



KENTUCKY
4-H FOUNDATION

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR KENTUCKY'S YOUTH

2024 Annual Report





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2024 Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Dr. Brent Hutchinson <i>Chairman</i>	Glen S. Kinder, IV <i>Treasurer</i>	Mollie Kate Webb <i>4-H State President</i>
Melanie Lyons Watson <i>Vice Chairman</i>	Melanie W. Kelley Pamela R. Larson	
Elizabeth Lunsford <i>Secretary</i>		

District Directors

<i>West Region</i>	<i>Central Region</i>	<i>East Region</i>
Ryan Bivens	James Rose	Steven Lycans
Melanie Lyons Watson	Ramel Bradley	Matthew Comer

Directors at Large

Morelia Falcon	Jaclyn Walden
John May	Fran McCall

Kentucky Association of Extension 4-H Agents, President

Deana Reed

Youth Directors

Magalee Blazina	Mollie Kate Webb
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Ex-Officio Voting Directors

Dr. Laura Stephenson	Dr. Rachel Guidugli
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Staff



Our Mission

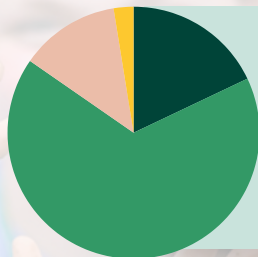
**Funding opportunities
for all Kentucky 4-H
youth.**

Kentucky 4-H Foundation
114 Moloney Building
450 Cooper Drive, Lexington, KY 40546
(859) 257-7178

For more information about the Kentucky 4-H Foundation,
please visit the website www.kentucky4hfoundation.org



Your Support at Work



REVENUE, Per Form 990

- Contributions & Grants: \$1,613,867
- Grant: Swimming Pools/ Storm Shelters: \$6,000,000
- Service Revenue: \$1,152,249
- Investment Revenue: \$228,773

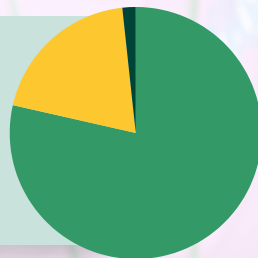
Total: \$8,994,889

(does not include unrealized losses on investments)

EXPENSES, Per Form 990

- Program Service: \$2,329,997
- Management & General: \$585,619
- Fundraising: \$50,683

Total: \$2,205,533



NET ASSETS/FUND BALANCE AT 12/31/2023

\$12,671,233

Dear 4-H Alumni and Supporters,

Thank you for making 2024 a record-breaking year for Kentucky 4-H. On behalf of the Kentucky 4-H Foundation Board of Directors and staff, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to donors like you who make our mission of “Funding opportunities for Kentucky 4-H youth” possible. Your generosity has been instrumental in fostering a sense of belonging, independence, generosity, and mastery among youth across all 120 counties of the Commonwealth. Thanks to your support, young people have access to the opportunities they need to thrive.

In the past year, your contributions have helped Kentucky 4-H youth become Beyond Ready for life. The Kentucky 4-H Foundation awarded \$21,000 in college and vocational scholarships, provided more than \$30,000 in Ag Mini-Grants to counties, and raised over \$93,000 at our signature Emerald Gala fundraising event. But that’s just the beginning.



Executive Director

Melissa G. Miller





Board Chairman

Dr. Brent Hutchinson

Brent D. Hutchinson

Your support also enabled us to host nearly 100 4-H professionals at the Professional Youth Development Conference, organize over 9,000 4-H projects and competitions at the Kentucky State Fair's Cloverville, and continue making significant improvements to our four 4-H camps across Kentucky, all of which saw record attendance in 2024. Additionally, your generosity helped fund travel for youth to attend the National 4-H Congress and National 4-H Conference.

We are deeply grateful for your role in making these milestones possible. Whether supporting livestock competitions at the state fair, helping a 4-Her discover their passion at camp, or empowering our state officers, your commitment ensures that youth across Kentucky are Beyond Ready for their future.

Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure are creating life-changing opportunities for kids from farms, suburbs, and cities across the Commonwealth to make their best better. On behalf of the 4-Hers we serve, our board of directors, and our staff—thank you for entrusting us with your investment in Kentucky's youth.



Volunteer Forum

The Kentucky Volunteer Forum serves as a dynamic event where agents, youth, volunteers, and many others come together to attend various classes, gaining valuable knowledge and skills to take back to their respective counties. This year, the forum saw a record-breaking 1,236 participants, with all 120 counties represented. In addition to educational opportunities, awards were presented to outstanding individuals, including Melissa Miller, who was honored with the Friend of Kentucky 4-H award for her dedication. The forum also featured the awarding of grants to 10 counties, further supporting the growth and development of 4-H programs across Kentucky.



Capitol Experience

This year, Capitol Experience was a dynamic two-day event that kicked off with a dinner at Foundry's, featuring guest speakers who prepared youth for their meetings with state officials at the Capitol. The Kentucky 4-H Foundation provided polos for all participants to wear during their time at the Capitol. The youth had the opportunity to sit in on a House Agriculture Committee meeting, meet with their state legislators, and hear from First Lady Brittainy Beshear, gaining invaluable insights into the workings of state government.

2024 Donors

\$1-\$25

Allison Halligan
 Amber Green
 Anna Meador
 Ashlye Comley
 Buddy Rosenberger
 Cathie Hekarnp
 Cathleen Johnson
 Cheryl Browning
 Cortney Moses
 Darrell Brown
 Elizabeth Schutzman
 Erin McGee Ferrell
 George R. Herbst
 Glenn Gunnell
 Joseph Douglas
 Katie Jackson
 Lori Miller
 Luke Fries
 Marlona R. Ice
 Peggy Tracy
 Sammi Coleman
 Sarah Hall

Stacy Coffey
 Susan Cohen
 Traci Haigis
 Tracy Mitchell
 Wanda Paris

\$26-\$50

Barbara S. Branstetter
 Callie Derossett
 Chris Crumrine
 Cindy Adams
 Deanna Markus
 Heather Alden-Eilerman
 Jennifer Talley
 Jeremiah Johnson
 Joe Westerfield
 John Thompson
 Kevin Moore
 Leslea Barnes
 Lois Manley
 Louise W. Zachary
 Margaret Miller
 Marilyn S. Terry

Martin Schadler
 Mary Beth Morris
 Matthew Arnold
 Nail's Service Center
 Pam L. Sigler
 Susan Campbell
 Susan J. Wade
 Wayne G. Yates

\$51-\$100

Altria
 Amanda Sublett
 Ashley Marcum
 Ashley Osborne
 Ashley Sullivan
 Ben F. Brown
 Brandon Oliver
 Brett Booker
 Caitlin McSherry
 Carol Hollander
 Chase & Elizabeth Lunsford
 Christy L. Eastwood
 Deana K. Reed

Deanna Ashmore
 Debbie Winn
 Gaddie Shamrock, LLC
 Ian Cox
 Janet Reid
 Jason Neighbors
 Jeremy Yates
 Joe Maynard
 John Hays
 Kiernan Comer
 Lacey Cole
 Lauren Black Venegas
 Linda Bush
 Lisa Hagman
 Mariola Power
 Marla Stillwell
 Michael Boone
 Nicholas Ratliff
 Norman E. Harned
 Patricia Parker
 Patrick R. Johnston
 Paul and Ruth Warner
 Ralph Derrickson

2024 Donors

Robert Peebles
 Roberta L. Hunt
 Rosemary S. Norris
 Ross Clark
 Russ Lemons
 Ryan Halligan
 Sherri Farley
 Sonia Clark
 Stacey L. Potts
 Stephen and Melody Ryan
 Foundation
 Timothy Fuqua
 Toni G. Rodgers
 Tyler Lightner
 Watson Cattle Nutrition
 William & Charolette Vermillion
\$101-\$250
 Barren County 4-H Council
 Brandenburg Telephone
 Company
 Brooke Brooks
 Catherine S. Weaver
 Charles Holtzhauer

Charlotte Milburn
 Cindy G. Moore
 David & Fran McCall
 Deja Hatchett
 Doug Lawson
 Dr. Kimberly Schrader
 Edmonson County 4-H
 Council
 Elizabeth Dickey
 Eric Eliassen
 Freddie Hilpp
 Garrett & Morgan Stevens
 Hunter Coleman
 Jamie Seiter
 Janet Turley
 Jean Smith
 Jeremy & Amanda Yates
 Jewell D. Ellis
 Jim Costigan
 Julie Brown
 Katie Kramer
 Kevin Fields
 Kim White

Larry Curran
 Leslie Deaton
 Lloyd G. Saylor
 Marc Ashby
 Martha J. Welch
 Meagan Klee
 Melinda Hensler
 Michael Biggs
 Nate Littles
 Nick & Lois Carter
 Nick Nash
 Patrick Allen
 Raven Kropf
 Real Bourbon Street
 Rhonda Jewell
 Robert Hall
 Robert M. O'Brien
 Ronnie W. Coffman
 Samantha Saunders
 Samuel Ricker
 Scott Nall Enterprises
 Seth Brown
 Sue Robinson

Terry Sams
 Tom Curry
 Vonda Gray
 William Kirkland
\$251-\$500
 Anna Ress
 Brittany Babineaux
 CDF Builders
 Christopher Bramlage
 Dana R. Anderson
 David P. Wesley
 Delbert Ousley
 Emily Brown
 Gini Lin Barlow
 Harland C. Hatter
 Hazel Chappell
 Homer Hurst
 Janie Sawatsky
 Jann Burks
 Jason Headrick
 Jeff Fossett
 Jennifer Braun

2024 Donors

Jessamine County 4-H

Council
 Jessica Kremer
 Jill Hall
 Joe B. Williams
 Joe Goggin
 Joe O'Leary
 Joseph Barnard
 Kellsey Agnew
 Krista Perry
 M & B Farms, LLC
 Mackin Brothers
 Excavating & Trucking
 Margaret Lunsford
 Metcalfe County 4-H
 Council
 Mike & Shelley Meyer
 Misty Wilmoth
 Monica Sumner
 Nick and Leanna Comer
 Paula F. Tarry
 Ray Allen Mackey
 Sarah Jones

Stephen Maun

Steve & Anita Fuqna
 Steven Caddell
 Taylor Walker
 Tim Hughes
 Tina Wagner

\$501-\$999

Albert Gladden
 Ashley Camberlain
 Ben & Savannah Robin
 Craig Coleman
 Daniel L. Schadler
 Diane Cole
 Glenn Thomas
 Kathy P. Billingsley .
 Lauren Ditsch
 Madison Adkins
 Nick Salsgiver
 Richard Hagerman
 Ryan & Misty Bivens
 Torey K. Earle

\$1,000-\$2,499

Aaron & Melissa G. Miller
 Bill Smith
 Brennan & Serena Gilkison
 Cathy Kunkel-Mains
 Central Kentucky Ag Credit
 Central KY Plumbing &
 Electrical Supply
 Charles and Glenda Comer
 Charlie & Emily Edgington
 Charlie Schneider
 Chi Epsilon Sigma
 Dennis L. Cannon
 Dr. Brent Hutchinson
 Dr. Charlene Jacobs
 Dr. Larry H. Westerfield
 Dr. Mark Mains
 Dr. Nancy Cox
 Dr. Rachel N. Guidugli
 Eleni Caddell
 Forcht Bank
 Hardin County Farm Bureau

Harrison County 4-H

Council
 Jacqueline S. Rogers
 James Seifert
 James Musser
 K. Denise Grant
 Keith L. Rogers
 Kentucky Dairy
 Development Council
 Kentucky Elk and Outdoor
 Fest LTD
 Kentucky Equine Education
 Alliance, Inc
 Kentucky Extension
 Homemakers Association
 Ky State Horticulture
 Society
 Kentucky Small Grain
 Promotion
 Kristopher Kelley
 Laura Stephenson
 Logan & Hollie Raley

2024 Donors

M & A Plumbing,
Electrical & HVAC
Marcia Hicks
Mary Margaret Bell
Melanie L. Watson
MR Storage
Owen Prim
Owensboro Grain
Company, LLC
Philip & Marsha Garnett
Robert T. Carlin
Robert Wagner
Sandra A. Frazier
Steven & Bianca Lycans
Tara Miller
Tim & Ruth A. Hendrick

\$2,500-\$4,999

Brandstetter Carroll
Brian Dunham
Churchill Downs
Courtney Barancin
Hilpp Construction
Jaclyn Walden
Jake Fink
KFEC Research &
Development
Louisville Riverport
Shane Carlin
Steve & Nancy Wills

\$5,000-\$9,999

Ashley Burns
Community Medical
Services
Glen S. & Becky Kinder
James Rose
Kentucky Cooperage
Company
Melanie W. Kelley
Pamela R. Larson
Paul Hall & Associates
The Clifton Foundation

\$10,000-\$14,999

Matthew and Eleanor
Comer

\$15,000-\$19,999

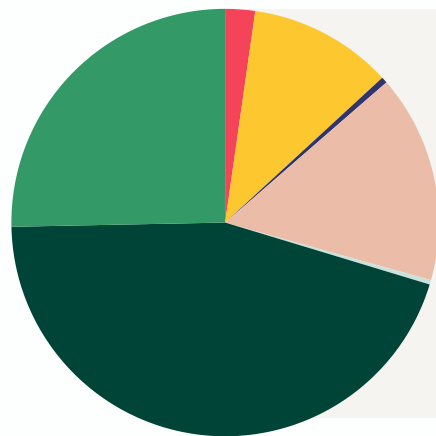
Ambassador Kelley and Joe
Craft
Duane Miksch
Kentucky Farm Bureau
Federation
Kentucky Farm Bureau
Mutual Insurance Company

\$20,000-\$65,000

Commonwealth of Kentucky
H. David & Roberta Wallace
Farm Credit Mid America
Dr. George A. Duncan
H & R Agri-Power
Kissel Entertainment
Matthew G. Bevin



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



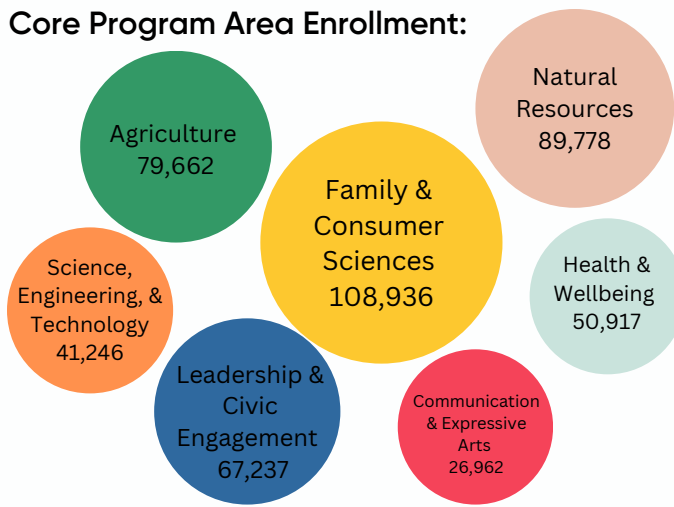
How do they enroll?

- After School Club
- Community Club
- Individual Study, Mentoring, & Family Clubs
- In-School Club
- Military Club
- School Enrichment
- Special Interest/Short-Term

202,647

**youth enrolled in
Kentucky 4-H**

Core Program Area Enrollment:





Ag Tag

In 2024, Kentucky 4-H received a generous donation of \$310,400.60 from Ag Tag contributions! When farmers renew their farm license plates, or “Ag Tags,” they have the option to make a \$10 donation. This money is then distributed equally between Kentucky 4-H, Kentucky FFA, and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA), supporting programs and initiatives that benefit Kentucky’s agricultural youth and farm families.

4-H Camp

For the second consecutive summer, we saw a record number of participants at 4-H Camp, with 14,017 campers, teens, adults, and Extension staff joining in the experience in 2024. For many, camp serves as their first introduction to the world of 4-H, and it’s making a lasting impact. 4-H Camp provides youth with invaluable opportunities to step outside their comfort zones, develop new skills, and grow as individuals, all while creating memories that will last a lifetime.



State Fair

4-H'ers from across the state gathered at the Kentucky State Fair, where over 9,572 entries were showcased in Cloverville and livestock.

The Kentucky 4-H Foundation also held its Annual Donor Appreciation Breakfast and celebrated the opening of two new storefronts: the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, led by Jonathan Shell, and Kentucky Community and Technical College Systems.



Family Hall of Fame

At the Kentucky State Fair, the Comer Family was inducted into the 4-H Family Hall of Fame in recognition of their lifelong dedication to the organization. The Comer family has been a pillar of 4-H for generations, consistently giving back to support its programs and youth. Their commitment and contributions have left a lasting impact on the 4-H community, inspiring future generations of leaders.



2024 Leadership Circle

Leadership Circle investors have made an annual gift of at least \$1,000 to the Foundation Annual Fund.

Aaron & Melissa G. Miller
 Ambassador Kelly & Joe Craft
 Bill Smith
 Cathy Kunkel-Mains
 Charlie & Emily Edgington
 Dennis L. Cannon*
 Dr. Brent Hutchinson
 Dr. Charlene Jacobs
 Dr. Larry H. Westerfield
 Dr. Mark Mains
 Dr. Rachel N. Guidugli
 Dr. Duane & Patricia Miksch
 Glen S. & Becky Kinder
 H. David & Roberta Wallace*
 Helen F. Horton
 Jacqueline S. Rogers
 Jake Fink*
 James Musser

K. Denise Grant
 Keith & Holly Rogers*
 Kristopher Kelley
 Marcia Hicks
 Mary Margaret Bell
 Matthew G. Bevin
 Melanie L. Watson
 Owen Prim
 Pamela R. Larson*
 Paul Hall Foundation*
 Philip & Marsha Garnett
 Sandra A. Frazier
 Steve & Nancy Wills
 Steven & Bianca Lycans
 Tara Miller
 The Clifton Foundation
 Tim & Ruth A. Hendrick



Life Time Leadership Circle

Lifetime Leadership Circle investors have made a gift of at least \$10,000 to the Foundation Leadership Circle Endowment

Chris & Eleni Caddell
 Dr. George & Ruth Duncan
 Dr. Jerry D. Westerfield
 James & Susan Rose
 Matthew & Eleanor Comer
 Steve & Melanie W. Kelley

**Inaugural 13-year Leadership Circle Members*



Clover Heritage Society

Emerald Level (+\$100,000)

Chris & Eleni Caddell
 Dr. Jerry Westerfield
 Dr. Mark & Cindy Lynn
 Dr. George A. & Ruth Duncan
 H. David & Roberta Wallace
 Larry Addington

Gold Level (\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Laura Lee Brown & Steve Wilson
 Matthew G. Bevin
 P.W. Lawrence
 Russel & Tammy Kissel
 Steve & Melaine W. Kelley

Silver Level (\$25,000 - \$49,999)

Ambassador Kelly & Joe Craft
 Bill & Jane Smith
 Dennis L. Cannon
 Dr. Duane & Patricia Miksch
 Glen S. & Becky Kinder
 Helen F. Horton
 Jake Fink
 Pamela R. Larson
 Paul & Jill Hall

CL⁴OVER
HERITAGE
SOCIETY

Bronze Level (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Aaron & Melissa G. Miller
 Brennan & Serena Gilkson
 Brenda Bandy
 Brian Dunham
 Carol G. Taylor
 Cathy Kunkel Mains
 Charles & Glenda Comer
 Courtney Barancin
 Daniel Schadler
 Dr. Brent Hutchinson
 Dr. Charlene Jacobs
 Dr. Christine Riley
 Dr. Laura Stephenson
 Dr. Mark Mains
 Joe B. Williams
 Keith & Holly Rogers
 Matthew & Eleanor Comer
 Ryan Bivens
 Shane Carlin
 Steven & Bianca Lycans





Beyond Ready

Kentucky 4-H is excited to join the nation in the “4-H Beyond Ready” initiative. The mission of this initiative is to reach 10 million youth as we promote a ready generation. Our youth will be prepared to tackle what’s ahead—in school, in work, and in life—with the 4-H community by their side along the way. Thriving youth are healthy, productive, and engaged.



Assistant Extension Director for 4-H

Dr. Rachel Guidugli

Rachel N. Guidugli



As our partners at National 4-H Council have shared:

120 years ago, we were ready.

Ready to get our hands dirty,

Ready to learn by doing,

Ready to push the power of youth forward.

And as our inspiration grew, so did we.

When we expanded into every corner of America,

We were ready.

Ready to ask questions about the world,

To show up for our community,

To become the leaders we were always meant to be.

And when we evolved into the unstoppable force we are today,

We were ready.

Ready to open our arms to every opportunity,

Every path,

And every child-

Generation after generation.

Over six million of us have been inspired by 4-H.

It's time to inspire six million more.

We were ready then. We're beyond ready now.

After all, it's always been in our DNA.

Beyond ready for school.

Beyond ready for work.

Beyond ready for life—

And everything that comes with it.

Kentucky 4-H is ready.

Teen Conference

This year marked the 100th anniversary of the 4-H Teen Conference, where high school-aged 4-H'ers gathered on the University of Kentucky campus to grow as leaders, build connections, and showcase their achievements. During the event, \$21,000 in scholarships were awarded, including vocational scholarships for the first time. This milestone celebration highlighted the ongoing commitment to empowering Kentucky's youth and providing them with opportunities to succeed.



Alumni Events

This year, the Kentucky 4-H Foundation hosted several memorable alumni events. At Teen Conference, alumni reunited at the Alumni Mixer to share their favorite Teen Conference stories and had the chance to attend the awards ceremony. The annual Ice Cream Social at the Kentucky State Fair was a hit, with everyone enjoying delicious Chaney's Ice Cream and creating fun memories at the photo booth. Additionally, Dave & Pamela Larson and David & Roberta Wallace hosted a special gathering for alumni and friends in Northern Kentucky, providing another opportunity for connections and celebration.





Emerald Gala

Donors and supporters gathered for an unforgettable evening at the 7th Annual Emerald Gala, held at the Ice House in Louisville, Kentucky. The event raised over \$100,000 to support Kentucky's youth. During the evening, Keith Rogers was honored as an Honorary Emerald for his unwavering dedication to the Kentucky 4-H Foundation and his continued guidance over the years. It was truly one of the most impactful nights of the year, celebrating the achievements of 4-Hers and the generosity that helps shape the future of Kentucky's young leaders.

National 4-H Week

This year, the 4-H State Officers celebrated National 4-H Week by spending time in Frankfort. Governor Andy Beshear signed a proclamation declaring October 7th-12th as National 4-H Week in Kentucky. The officers also had the opportunity to visit the Commissioner of Agriculture, Jonathan Shell, as part of the week's activities, highlighting the importance of 4-H in the state and in Kentucky Agriculture.



THE KENTUCKY 4-H FOUNDATION INVITES
YOU TO THE 8TH ANNUAL

Emerald Gala

Join us at The Kentucky Castle to
enjoy drinks, hors d'oeuvres &
dinner. Followed by a silent and live
auction, all to support KY 4-H Youth.

Saturday, April 12th

6:00 pm | dinner at 7:00 pm ET

Black Tie | Silent & Live Auction | After Party

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
WWW.KENTUCKY4HFOUNDATION.ORG/GALA



KAILYN STOKES

Crittenden County

BRIAR ELMORE

Casey County

ANDREA COOKSEY

Washington County

TY JONES

Allen County

EXCLUSIVE EMERALD SPONSOR





KENTUCKY
4-H FOUNDATION

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR KENTUCKY'S YOUTH



A lot can happen when you give a little

Please consider scanning this QR Code
and signing up for a recurring gift.

Your gift matters.

Scan this QR Code or contact Walter Steely at walter.steely@uky.edu

