers, strangers, adult leaders, and elected officials.



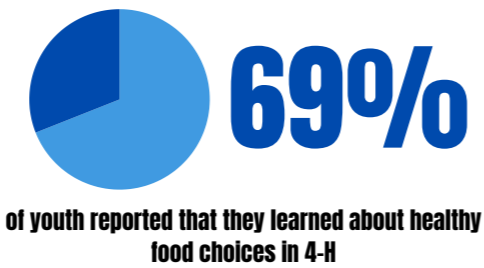
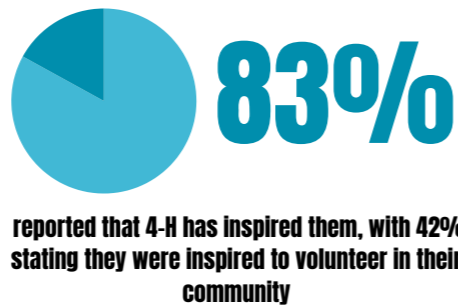
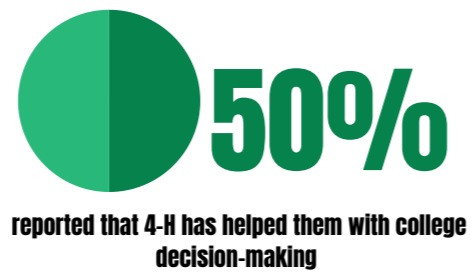
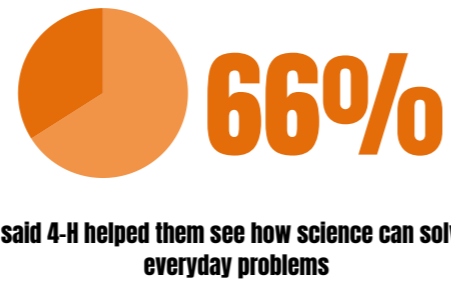
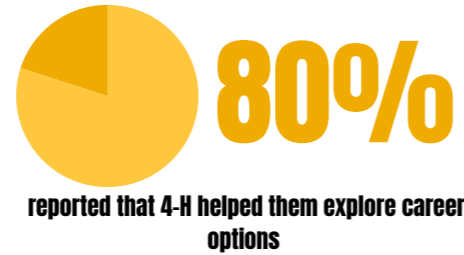
Dr. Rachel Guidugli,
Assistant Extension Director for
Kentucky 4-H Youth Development

4-H is a community of young people across Kentucky learning leadership, communication, and civic engagement skills. Over the last 4-H program year we are excited to share that through efforts by both University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University, 4-H reached over 198,000 young people across Kentucky through the seven core program areas in clubs, special interest programs, individual study, school enrichment, camp, and after-school opportunities. We could not reach the amount of young people we are able to without the support of our over 16,000 adult and youth volunteers.

Enrollment Across the Core Program Areas:



The data continues to track the transformational impact 4-H makes on the lives of young people, according to the National 4-H Index Study (2024):



I look forward to our collective work as we continue to AMPLIFY KENTUCKY 4-H in the new program year!



Kentucky Department of Agriculture cutting the ribbon on the Five & Dime

We are delighted to announce the ribbon-cutting ceremony for two exciting new storefront sponsors in Cloverville! The Five and Dime has been proudly sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, under the leadership of Commissioner Jonathan Shell, while the City Hall has received support from the Kentucky

Community and Technical College System. These partnerships play a vital role in supporting our 4-H youth and making Cloverville a vibrant showcase for their incredible projects. Thank you to both, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System for their commitment and support. Together, we are enhancing the Cloverville experience and celebrating the achievements of our young 4-H leaders!



Kentucky Community and Technical College System cutting the ribbon on the City Hall

Do you want to support Kentucky 4-H?

Scan this code to donate or contact Nick Nash (nna261@uky.edu)



Donor Appreciation Breakfast

Ag Tag Donation



Donor Appreciation Breakfast at the Kentucky State Fair

The Kentucky 4-H Foundation's Annual Donor Appreciation Breakfast was a heartfelt event celebrating the generous contributions of its supporters over the past year. At the breakfast, the Foundation honored its Leadership Circle members, recognizing those who have given for 3, 5, and 10 years. Clover Heritage Society members were also acknowledged for their significant impact of giving. Retiring 4-H Foundation board members were presented with plaques in gratitude for their service, while Dean Nancy Cox was celebrated with a bourbon barrel lid for her unwavering support and commitment to the Kentucky 4-H Program. A highlight of the morning was the induction of the Comer Family into the 4-H Family Hall of Fame, honoring their longstanding dedication. The event was a wonderful reminder of the vital role that these contributors play in the success and growth of the 4-H community.



Photo of KY Ag Commissioner, Jonathan Shell, presenting the check to 4-H State Officers at the Donor Appreciation Breakfast in Cloverville.

This year was a record-breaking year for the Ag Tag, a total of \$931,201.81! The voluntary donations are divided equally among Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky FFA, and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA). This year, each group will receive \$310,400.60. Half of the 4-H donations are returned to local counties where the donation was made, meaning leaders in the donating community are able to use those funds to cover the cost of 4-H camp and other leadership programs for youth. County 4-H councils regularly use Ag Tag dollars to provide 4-H camp scholarships and travel for life-changing, educational experiences to enable local 4-H youth to grow as leaders and engaged citizens.

Lifesmarts



The Kentucky 4-H Foundation is proud to highlight the achievements of Harrison County's 4-H Varsity team, who recently represented Kentucky with distinction at the National LifeSmarts competition in San Diego, CA. LifeSmarts, the ultimate consumer challenge for 4-H'ers in grades 6-12, tests participants on a range of topics including technology, consumer rights, health and safety, the environment, and finance. The team, led by Captain Ella Yazell and supported by Sutton Koch, Molly Coleman, Harrison Hatter, Assistant Coach Delaney Koch, and Coach Shannon Farrell, devoted three months to rigorous preparation.

Their innovative TikTok video, part of a broader OTC drug presentation, was used as a grand finale for their community presentations. Their efforts paid off, with Kentucky securing a commendable 26th place overall, despite having one of the youngest teams in the contest. Beyond the competition, the team enjoyed sightseeing in California, visiting La Jolla Cove, the Hotel del Coronado, and Mission Beach Board Walk. The Kentucky 4-H Foundation's support was instrumental in making this experience possible, covering essential expenses such as airline tickets, registration fees, and hotel costs. We celebrate the team's achievements and look forward to their continued success in the 2025 competition!





Carrie Derossett

Carrie Derossett will continue her work with Kentucky 4-H as the Extension Specialist for 4-H Animal Food Sciences and Agriculture. Carrie brings a wealth of knowledge to this position. She grew up showing Gelbvieh cattle, participating in a variety of 4-H projects, additionally, she served as the Kentucky 4-H Secretary from 2005-2006. Carrie began her professional career working for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the American Gelbvieh Association. For the past eight years, Carrie has served as the Logan County 4-H Agent with the University of Kentucky. She has a Bachelor of Science in Career and Technical Education, an Agriculture Education Option with a minor in Animal Science, and a Master of Science in Animal Food Sciences, both from the University of Kentucky.

Wyatt Banks will join our team as the Agriculture Extension Associate Senior for 4-H Livestock Programs. Wyatt has deep roots in Kentucky, he grew up on a small cow-calf operation in Cynthiana, Kentucky. As a youth member in Kentucky 4-H, he spent time traveling and competing with the All-Star Silver Team and Kentucky 4-H Gold Team. In 2017 Wyatt was presented with the Emerald Achievement Award. Wyatt brings a wealth of knowledge to this position, both as a successful competitor and coach at all levels in Kentucky, Illinois, and Kansas. Wyatt has an Associate of Science from Lincoln Land Community College, a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science with Production Management Option from Kansas State University and his Master of Science in Nutritional Physiology from Kansas State University.



Wyatt Banks

Ice Cream Social



The 4th annual Friends and Alumni Ice Cream Social at the Kentucky State Fair was a hit! Attendees enjoyed scoops of delicious Chaney's ice cream, fun toppings, and amazing cookies, making for a perfect summer treat. The event featured a fun photo booth where guests could capture their fun times! The lively atmosphere and tasty offerings made the Ice Cream Social a delightful highlight of the fair, offering a delicious way to celebrate and connect with the community.



Kentucky 4-H Family Hall of Fame William & Joan Comer Family

The Kentucky 4-H Family Hall of Fame was established to honor those families who created exceptional legacies of service by contributing their time, resources, and leadership for the betterment of the Kentucky 4-H program on a local, regional, and state level. Thus far we have inducted eight families into this prestigious group.

The Kentucky 4-H Foundation is thrilled to announce the Comer Family as the distinguished recipient of the 2024 Family Hall of Fame Award. For three generations, the William & Joan Comer Family have exemplified an unwavering commitment to the Kentucky 4-H program, enriching their community and embodying the spirit of youth development.

The journey began with the Comer family's matriarch, Joan Comer, whose vision and encouragement ignited a passion for 4-H in her children. Recognizing the profound benefits of involvement, she supported and inspired her children to participate in 4-H from a young age. Her dedication has had a lasting impact, with many of her children attributing their personal and professional successes to the invaluable skills and experiences gained through 4-H.

Today, this legacy continues with the next generation. Many of the Comer family are engaged in 4-H in various capacities, carrying forward the family tradition of active participation and leadership. The Comer family's enduring commitment to 4-H not only highlights their personal achievements but also deepens the far-reaching influence of their collective efforts.

On top of all their personal contributions, the Comer family has also established the William T. and Joan Comer Family Endowment. This incredible gift helps 4-H youth pursue higher education, reflecting their commitment to giving back and supporting others just as 4-H supported them.

We celebrate the Comer Family's remarkable contributions and unwavering dedication to 4-H with great honor and admiration. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition. Your legacy inspires us all and exemplifies the true spirit of the Kentucky 4-H Foundation.



Message from the President



Callie Derosssett, Kentucky 4-H President

Welcome to a new program year, I hope you're ready to AMPLIFY Kentucky 4-H! My team and I are so excited and humbled to serve our organization this year. As I wrapped up my two week long experience at the 120th Kentucky State Fair I look back on all of the people I got to meet and how many times I got to tell the story of 4-H. The State Fair was full of meeting 4-Hers from across the commonwealth and growing closer with my teammates. Since my team and I have been in office we have attended State 4-H officer training as well as State officer training in conjunction with the FFA State officers at Kentucky Farm Bureau. My

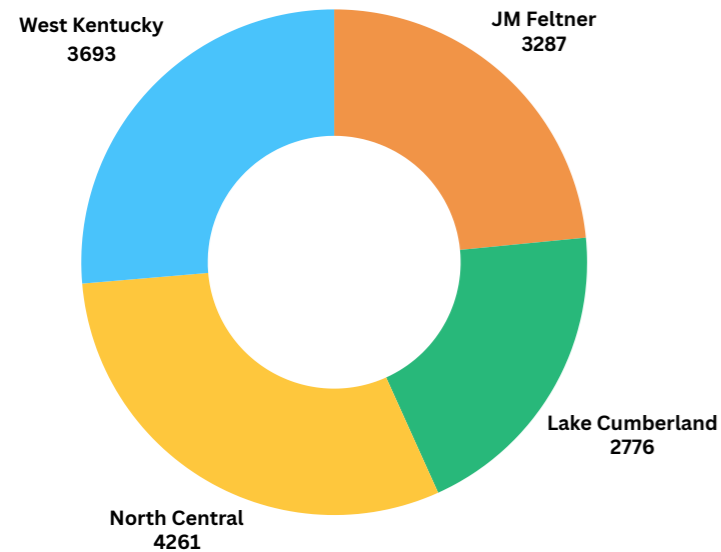
team and I have had nothing but positive experiences so far and cannot wait to continue our service throughout our officer year. Currently, we are looking forward to our very first State Teen Council meeting in September where we will get to meet the next leaders of Kentucky 4-H.

Record Year at Camp

In 2024, Kentucky 4-H shattered attendance records with 14,017 participants statewide, including 10,780 campers, 1,546 teens, 1,459 adults, and 232 extension staff. This achievement marks the largest summer camp attendance in Kentucky 4-H history, surpassing last year's record by 382 participants. Highlights of this year's record-breaking attendance include:



Additionally, 27 counties set new attendance records, with 16 of those counties achieving record numbers for multiple consecutive summers. Furthermore, 72 counties either exceeded their minimum camp attendance requirements or reached new milestones, while 69 counties saw an increase in camp attendance from the previous year.



Emerald Award Winners

MEET BRIAR ELMORE



Briar Elmore knew he found an organization he loved when he attended 4-H summer camp when he was 8 years old. Since then, camp has been a place for Briar to be himself and provide a fun and welcoming place for all the campers. Along with camp, 4-H opened many doors over the next 11 years for Briar in Casey County and all over Kentucky. After spending time and interacting with like-minded and forward-driven individuals that 4-H attracts, he began to see himself as a leader who was proud of every diverse part of himself and the people around him. Because of this, he strived to join the Kentucky 4-H Teen Council and to lead his peers and youth into more diverse mindsets. Receiving the Emerald Award in Kentucky 4-H has been an incredible accomplishment for Briar, and he is proud to be someone who has worked this hard to show the next generation that someone with this much pride can make their own kind of waves in Kentucky 4-H!

MEET KAILYN STOKES

Kailyn's 4-H journey began with a trip to 4-H camp and the completion of the Country Ham project when she was nine years old. Since then, she has been heavily involved in leadership and communications projects. As a junior 4-H'er, she attended Teen Summit, where she set her eyes on the green jacket that the state officers wear with pride each year, for the very first time. It was then, that she chose to pursue her dreams of becoming a Kentucky 4-H State Officer and follow in the footsteps of her mentors who had inspired her. On that journey, she joined the Kentucky 4-H State Teen Council and was a dedicated member of the Kentucky 4-H Achievement program. After earning the Gold Level achievement, attending the National 4-H Congress, and watching her peers earn the Emerald award, she was inspired to pursue this dream she never knew was possible. Kailyn would not be the person she is today without the Kentucky 4-H program that gave her a place, a passion, a voice, and a community that feels like family.



MEET TY JONES



Ty Jones is a very well-rounded 4-H member from Allen County. He grew up on the farm and was taught the value of agriculture, which led to his strengths in livestock activities and competitions. He is a four-time Overall Champion in the Kentucky 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest and has placed in the top three overall in the Kentucky 4-H Livestock Judging Contest for the past six years. Not only has 4-H shaped his livestock career, but it has made him grow into a great leader. He recently collaborated with Dale Dobson, Safety Coordinator at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, to initiate the Mammoth Cave Area 4-H Teen Challenge Coin project known as "4-H 4 Hope." Along with many other 4-H involvements, Ty was elected to serve as the 2024-2025 Kentucky 4-H Vice President. 4-H has fostered his development into a responsible and community-oriented leader!

MEET ANDREA COOKSEY

Andrea Cooksey started her involvement with 4-H as a Cloverbud in the county horse program. Since then, she has been involved in several county projects from communications to leaf collection to even doing a year of country ham. Her involvement in the horse program has been a consistent pillar though. She attended her first Teen Conference in 2021 with her Bronze Award. There she watched as the Emerald Award recipients took the stage, inspiring her to become an Emerald winner. Her involvement with 4-H took on a whole new level and she would apply and receive a position on STC during the next Teen Conference. She truly used the Achievement program as a way of self-reflection to see where her weaker areas were and to grow there. Within the last year, her mission has been to mentor younger members like she was led as a child. Someone who inspired her is 4-H alumni, Chastity Warner. Chastity encouraged her as a young member and pushed her to do contests, horse shows, and run for office, because of that she gained the confidence to allow 4-H to help mold her into who she is today!

