Title: Leaders 4 Life Project Leader for ____________ 4-H Club/Project Group in ______________ County

4-H Project Leader Advisor:
County Extension Agent - 4-H and Youth Development, or Agent serving as County 4-H Coordinator

Purpose of the Leader 4 Life Project Leader:
Provide structured learning experiences, personal guidance as well as counseling in Leaders 4 Life for 4-H members enrolled in the program.

Benefits of serving as a Leaders 4 Life Project Leader:
• Gain and/or enhance knowledge and skills in leadership and parliamentary procedure subject matter areas.
• Be a significant part of the educational and developmental process for youth.
• Foster the development and growth of successful youth-adult partnerships.
• Foster the interest in service learning and giving back to the community.
• See the impact the 4-H and Youth Development Program has in the county.
• Experience personal growth from serving as a project leader.

Responsibilities of the Leaders 4 Life Project Leader:
• Be familiar with and adhere to the Texas 4-H Rules and Guidelines.
• Provide positive, structured learning experiences for youth enrolled in the Leaders 4 Life program.
• Participate in training conducted by county Extension agent.
• Become acquainted with the program and related activities. Resources for Leaders 4 Life can be found at: http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/leaders4life/index.php
• Obtain a list of 4-H members in the club/county that are interested in the Leaders 4 Life program.
• Develop an annual Leaders 4 Life schedule of educational events based on:
  o Project educational objectives
  o Level of members’ experiences
  o Members’ specific interests
  o Resources available (a suggested time line with recommended lessons/activities is provided in the overview packet on the website listed above)
• Conduct project meetings and activities.
• Assist members with setting goals and keeping records of achievements in program. Participation in Leaders 4 Life would be a part of the Leadership project.
• Provide opportunities for 4-H members to participate in other 4-H activities and events.
• Involve members as junior and teen leaders.
• Encourage parent interest, involvement and support of 4-H activities.
• Coordinate project group activities with club manager and other leaders of the club.
• Provide recognition for members and supporting parents/adults. A recognition certificate is provided on the website provided above.
• Promote the Leaders 4 Life Skill-a-thon as an opportunity for youth to exhibit their project work.
Qualifications and Special Skills:
• Reside in the county.
• Registered as a direct volunteer for the county 4-H program, by registering on 4-H CONNECT as a Texas 4-H volunteer.
• Passed a criminal background check through the Youth Protection Standards Program within the past three years or provide documentation from an approved entity that you have been screened within the last 3 years.
• Participate in Volunteer Orientation.
• Value the development of positive life skills in youth.
• Value diversity among youth and other adults involved in the 4-H program, creating and maintaining a 4-H project experience where all children feel welcome and opportunities are made available.

Time Required: Project leaders serve a one-year term. The 4-H year runs from September 1 thru August 31 of the following year. 4-H projects are implemented throughout the year; however, project events and activities are sometimes concentrated over a span of a few months.

Resources and Support Available:
• http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/leaders4life/index.php -- this is the website where all of the resources for Leaders 4 Life are posted, including curriculum, Leaders 4 Life Skill-A-Thon information, and much more!

Other leadership, parliamentary procedure and service learning resources include:
• Public Speaking - 4-H Style - COM 1-2.050
• Putting the Pieces Together - 4-H 11-1
• Parliamentary Procedure: Parli-Pro – 4-H COM 11.010
• National 4-H Curriculum -- Leadership (www.n4hccs.org)
Step Up To Leadership 1 - My Leadership Workbook (grades 3-5)
Step Up To Leadership 2 - My Leadership Journal (grades 6-8)
Step Up To Leadership 3 - My Leadership Portfolio (grades 9-12)
Step Up To Leadership – Mentor Guide 1 (grades K-5)
Step Up To Leadership – Mentor Guide 2 (grades 6-12)
• National 4-H Curriculum – Service Learning (www.n4hccs.org)
Service Learning 1 – Agents of Change + CD (grades 6-8)
Service Learning 2 – Raise Your Voice + CD (grades 9-12)
Service Learning Helper’s Guide

If interested, respond to: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Office in your county.

I, __________________________, agree to serve as the Leaders 4 Life program leader, a part of the Leadership project, meeting the qualifications and fulfilling all responsibilities.

Volunteer Signature ___________________________ Date _____________ CEA Signature ___________________________ Date _____________

Updated: July 2010