

# TEXAS 4-H: *Reflecting On Our Year*



An annual report of the 2024-2025 Texas 4-H Youth Development Program.



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# A letter from the Director

## Friends of 4-H,

As I sit here and write this annual letter, I think back over a year full of everything – excitement, learning, travel, new friends, new dreams, and even frustration. Things don't always go as planned but sometimes they are better than planned. We just have to be open and ready for it.

Recently, I was eating with new friends from Taiwan and as I watched them use their chopsticks like professionals, I started asking questions so that I could better use mine. Using chopsticks is not my forte! As I was trying to get the hang of it (this time,) I noticed my new friends were not doing it how I always considered was "the way." In reality, people use their chopsticks the way that works for them, just as we do with so many things in life. We all figure out what works best for us by watching, asking questions, listening, and practicing. However, no, I still haven't quite figured out how to use chopsticks.

As we highlight a few specific experiences in the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program in this report, I hope you read something that inspires you to try a new experience, ask questions about something new, excite you enough to spark 4-H volunteerism, or give to influence the future. The 4-H Program brings inspiration to so many people, in unique ways, much like how 4-H members experience the program in unique ways.

Through opportunities like once-in-a-lifetime educational experiences abroad for state-level ambassadors, an opportunity to celebrate and support 4-H entrepreneurs, and the opportunity to recognize a long-time 4-H volunteer, the Texas 4-H Program is exceeding programming goals and helping youth reach beyond their own.

Texas 4-H members have remarked that because of their experiences through the program, they feel more ready for their futures. The opportunity to explore their interests, network, and build relationships with both peers and adults creates a culture of growth. I want to extend my gratitude to the many friends of 4-H who allow our program to succeed through educational, financial, or in-kind support. Youth across Texas rely on you and for that, we thank you.

As we look ahead, our commitment remains the same: to help young people discover their potential and step confidently into the future—equipped, inspired, and truly beyond ready to lead and live. I hope we will continue to grow and learn together. Maybe one day I will finally learn how to use those chopsticks.

Until then,



Montza Williams, Ed.D.  
Texas 4-H Youth Development Program Director

## 4-H IS...

- A positive youth development program
- For youth ages 8-18 in grades 3-12
- Clubs in all 254 counties in Texas
- Offers learning experiences in 43 unique project areas/topics
- Provides opportunity for friendships, fun, and life-long memories



"We equip youth with skills for the future while meeting them where they are today. Through 4-H, we offer opportunities and experiences that shape youth into their full, authentic selves, enabling them to shine both now and in the future."

In the 2025 National Index study by National 4-H Council, Texas 4-H members reported...

- 99%** "4-H has helped me become responsible"
- 90%** "4-H is an important part of who I am"
- 94%** "I feel welcome in 4-H"
- 93%** "4-H respects youth"
- 87%** "4-H influences my community engagement"
- 90%** "4-H teaches me how to persist through difficult things"
- 88%** "4-H has influenced my college and career readiness"



# TEXAS 4-H IS: *Building the next generation of leaders and changemakers*

Texas 4-H is building the next generation of leaders and changemakers through 4-H programming and opportunities. Leadership has always been at the core of 4-H. Developing a generation that can adapt with the rapidly changing world is also a vital priority.

One way Texas 4-H is creating the next generation of leaders and changemakers is through ambassador programs. Many counties have ambassador programs, but the Texas 4-H state-level Ambassador programs were developed to give senior-level youth a platform in which to educate and serve. These youth educate other 4-H members, as well as the public, about their given project area and serve through various unique opportunities across the state. With nine ambassador groups spanning across all project areas, these selected youth are making the best better at the county, district, state, national, and even global level.

## Equine Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 39 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 2,951 | People Reached: 34,997



## Fashion and Interior Design Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 18 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 472 | People Reached: 4,239



## Healthy Texas Youth Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 184 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 8,215 | People Reached: 147,804



## Livestock Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 179 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 19,864 | People Reached: 346,239



## Photography Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 32 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 3,227



## Poultry Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 20 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 1,548 | People Reached: 20,879



## Shooting Sports Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 46 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 3,214



## STEM Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 23 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 2,510 | People Reached: 18,707



## Water Ambassadors

Active Ambassadors: 94 | Contributed Volunteer Hours: 3,157 | People Reached: 34,023



# TEXAS 4-H IS: *For everyone*

Are you still under the impression that 4-H is just cows, plows, and sows? 4-H in Texas offers **43 unique project areas** for youth to be involved in. With everything from fashion to fishing, 4-H projects give youth the opportunity to prepare themselves for careers.

One example is through the Food and Nutrition project competition - Food Show. 4-H members must create their recipe from scratch, cook their dish onsite, and prepare a presentation educating about the ingredients, process, and health benefits of their dish. Try some new dishes today by cooking these four state champion dishes in your kitchen! The dishes were in the categories of side dish, main dish, appetizer, and healthy dessert.

### Cranberry Orange Brussels Sprout Slaw

Diego Geronimo Guerra – Starr County, District 12

Prep time: 10 minutes; Cook time: 10 minutes; Cost: \$9.39; Yields 4 servings

#### INGREDIENTS:

1 ½ pounds Brussels sprouts, cleaned and finely shredded  
3/4 cup dried cranberries  
1/3 cup almonds sliced and toasted  
2 Tablespoons honey  
3 Tablespoons whole grain mustard  
3 Tablespoons almond butter  
3 Tablespoons Greek yogurt  
2 Tablespoons apple cider vinegar  
Zest & Juice of 1 orange  
salt & pepper

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Trim excess leaves and ends off of the Brussels sprouts.
2. Finely shred in a food processor, on a mandolin or with a sharp knife.
3. Combine the shredded Brussels sprouts, cranberries, toasted almonds, orange zest.
4. Whisk together the honey, whole grain mustard, almond butter, orange juice, Greek yogurt, apple cider vinegar, salt and pepper to taste.
5. Thoroughly mix the dressing with the shredded Brussels sprouts mixture.
6. Refrigerate until ready to serve.



### Healthy Hummingbird Cupcakes

Tori Newton - Fayette County, District 11

Prep time: 40 minutes; Cook time: 20 minutes; Cost: \$8.88; Yields: 18 servings

#### INGREDIENTS:

*Hummingbird Cupcake:*  
1 3/4 cup all-purpose flour  
3/4 cup granulated sugar  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/4 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
1 cup mashed banana  
1/4 cup unsweetened apple sauce  
1/2 cup chopped pineapple  
1/2 cup canola oil  
2 eggs beaten  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1/2 cup chopped pecans

#### *Sugar Free Cream Cheese Frosting:*

8-oz 1/3 less fat cream cheese  
1/4 cup unsalted butter, softened  
2 tablespoon plain greek yogurt  
2 tablespoon honey  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1/4 cup chopped pecans

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Whisk flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, baking soda, cinnamon, and nutmeg in a large bowl until well incorporated. Add in apple sauce, mashed banana, pineapple, oil, beaten eggs, and vanilla. Stir until well combined (about 2-4 minutes). Next fold in chopped pecans.
3. Divide the batter into a lined cupcake pan, filling 2/3 full. Bake for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Makes eighteen cupcakes.
4. For the frosting, beat the cream cheese and butter until smooth and creamy. Then add the yogurt, honey, and vanilla extract. Continue to beat until well combined and fluffy (5-6 minutes).
5. Fill a piping bag fitted with a star tip with the frosting and pipe rosettes onto the cupcakes. Top with pecans and enjoy!

## Mini Black Bean and Corn Tamales

Mack Kimball - Parker County, District 3

Prep time: 1 hour; Cook time: 30 minutes; Cost: \$7.39; Yields: 8 servings

### INGREDIENTS:

**Masa:**  
1 1/2 cups masa  
1 cup vegetable broth  
1/4 cup shortening  
1 1/2 teaspoon salt  
3/4 teaspoon baking powder  
**Filling:**  
6 ounces black beans, rinsed  
2 ears of corn  
1 jalapeno, diced  
1/2 red onion, diced  
1/2 bell pepper, diced  
1/4 cup cilantro, stemmed  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
2 teaspoons cumin  
1 1/2 teaspoon salt  
**Red Salsa:**  
12 ounces Roma tomatoes,  
1/2 jalapeno  
1/2 red onion  
1 clove garlic  
cup cilantro  
1 teaspoon cumin  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 teaspoons lemon juice

### Green salsa:

12 ounces tomatillos  
1 jalapeno  
1/2 red onion  
1 clove garlic  
1 teaspoon cumin  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 teaspoons lemon juice



### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Soak the corn husks in a bowl of warm water until soft and pliable
2. Add the masa, vegetable, broth, shortening, salt, and baking powder in a stand mixer and mix on low speed with a paddle attachment until it reaches a uniform and dough-like consistency.
3. Divide prepared masa into 24 balls weighing approximately 1 ounce each. Keep covered with a clean, damp dishcloth while preparing the filling.
4. To make the filling, cut the corn off the cob and lightly toast in a pan over medium heat until slightly charred. Dice the jalapeno, bell pepper, and onion. Mince the garlic and stem the cilantro. Combine the rinsed black beans, corn, jalapenos, bell pepper, onion, garlic, cilantro, salt, and cumin in a bowl and mix until combined.
5. Once the corn husks are soft, begin assembly by flattening the masa balls into a square approximately one inch thick in the center of the corn husks, then place 2 tablespoons of filling onto the masa then seal the filling inside the masa and tie off the ends of the corn husks with excess corn husk strips.
6. While the tamales are steaming, make the salsa by slicing all the vegetables and placing them on a baking sheet in an oven on broil for 10 minutes, then place in a blender and blend until a smooth and consistent texture is reached
7. Serve the tamales warm from the steamer with red and green salsas.

## Cheesesteak Wraps

Henry Kimball - Parker County, District 3

Prep time: 45 minutes; Cook time: 45 minutes; Cost: \$17.15; Yields: 4 servings (2 wraps each)

### INGREDIENTS:

**For the Beef:**  
1 1/2 pounds beef roast (such as bottom round roast or other lean roast)  
2 green bell peppers  
1 medium yellow onion  
6 ounces cheddar cheese  
Salt and pepper to taste  
**For the Tortillas:**  
2 cups cassava flour  
1 teaspoon salt  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon cream of tartar  
1 teaspoon black pepper  
2 teaspoons granulated garlic  
4 tablespoons coconut oil  
1 1/4 cups warm water  
**For the Dipping Sauce:**  
1/2 cup Greek yogurt  
1/2 tablespoon garlic powder  
1/2 teaspoon onion powder  
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt  
1/4 teaspoon black pepper  
1/2 tablespoon lemon juice  
1/2 tablespoon chives or chopped green onion  
1 tablespoon buttermilk powder

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Thinly slice the beef and cook in a large cast iron skillet over high heat until an internal temperature of 140 degrees is reached.
2. While the beef is cooking, slice the bell peppers and onion. Add the sliced bell peppers and onions to the beef and cook until the onions begin to brown and soften.
3. Thinly slice the cheese and melt on top of the beef and veggie mixture over low heat.
4. For the Tortillas combine all ingredients besides the water in a large bowl or the bowl of a stand mixer. Whisk until small clumps begin to form. Mix on medium with a stand mixer while slowly adding the water until the dough begins to smooth out.
5. Roll the tortilla dough into 8 equal sized balls, approximately 3 ounces. Flatten each one individually between parchment paper using a 10" tortilla press.
6. Remove parchment paper from one side and place on a skillet over medium heat parchment side up. Once the parchment paper begins to peel off, remove and flip to cook both sides evenly. Repeat until all tortillas are cooked.
7. For the Dipping Sauce combine all ingredients in a small bowl and mix well.
8. Place approximately 3 ounces of the meat filling in each tortilla and fold like a wrap leaving one end open ended. Hold together with toothpicks if necessary.
9. Serve immediately with approximately 2 ounces dipping sauce.

# TEXAS 4-H IS: *Life skills*

Texas 4-H is life skills. From learning how to speak to people, to how to make friends, to how to interview for a job, 4-H helps youth apply real skills into their educational and competitive opportunities. 4-H youth have reported “life skills” as one of the top benefits of participating in 4-H.

One example of opportunity for the development of life skills is Texas 4-H Roundup. At this event, youth from across the state participate in state-level contests, educational workshops, a college and career fair, high-energy assemblies, dances, and a trade show. This event brings more than 2,000 youth and Extension agents, plus their families, to Bryan College Station each June.

In 2025, the trade show included a new group of individuals - 4-H entrepreneurs. 4-H members with their own small business had the opportunity to set up a booth space in the trade show and sell merchandise or interact with customers. For many of the entrepreneurs, this event allowed them to grow and learn in their business with a bigger audience than they had previously experienced. Thirteen youth entrepreneurs set up booths and sold their products. Texas 4-H is excited to see that portion of the event expand in years to come!



When asked “What did they enjoy the MOST about being a 4-H Entrepreneur at Roundup?” the participants said:

“I loved getting to showcase how I’ve turned my 4-H fashion show project into a service project. I also loved meeting so many new people!

“Meeting new people and selling a product that makes people happy and smile.”

“To be a part of something life-changing and meet all kinds of 4-H’ers was amazing.”

“It was fun! I learned so much about preparing my food for sale, how to price it, and how to encourage customers to buy from me. I even paid taxes on some of the items I sold! I really hope to do it again next year.”



Total attendees:

3,224

Adults (agents,  
parents, volunteers)

1,397

9<sup>rd</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>  
grade youth

1,630

Counties represented:



Outside vendors and representatives:

25 College and Career Fair booths

46 Trade Show Vendors

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# TEXAS 4-H IS: *Opportunity*

4-H roots start at the county level. Most 4-H members do not participate at the state level. Some youth choose to expand their growth and branch into district or state-level activities. From there, these youth have the opportunity to bloom into 4-H members participating at the national or international level.

Many of our state-level ambassador programs provide international educational experiences for ambassadors who have served in their respective roles well over the last year (or more).

In the 2024-2025 year, five ambassador groups traveled on domestic and international educational experiences in New York, Japan, and Europe. These trips were educational, cultural, eye-opening and mostly - memorable.

The Fashion and Interior Design Ambassadors and other 4-H fashion & interior design enthusiasts traveled to New York City in July 2025. On their 5-day trip, 14 youth and 5 adults were immersed in fashion in the place its most notably known for and enjoyed some cultural and historical stops along the way. One stop included Mood Designer Fabric which

was featured on multiple episodes of Project Runway. Mood fabric carries over 15,000 fabrics featured row upon row from floor to ceiling. The group had the unique opportunity to view the 4th of July Fireworks at the One World Observatory, which featured 360-degree views of fireworks from the 102nd story of One World Observatory over New York and New Jersey. Finally, the group had the opportunity to view the extraordinary fashion and design choices for the production of Wicked at the Gershwin Theatre on Broadway. The costumes, the music and the experience were amazing, as noted by the participants.



The Photography Ambassadors and Junior Master Photographers traveled to Ireland and Scotland in July 2025. For the 10-day trip, 14 youth and 14 adults set off on an unforgettable experience. In Dublin, they explored St. Patrick's Cathedral, searched for elusive puffins on Ireland's Eye Island, visited museums and shops in the lively Temple Bar district, admired the colorful Georgian doors of Merrion Square, enjoyed a dinner and show of traditional Irish song and dance, and mastered low-light skills during a night photography walk featuring the iconic Samuel Beckett Bridge.





A short flight took them to Edinburgh, where they toured Edinburgh Castle, visited the Palace of Holyroodhouse, and ventured to Stirling Castle and The Kelpies before taking in the excitement of the Airth Highland Games. Their travels continued through the breathtaking Scottish Highlands, with stops at Rosslyn Chapel, the Isle of Skye, the Old Man of Storr, and the vibrantly colored harbor of Portree. The trip also included a cruise on Loch Ness, a visit to the Loch Ness Centre and Exhibition, and a stop at the famous Glenfinnan Viaduct, to capture the steam train best known from the Harry Potter films. Every stop offered incredible opportunities to capture the landscapes, history, and culture that made this international adventure truly unforgettable.

Finally, the Equine, Livestock, and Poultry Ambassadors traveled to Japan for an agricultural experience of a lifetime. The 2025 TYLA Japan Agricultural Experience immersed 35 students and 6 adults in global agriculture through hands-on learning, cultural exchange, and visits with Japanese farmers and industry leaders. Participants explored how Japan balances tradition and innovation in food production while comparing systems to U.S. practices. The program fostered awe, cultural appreciation, and leadership growth, equipping students to become stronger advocates for agriculture at home and abroad. The Japan Agricultural Experience provided participants with a rich, multifaceted journey through Japanese agriculture, culture, and trade. The program included:

- Exposure to global equine industry through the thoroughbred and horse racing sectors
- Cultural context via historic landmarks like Senso-ji Temple
- Hands-on involvement in agricultural production: corn harvesting, rice processing, and cattle farm exploration in Hokkaido
- Insight into modern trade and retail dynamics
- Authentic cultural dining experiences
- Meaningful group reflection emphasizing relationships, global partnerships, and the value of quality as it relates to production

“This experience was more than just a study abroad trip; it was a reminder of why I am passionate about agriculture and why advocacy matters so deeply. Japan showed me that when people lead with humility, respect, and a genuine desire to share their story, they can bridge gaps between producers and consumers in powerful ways. I left inspired not only to continue pursuing my education and career in animal science and reproduction, but also to carry forward the responsibility of sharing agriculture’s story with the same passion I witnessed abroad.”  
– Travis Barrett, Leon Co. 4-H



## Texas 4-H Faculty

Montza Williams - State 4-H Program Director  
Jana Barrett – Competitive Events and Roundup Specialist  
Travis Bell – District 6 Specialist  
Garry Branham – District 7 Specialist  
Derrick Bruton – STEM Specialist  
Tina Bryant – District 1 Specialist  
Misty Cathey – 4HOnline and Web Manager  
Natalie Cervantes – District 10 Specialist  
Callie Cline – Marketing and Communications Specialist  
Julie Gardner – Family and Community Health Specialist  
Dottie Goebel – Quality Counts and Validation Specialist  
Seth Hall – District 3 Specialist  
Laura Huebinger – Agency Volunteer Specialist  
Cory Hundl – District 9 Specialist  
Larry Hysmith – Natural Resources Specialist  
Alex Kabli – Curriculum Development Specialist  
Taylor LeTourneau – Business Administrator and 4-H Club Chartering  
Darlene Locke – Youth Development Initiative and International Programming  
Megan Logan – Leadership & Citizenship Specialist  
Jill Markley – Business Coordinator- Accounts Receivable  
Grace Henicke – District 12 Specialist  
Jt McClellan – District 11 Specialist  
Angela McCorkle – Fashion & Interior Design and Financial Education Specialist  
Jheri-Lynn McSwain – District 5 Specialist  
Larry Perez – Shooting Sports Specialist  
Kelley Ranly – TYLA Ambassador Programs, State Horse Show Specialist  
Megan Shaffer – District 8 Specialist  
David Smith – Water Education Specialist  
Cari Snider – District 2 Specialist  
Kyleigh Tykal – Business Coordinator – Accounts Payable  
Denita Young – District 4 Specialist  
Billy Zanolini – Agriculture & Livestock Specialist

## Texas 4-H Center

Melvin Atkinson - Texas 4-H Center Director  
Makayla Waiser - Texas 4-H Center Program Director  
Christy Simmons – Texas 4-H Center  
Dana Cross – Texas 4-H Center

## Rural Student Success Initiative

Maria Luna-Torres – Program Director- RSSI  
Shelby Behm  
Arnulfo Gonzales  
Kyrsten Gilcrease

Plus the County Extension Agents and employees in 252 county offices across Texas!

# TEXAS 4-H IS: Service

Service is at the core of Texas 4-H. Community service is not only a project, but an expected part of each 4-H member's experience. 4-H members are four times more likely to make a positive contribution to their communities. Furthermore, the 4-H program simply could not go on without our 4-H volunteers. With more than 30,000 volunteers pouring into the 4-H journey annually, many members say their 4-H experience would not have been as valuable or as enriching without the presence of their volunteers.

Kevin Wentzel is an example of an exemplary volunteer.



## *Texas 4-H volunteer Kevin Wentzel was inducted to the National 4-H Hall of Fame in October at the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals Conference.*

Kevin began his 4-H journey as a member in Wisconsin at age 9, and then continued in 1989 as volunteer in California, then moved his service and teaching to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in 2004, and now stands as the Texas 4-H Youth Development Program most recent inductee to the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

Kevin has stayed involved with 4-H, no matter the location, time in his life, or project area. His dedication to youth development will be regarded by 4-H families and professionals for years to come.

Kevin built his 4-H foundation around woodworking projects, public speaking, and electricity, and even got to travel to Washington D.C. for a "Citizenship Short Course" where he was able to gain "valuable education" in national government and history.

"Everything I've done as a volunteer is because in my youth, 4-H really did enrich my life. I enjoyed it and got so much out of it; I even chose the college I was going to go to because of 4-H," Kevin said.

Kevin's technology career is with HP and he and his wife have three daughters and now four granddaughters and one grandson.



"Giving back and getting the family involved was important to me. Family has always meant so much to me - both when I was growing up and now as an adult. And that's so much of what 4-H is to me – the family aspect. Being involved in my kids' lives was really important to me and 4-H was one way we did that."

When his 10-year-old daughter first brought home a California 4-H pamphlet, he immediately got the whole family involved, remarking "we joined a 4-H club." In that club, Kevin started woodworking and electricity projects, led the public speaking project, helped at county events, and even took the initiative to create a "California 4-H Computer

Corps" which ran the state 4-H website for several years.

"4-H is about learning things beyond what you'll learn in school and getting involved with other kids and adults. The youth and adult partnership is an important part of the 4-H program. For an adult volunteer, it's all about working with kids and teaching them what you know while you also learn from them. That's why I've always done it - it's energizing when you work with those kids and see them finally realize they can do something they maybe didn't think they could before. You just see that sparkle that happens as you work with the kids and it's really special," Kevin said.

After being transferred to Texas for his career in 2004, Kevin assumed his 4-H experience had come to an end, but had no more than unpacked his computer when the state 4-H office called asking if he would model the Computer Corps and help create a similar experience in Texas 4-H. Kevin now plays an integral role as an adult advisor for the Texas 4-H STEM Ambassadors, formerly known as the Tech Team, the group that Kevin helped develop in the early 2000s. The team's mission includes building members' leadership and tech skills and has a heavy emphasis on service, especially teaching STEM topics to others.

"I am honored to be one of the advisors on that team. Those kids are so motivated, so smart, and so willing to do their part, from teaching STEM activities to working behind the scenes at events, and that's what really keeps me going – working with those teenagers who are just high performing," Kevin said.



Kevin leads a group of STEM Ambassadors to California each summer in partnership with California 4-H to assist the Tech Team at their state conference. He remarked that is just one example of how he continues to make the best better in and for 4-H.

"It's certainly an honor to get this kind of recognition. What I like most about it, though, is the encouragement it can provide to other volunteers - look for ways of adding to the program, of improving the program, of finding ways for kids to do more than they do now because I think that's why I got this award," Kevin said. "I started a new program in California, I started a new program with Texas, and I just continually look for ways to improve the 4-H program and the kids in it. That's the encouragement that this award should give to others – look for ways of adding to the program, of improving the program, of finding ways for kids to do more than they do now."

While 4-H has changed over his near 50 years of involvement, Kevin hopes 4-H continues to keep moving forward.

"In the next several years, I'd like to see 4-H expand beyond what it has traditionally looked like. I enjoy seeing kids work with people who don't look or talk like them or have the same background as them. I think that's an essential part of growing up," Kevin said. "I also would love to see 4-H continue their growth in STEM. STEM has always been a part of 4-H. Working with these ambassador kids to teach a little bit about chemistry, electricity, or biology has always been exciting to me and I'd love to see 4-H continue in that direction."

Kevin's honorable 4-H experience can best be summed up by his answer to the question "what effect has 4-H had on your life?"

"4-H began a life-long love of woodworking and woodturning. I love teaching kids the mysteries of crafting beautiful things from wood. More importantly, it reinforced a devotion to teaching and service. Education has always been my biggest goal as a 4-H volunteer. It can be teaching woodworking, public speaking, or tech but even more, it's encouraging young leaders to teach others. I love it when I witness that spark of understanding in a young person's face as they realize that they can do this! That "ah ha" moment is the true reward for a long career in 4-H and volunteering."



# Beyond Ready

4-H is building a ready generation in a world of change. 4-H youth are healthy, productive, and engaged.

Recent data shows that 4-H youth are succeeding ahead of their peers. 4-H youth are...

- **2x more likely** to have the goal of being a leader
- **3x more likely** to participate in community service
- **2x more likely** to report living life with intentionality and purpose

Join us in the charge to build a generation of youth who are beyond ready for work and life.

# TEXAS 4-H IS: *Leadership*

Leadership has been an integral part of 4-H since it all began in 1902. Leadership is not only one of the most participated in projects, but leadership falls into the lap of most 4-H members, whether they realize it or not.

Elected leadership roles where the 4-H member will lead their peers may include:

- Club officer
- County council officer
- District officer
- State Council

Other leadership opportunities that members may apply for:

- State level events like Texas 4-H Congress
- National events like National 4-H Congress
- Global opportunities such as the States' International Exchange Program

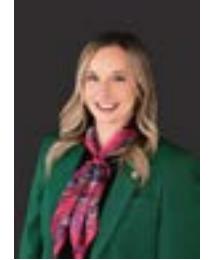
However, many 4-H members participate in leadership through activities like:

- Assisting with opening ceremonies of a 4-H meeting or event
- Organizing community service projects
- Helping another 4-H member succeed in their project

Through the opportunities available in 4-H, the program is preparing youth who are beyond ready to lead, no matter where life may take them.



# Texas 4-H Council

					
Augustus Sexton District 10 Gonzales County President	Ansley Kubecka At-Large Delegate Matagorda County 1st Vice President	Isabelle Parkey District 3 Archer County 2nd Vice President	Cora Ford District 12 Hidalgo County Secretary	Harper Mau At-Large Delegate Fayette County Public Relations	Cooper Smith At-Large Delegate Brazos County Health & Safety
					
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## ADVISORS



Jana Barrett   Garry Branham   Callie Cline   Megan Duet   Dr. Montza Williams



Texas 4-H Council is comprised of 30 youth from across all twelve 4-H districts. These senior-level 4-H members are elected by their district or by the state at large to serve. The Council plans and leads Texas 4-H Roundup and serves as representatives of the Texas 4-H program in various events, activities, media opportunities, and more. They also plan and lead SPARK, a camp at the Texas 4-H Center in November, for junior and intermediate 4-H members. Texas 4-H Council also participates in Ag Awareness Day at the State Fair of Texas alongside the Texas FFA and Texas FFCLA State Officers, where in 2024 they helped collect more than 1,000,000 pounds of food for the North Texas Food Bank. However, most notably, the council serves and leads alongside their agents in their respective counties and districts.



# TEXAS 4-H TEACHES: *Resilience*

Texas 4-H takes pride in the ability to tangibly teach life skills that 4-H youth will carry with them well into adulthood. Texas 4-H teaches resilience. As the inevitability of life unfolds around them, 4-H'ers still put their best foot forward - day after day - caring for animals, preparing for contests, serving their community, and sticking to their commitments.

One example of resiliency in 4-H can be found in Garrett and Abby Jones.



4-H teaches resilience. Collin County 4-H members Garrett and Abby Jones have found their home, their place of opportunity, and their "coping mechanism" within 4-H. Both kids, with their best possible visual correction, are classified as legally blind. Garrett is more severely impacted with 20/3000 vision in both eyes, while Abby sees 20/200 currently. Their visual struggles are due to hereditary optic nerve atrophy, which is a progressive condition. Garrett and Abby have learned how to adapt and excel through their involvement in 4-H.

"The agriculture industry has played a massive role in my life in allowing me to develop a sense of self-worth and self-esteem," Garrett said. "4-H plays a fundamental part in that. It has allowed me to develop public speaking skills, a hard work ethic, and just the ability to function as a severely sight-impaired person. For example, successes such as getting to walk the stage at the State 4-H Roundup for 2nd place Beef Educational Presentation and being asked to keynote my county's annual farm bureau convention have contributed to my confidence."

Garrett and Abby both participate in the beef cattle and public speaking projects, and through their exhibition of Simmental cattle, are highly involved in the Texas Junior Simmental Simbrah Association (TJSSA). Garrett is the current Treasurer for their 4-H club, county council, and TJSSA Board of Directors. Abby serves as Parliamentarian of their 4-H club.

"As a sight-impaired person, you have to work hard for everything you do, no matter how small the task. 4-H has taught me how to work hard. It has taught me how to have patience and cope with myself and with my circumstances," Garrett said.

*Continued on next page...*



"4-H has also taught me wisdom. It has given me an outlet in my frustration and another way to cope with my disability. It has also given me an opportunity to be out in nature and work with things that don't require good vision. That just scratches the surface in terms of how 4-H has impacted my life as a severely sight-impaired person."

Garrett and Abby said they have encountered a long list of challenges as visually impaired youth. Yet, with each challenge, they have shown resiliency and worked to find solutions.

"One of the challenges I have when exhibiting cattle is not being able to see the end of my show stick. I can see roughly halfway down the stick, meaning I can't see the calf's back feet, nor can I see how I'm poking at them or pulling them. So, to accommodate that, we took a zip tie and put it around the handle of the show stick and put the knot where it is directly in coordination to the hook," Garrett said. Abby noted, "Unlike my brother who can't see the judge in a show ring, I can see the judge, but cannot see the motions they are making. Thus, my brother and I have an assistant in the ring to direct us and give us verbal cues as to the location of the judge, so we try our best to fake eye contact."

"That doesn't even begin to cover the scholastic challenges. On top of my normal high school, dual credit, and 4-H activities, I am learning how to read braille and use a screen reader for computer-based tasks. We are all learning how to make things more accessible every day. Rarely is it possible for us to complete a task in the same fashion normally sighted persons would. To compete in 4-H contests, we often must rely on the use of our assistive technology and/or a human reader" Garrett explained.

With Abby's sights set on becoming a veterinarian and Garrett aiming at either a career as a financial advisor and stockbroker or a geneticist, the Jones family has plans of resiliency for many years to come.

"My grandfather and I are also currently working on a book. My granddad was the first one in our family to have this impairment. The mutation was originally born in him and then passed down to both of his daughters and then through my mom to both Abby and me. It seems that males are more severely impacted than females. He and I are really close and have bonded over this my entire life. Now, he and I are working on this book to try and inspire others and help them through their dark times" Garrett said.

Texas 4-H is proud of youth like Garrett and Abby Jones who are using every opportunity in 4-H to thrive through resiliency.



# TEXAS 4-H IS: *For Everyone*

4-H is for everyone. Texas 4-H is proud to offer a range of opportunities so that any youth can find something they are interested in. Texas 4-H also works to ensure every child feels welcome in whatever 4-H club or project they choose. One way 4-H reaches new audiences is through joint efforts like the one with Prairie View A&M University and Extension.

Prairie View A&M Extension was established in 1914 through a partnership of the USDA and historically black college and land-grant universities. In Texas, 4-H is offered through both Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Prairie View A&M University Extension. Some counties across Texas have designated Cooperative Extension Program (PVAMU) County Extension Agents who also facilitate 4-H programs.

As one example, Dallas County is proud to offer programs aligned with PVAMU, such as Soccer for Success.

Soccer for Success is a 4-H program under the Healthy Living project that helps children improve their fitness, nutrition, and positive youth development through soccer. The program, a partnership between the National 4-H Council and U.S. Soccer Foundation, combines physical activity, nutrition education, and mentorship to help children develop healthy habits and life skills.

“The U.S. Soccer Foundation created a research-based curriculum called “Soccer for Success” to serve under-served communities. It gives them access to opportunities that they wouldn’t have access to otherwise,” Elias Espinosa, Prairie View Extension 4-H Youth Development agent, said. “In that curriculum, in addition to the physical aspect of soccer, they focus on three particular things: nutrition, social and emotional skills, and leadership to develop their character and be more productive people in the classroom and in society.”



Dallas County implemented the “robust program” in 2025 and were able to participate in the first National 4-H Soccer Cup put together by National 4-H Council as part of the Ignite event. As one of seven states that participated in the inaugural event, the Dallas County team finished in 2nd place.



“What I admired from this amazing group of 16 kids is that even though they are new to 4-H, they represented themselves with respect, dignity, courage and humility, and reflected the values of 4-H and positive youth development throughout the whole event,” Espinosa said.

Because of the success and interest in the Soccer for Success program, Dallas County chartered a new club for 2025-2026, which has already welcomed about 120 new registered 4-H members.

“It’s gaining a lot of traction and interest, and this is just the beginning,” Espinosa said. “The sport of soccer is a tremendous tool to bring new members from new audiences that traditionally have not been in 4-H, which is our goal – to bring new youth in that wouldn’t have otherwise had access to our programs.”

Through the Soccer for Success program and new “Dallas County 3D Minds” 4-H club, experiences are expanding, such as their recent Community Soccer Fest held in partnership with the U.S. Soccer Foundation. With more than 250 people in attendance, including professional soccer players, the community came together to celebrate the life-changing opportunities being presented to these youth through 4-H.

Dallas County 4-H is excited to continue their work in this program and hopes to attend the championship again in 2026 with both male and female teams aiming to bring home the championship.

“Beyond their participation in the extraordinary first National 4-H Soccer Cup, the entire Dallas County Soccer team, each being first-generation 4-H members, demonstrated incredible resilience. They earned the respect and admiration of their peers and new friends. I can’t wait to see how their careers in 4-H continue to develop. This truly embodies the essence of positive youth development and the power of a community of leaders who will support them on their journey.” Xiomara Diaz-Vargas, Dallas County Extension Director, said.

To join efforts with Soccer for Success by 4-H, please contact the Dallas County Prairie View 4-H Youth Development agent Elias Espinosa at (214) 904-3065 or email him at [efespinosa@pvamu.edu](mailto:efespinosa@pvamu.edu).



CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @TEXAS4H:



LEARN MORE ABOUT TEXAS 4-H AT  
TEXAS4-H.TAMU.EDU OR SCAN THE CODE:



## SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR CONTRIBUTORS:

Many photographs used in this report are photographs from the Texas 4-H Photography Contest that were awarded Best of Show. We are exceptionally proud of our talented 4-H youth with such photographic talent.

- 4-H Program front cover: "Reflections" photo taken by Oakley Goodner from Wise County
- 4-H Foundation front cover: "Dominant Color" photo taken by Remington Rhode from Guadalupe County
- 4-H Program table of contents: "Leading Line" photo taken by Matthew Richardson Brazoria
- 4-H Foundation Page 12: "Long Exposure" photo taken by Elizabeth Reid from McLennan County

MANAGING EDITOR:  
Callie Cline



### GRADE

K-2 28% 3-5 41% 6-8 11% 9-12 9% OTHER 11%

### RESIDENCE

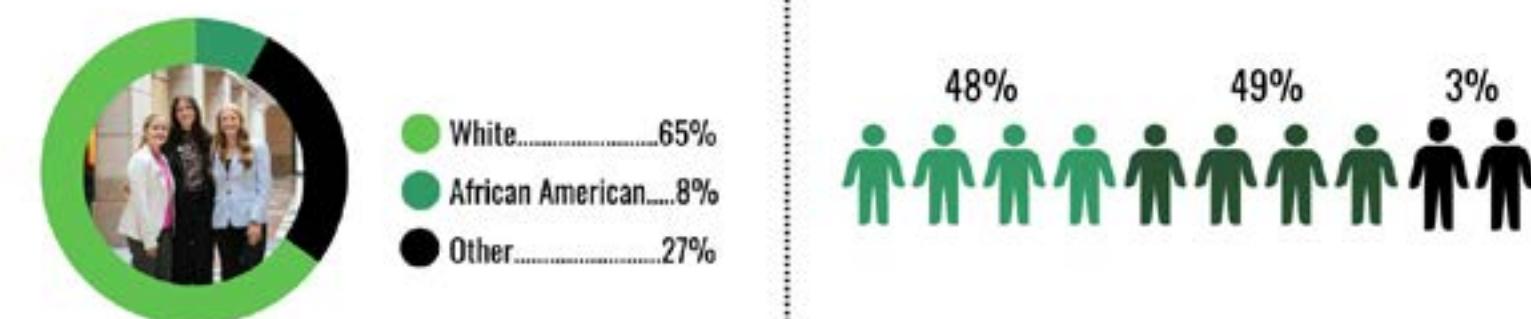


### PROGRAM

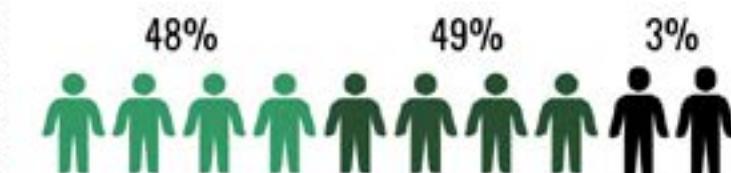
Program Category	Number of Members
AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK	<b>335,513</b>
LEADERSHIP & CITIZENSHIP	<b>38,265</b>
FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH	<b>173,164</b>

Program Category	Number of Members
STEM	<b>27,056</b>
NATURAL RESOURCES	<b>92,998</b>

### RACE



### GENDER



# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION

## *Lighting the Path*

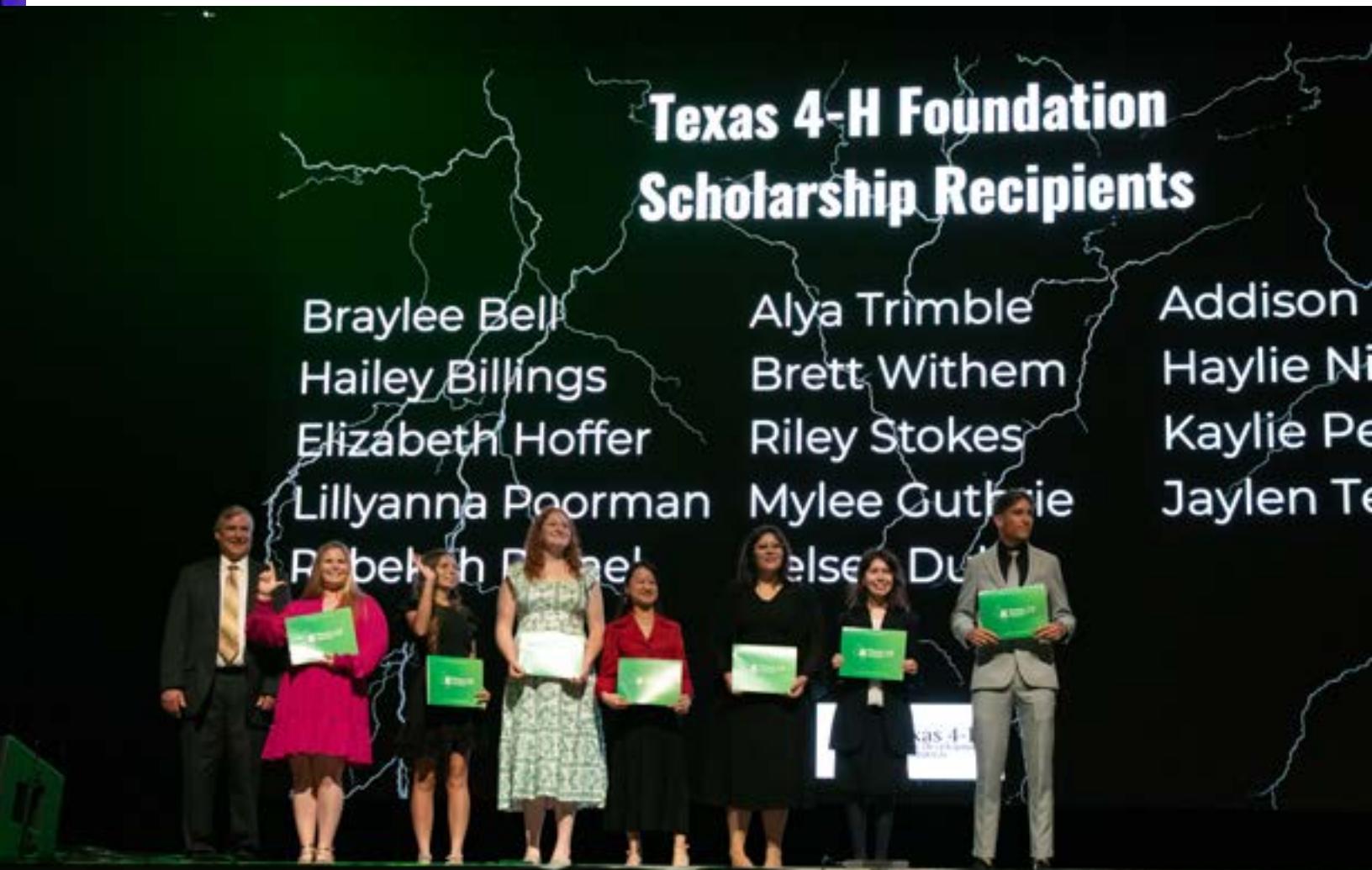
An annual report of the 2024-2025  
Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation.



## THE TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION:

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- 36.....Is Proud of Our Alumni
- 39.....Relies on You
- 41.....Is Giving
- 43.....Happens Because of You
- 47.....Texas 4-H Foundation Staff

### Texas 4-H Foundation Scholarship Recipients



Braylee Bell

Hailey Billings

Elizabeth Hoffer

Lillyanna Poorman

Rubekah Rael

Alya Trimble

Brett Withem

Riley Stokes

Mylee Guthrie

Addison

Haylie Ni

Kaylie Pe

Jaylen Te

# A letter from the President

Each year, the Texas 4-H Foundation has the privilege of witnessing the remarkable impact that generosity, leadership, and community partnership create in the lives of young Texans. Our 2025 Annual Report is a storybook that reflects the success and spirit of our 4-H youth. Behind every number, program, and achievement is a young person whose future has been shaped by the opportunities our donors make possible. Your donations created opportunities to learn, lead, and experience the world in ways that build lifelong confidence and purpose.

In 2024–2025, we saw thousands of 4-H members across Texas step forward as leaders in their classrooms, on their family farms, in their neighborhoods, and on the national stage. They lived out the 4-H pledge each day: using their heads to develop a vision, their hearts to believe in that vision, their hands to turn that vision into reality, and their health to ensure its success. These young people represent the very best of what it means to be a Texan. They are committed to growth, grounded in values, and eager to give back to their communities.

Their stories are your stories. Your unwavering support keeps the spirit of 4-H. Together, we continue to create pathways of success for youth ensuring that every child who dreams has the resources, mentorship, and encouragement to turn those dreams into reality.

As a Foundation, we remain steadfast in our mission to ensure that every gift we receive creates meaningful and measurable changes. We are proud that 100% of every donation directly supports 4-H youth. Your donations expand scholarship opportunities, enhance leadership and career-readiness programs, and strengthen county and district initiatives. Behind every dollar raised is a story of transformation: a student who can now attend college, a young leader who has discovered their voice, or a rural community renewed through youth-led service.

The future of Texas 4-H is bright. With our new permanent Texas 4-H office and exhibit area, we are excited to guide the next generation of youth who will lead the way for Texas. The Foundation's commitment remains clear: to grow resources, build partnerships, and ensure that 4-H programming remains accessible and impactful for every young Texan in every corner of the state. Thank you for standing with us, for believing in the boundless potential of youth, and for helping build a stronger, more vibrant Texas, one 4-H member at a time.

Sincerely,



David White  
Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation President & CEO



# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION IS: Possible because of Our People

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation was established in the early 1950's as the "4-H Recognition Committee" to recognize superior service and achievement among 4-H members and volunteers. In 1962, the committee incorporated as the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation with a 501(c) (3) non-profit designation. The Texas 4-H Foundation Board of Directors works year-round to plan, provide leadership, and seek funding opportunities for Texas 4-H.

## **Chairman:**

Dinah Covert

## **Chairman Elect:**

Jennifer Van Matre

## **Ex Officio:**

Amy Ressler  
Courtney Dodd  
Kristen Clark  
Marcus Preuninger  
Monty Dozier  
Montza Williams

## **Past Chairman:**

Chuck Lewis

## **Secretary:**

Nancy Tom

## **Treasurer:**

Manon Kebodeaux

## **Vice Chairman:**

Chanda Moseley  
Diane Johnson  
Jay Wade Johnson  
Sandra Boecker  
Joe Bruce Hancock  
Laura Guerra Ramirez

## **President/CEO:**

David White

## **Hall of Fame Members:**

Helen Piehl  
Richard Ligon  
Bill Jerman  
Bill Poteet  
David Waggoner  
Shaun Tuggle



# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION DEPENDS ON: *Finances*

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Program would not function without the support and work of the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation. Texas 4-H programming *relies* on the finances of the Foundation.

**Money given to support Texas 4-H Youth Programming:**

**\$2,426,496**

**Money awarded in scholarships:**

**\$2,767,000**

**Total grant money given to counties, districts,  
county extension agents:**

**\$88,830**

## *Adam R. Scripps Foundation Grant*

The Texas 4-H Foundation received a transformative **\$700,000 grant** from the Adam R. Scripps Foundation, marking a significant milestone in their shared mission of empowering Texas youth. This grant was the single largest grant received to date.

The Adam R. Scripps Foundation has a longstanding legacy of championing initiatives that drive education, health and community development. This generous contribution reflects a deep commitment by the foundation toward fostering leadership, service and life skills to prepare the next generation of youth for success.

# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION IS: *Scholarships*

## CONGRATULATIONS 2025 TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION SCHOLARS!

**Ag Worker's Mutual  
Auto Insurance/TCAAA**  
Canon Redwine

**Annette Louise Couch  
Memorial**  
Ty Halsell

**Bill & Helen Piehl  
Memorial**  
Mackenzie Mahan  
Sidnee Thompson

**Bob Benson Memorial**  
Emmitt Roden

**Buccaneer Commission**  
Braxley Brezina  
Bryce Fishbeck

**Caldwell County  
Education Fund**  
Reagan McDonald  
Addison Miles  
Karina Tergerson

**Davidson Foundation**

Sara Aultman  
Alison Cox  
Reily Dominy  
Levi Easterling  
Bryce Ferrell  
Rhett Fromme  
McKenna Guevara  
Hayden Gulley  
Jillian Laitkep  
Nevaeh Mattheessen  
Kaitlyn Matthews  
Braden Meuth  
Jenna Morris  
Dutch Nielsen  
Henry Oberg  
Kyli Sadler  
Kambyl Schilling  
Gavin Slough  
Jed Thompson  
Rebekah Tyler  
Clare Whitaker  
Hannah Wright

**Ft. Worth Stock Show  
Syndicate**

Payton Alexander  
Reese Coldeway  
Ava Dora  
Taylor Eckelberg  
Allison Halfmann  
Kaelynn Hoelscher  
Chase Janke  
Rylie LaMar

**Dickson - Allen  
Foundation**  
Colby Chandler  
Addyson Kardosz  
Macy Morris

**Doyle Warren  
Memorial**  
Kylie Portie

**Dr. Ed Smith**  
Sophia Neumann

**Elaina & Emanuel  
Glockzin, Jr.**  
Kelsey Johnson

**Elinor Harvey  
Memorial**  
Alyssa Kidwiler  
Ludwika Rodriguez

**Floyd Lynch Memorial**  
Justice Epley

**Fort Worth Stock Show  
and Rodeo**

Lainey Bone  
Ashley Brogan  
Camryn Chumley  
Lilah Eakes  
Claire Ellis  
Jane Gauntt  
Kadance Glosson  
Daniel Hemmi  
Ross Hiser  
Madelyn McFarland  
Cade Parker  
Allison Phillips

**Houston Livestock  
Show & Rodeo**

Caleb Anderson  
Stone Beach  
Sarah Beck  
Kolt Bennett  
Elli Bezner  
Garicyn Bigham  
Justin Braune  
Allison Bowles  
Hanna Bozeman  
Sophie Bradshaw  
Justin Braune  
Lana Brickey  
Jenet Burks  
Jeremy Burt  
Madison Chaloupka  
Sydni Chesshir  
Camryn Craddock  
Tessa De La Garza  
Landry Dukes  
Klaybourne Eschberger  
Cora Ford  
Josiah Gaines  
Kinlee Gardner  
Hannah Griffice  
Addison Hahn

Jaelyn Mattheessen  
Layton McAdams  
Sydney Miller  
Jessica Skelton

**Garland & Mildred  
Powers Memorial**  
Natalie Newton

**Governor Bill & Vara  
Faye Daniels**  
Peyton Schueler  
Wesley See  
Laurel Wilfert

**Heart O' Texas Fair &  
Rodeo**  
Carly Colvin

**Hiram Blaine McGee  
Memorial**  
Matthew Moczygembra

**Houston Livestock  
Show & Rodeo**

Macey Pustka  
Diezel Ramirez  
Kaylon Ramon  
Lucie Rathgeb  
Thomas Rung  
Sydni Schley  
Audrey Schmidt  
Korbin Schmidt  
Joshua Scribner  
Keira Short  
Cooper Smith  
Amelia Snowden  
James Steglich  
Elyse Taubert  
Ben Trevino  
Rachel Walden  
Brenna Ware  
Shyla Wells  
Emily White  
Rylee Wunderlich

Intersect Power  
Payton Ogletree

Johnie Schulte Memorial

Joshua Dube  
Wyatt-Murphy Gage

KHC Family Foundation

Cooper Daniel  
Logan Mason

Lytle & Nancy Kay Tom Family

Shelby Pullen

Marcus and Adriana Hill

Carlos Guerra

Martha Couch  
Jackson Skelton

McLean Estate

Baylee Bennett  
Owen Bryant  
Callie Chrismom  
Olivia Clifton  
Zoe Conde  
Patrick Detten  
Shambryn DuBose  
Helen Dudley  
Reelyn Fiedler  
Brook Fry  
Allison Gray

Reagan Moreau  
Darcy Pfeffer  
Rhett Rhode  
Lillian Rime  
Mason Roeder  
Aarah Sardesai  
Aubree Shar  
Taylor Simpson  
Emma Strelczyk  
Brycen Suehs  
Caroline Terrill  
Hayden Watkins  
Montana White

Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply  
Kassidy Cowey

Rodeo Austin

Laney Aiken  
Caroline Colten  
San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo

Kay Carr  
Kaileigh Cook  
Cole Coufal

Lynndee Foster  
Patrick Higgins  
Cone Johnson  
Tucker Landry  
Jennifer Mask

Harrison Meador  
Madeline Rakowitz  
Alexia Rodriguez  
Ryanne Vicars  
Lux Walker

Stanley & Geneva Schaeffer  
Olivia Peavey

Steven Davis Memorial Scholarship  
Corbin Janner

Stiles Farm Foundation  
Addison Bandy  
Lauren Meier

Texas 4-H Foundation  
Braylee Bell  
Hailey Billings

Elizabeth Hoffer  
Heston Lovett  
Lillyanna Poorman  
Rebekah Rymel  
Alya Trimle  
Brett Withem

Texas 4-H Foundation Board of Directors  
Riley Stokes

Texas 4-H Foundation Clover Club  
Mylee Guthrie

Texas 4-H Foundation South  
Kelsey Dube

Texas 4-H Foundation Southeast  
Addison Faske

Haylie Niemeyer  
Kaylie Perdue  
Jaylen Tesch

Texas Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals  
Chloe Nieschwitz

Texas Brush Country - SCI  
Morgan Reinhardt  
Jennifer Mask

Peyton Turner  
Texas Farm Bureau  
Cadence Copeland  
Emily Smith  
Krystal Tondre

Texas Farm Credit Association  
Emily Crane

Texas Poultry Federation  
Neveah Mattheessen

The George Foundation  
Taylor Hirsch

Tilson Homes  
Samuel Hall

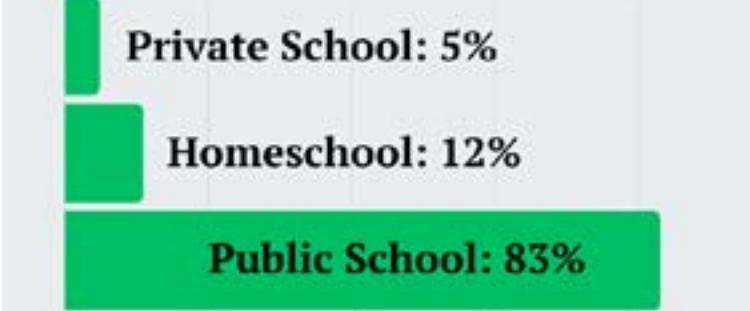
Will Looney Memorial  
McKenzie Evans

William "Tom" Sistrunk Memorial  
Jane Bierwagen



# 2025 Texas 4-H Foundation Opportunity Scholarship Report

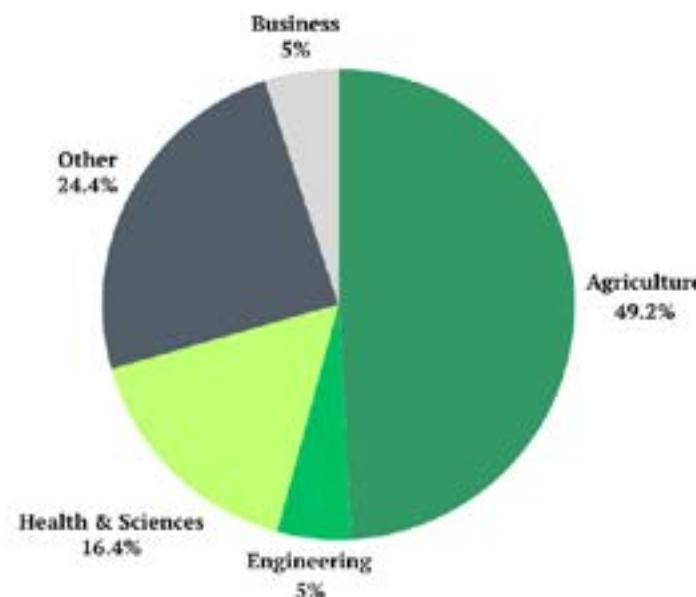
## TYPES OF SCHOOLS RECIPIENTS ATTENDED



## GENDER OF RECIPIENTS



## TOP MAJORS OF RECIPIENTS



## TOP COLLEGES RECIPIENTS ARE ATTENDING



## SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

### Riley Stokes - Board of Directors' Scholarship Recipient

"My name is Riley Stokes, I am a proud 4-H member from Brazos County. I will be attending Texas A&M University to major in Agricultural Science with the goal of earning my teaching certificate. I am deeply honored to be selected as a recipient of this prestigious scholarship. I am incredibly grateful to the Texas 4-H Foundation and its generous donors for investing in my future. Your support not only eases the financial burden of college but also empowers me to continue pursuing my passion for agricultural education and leadership. As I close out my senior year and begin this exciting new chapter, I will carry with me the values, skills, and lessons I've learned through 4-H. I look forward to giving back by helping guide the next generation of young leaders to "make the best better."



# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION IS:

*Proud of our alumni*

## CLOVER CLUB MEMBERS

### **Clover Level Members:**

Adam Hunter  
Aida Kevin  
Alex Moczygemb  
Amy Kulcak  
Ana Copeland  
Andrea Gore  
Andrea Wallis  
Anna Vela  
Bailee Wright  
Brad Barrett  
Brady Ragland  
Brandon Nibbs  
Cadence Copeland  
Caleb Arris  
Campbell Offield  
Cari Snider  
Carrie Davey  
Casey McPherson  
Cassie Ferguson  
Corbee Wunderlich  
Cory Edwards  
Coy Pittman  
Debbie Sharp  
Derek de La Garza  
Don Chesshir  
Dottie Goebel  
Doyce Justiss  
Elizabeth Hereford Lloyd  
Emaleen Cain  
Emily Gamble  
Garrett Williams  
Garry Branham  
Georgia Bezner  
Gia Knapp  
Hagan Wright  
Hayley Meyer  
Jackie Taylor  
Jana Barrett  
Jennifer Dyson  
Jennifer Virdell  
Justin Anderson  
Kace Murphy  
Kadance Glosson  
Kassidy Martin  
Katherine Bison  
Katie Pantoja  
Kerrie Wright  
Kevin Felix Pantoja  
Kierney Wallis  
Kimberly Wunderlich

Kinlee Gardner  
Kinsey Gardner  
Landry Dukes  
Laney Aiken  
Loni Lucher  
Mackenzie Weadock  
Madalynn Kainer  
Madeline Zwicke Dalman  
Mandy-Jo Laurent  
Matia Elmore  
Matthew Pfeifer  
Mattie Lastovica  
Megan Kruger  
Michael Cariaga  
Michael Martin  
Mikaela Izaguirre-Benitez  
Morgan Ashley Thomas  
Morgan Griffith  
Nathan Spencer  
Nolan Goebel  
Payton Branham  
Phoebe Branham  
Rachel Walden  
Rafe Royall  
Reagan Moreau  
Robert Sturdivant  
Ruthie Schmiel  
Seth Jordan  
Shanna Altman  
Shanna McCarn  
Sheri Arnold  
Tanner Owen  
Taylor Allen  
Tessa de La Garza  
Travis Barrett  
Trey Wetzel  
William Bredemeyer

**Bronze Level Members:**  
Ashlee Brookshire  
Becky Coward  
Helen Philips  
Jennifer Hancock  
Kaci Scott  
Kat Ketchum  
Nichole Waggoner

### **Silver Level Members:**

JC Essler  
Suzanne Sexton

### **Platinum Level Members:**

Christy & TR Lansford

### **Diamond Level Members:**

Melissa Hazlett

### **Gold Level Members:**

Jennifer Currey van Matre  
Joe Van Matre  
Lainie Ereno  
Ronda Dalton  
Russ Arnold  
Tina Stavinoha

### **Lifetime Members:**

William\* and Jackie Adair  
Charla Bading  
Tammera S Beckham  
Kenneth Bell  
Kay Beznar  
Kristina Fritz Bierschwale  
Angela B Burkham  
George W. Bush  
James G Butler  
Charles R Campbell  
Robert S Cohen  
Jane E Cohen  
Mary F Cole  
Martha Couch  
Jennifer C Cumbie  
J. Brad Davis  
Gary Davis  
Gene or Connie Dunbar  
Charles Elk  
Jimmie Ruth Evans  
Debbie Farnum  
Chester P Fehlis  
Wayne Fisher  
Dale A Fritz  
Ed Garnett  
Todd E Green  
William W Grisham, Jr.  
Carlos X Guerra  
Gayle W Hall  
B.L. Harris

Rollin Heifrin  
Roy Heifrin  
David C. Hicks  
Edward A Hiler  
Marcus Hill  
Russell A Hill  
G. Elaine Houston  
Opal Irving  
Dwight A. Judge  
Albert H. Karcher  
Ramona Kellam  
Jennie Kitching  
Jessie Kokemor  
Edmund Koliba  
Bonnie Kyle  
Toby Lepley  
Charles Lotter  
Linda Lynch Evans  
Barton McCleskey  
Bonnie McGee  
Billie Ann McMorris  
Kandy McWhorter  
Sherry Melton  
Jana Middleton  
Don Morris  
Henry F. New  
Joe Norville  
Jeffrey Ockwood  
Allen Owen  
Craig Owen  
Alby Peters  
Ozell Price  
John Prukop  
Gaye Roberts  
Wendell & Debbie Schronk  
Cody Scogin  
John Seaman  
Frederica Seaman  
Ted Serna  
LeAnne and Steve Skinner  
Darylin Smith  
Edward and Elaine Smith  
Wayne Snoddy  
Linda Snoddy  
Donald Stormer  
Brenda Stovall  
Mary Strickland  
John Sweeten  
Dorothy Taylor  
Bill Teague  
Lynne Thibodeaux  
Kathy Volanty  
John and Ann Wade  
Dean & Shirley Walker

\*deceased

Dick Wallrath  
Billy Warrick  
Charlotte Watson  
Ann Weisman  
Jim Whitmire  
Mildred Whitmire  
Montza Williams  
Kathleen Williams  
Thelma Wirges  
Leesa Wood-Calvi  
Ronald Woolley  
Chad Wootton  
Vera E Adams  
Arthur Barlemann, Jr.  
Delbert O Black  
Edwin Bright  
Lanny Bullard  
J.C. Burnham  
O.D. Butler  
Zerle L Carpenter  
Davon T Cook  
Chad Wootton  
\*Vera E Adams  
\*Arthur Barlemann, Jr.  
\*Delbert O Black  
\*Edwin Bright  
\*Lanny Bullard  
\*J.C. Burnham  
\*O.D. Butler  
\*Zerle L Carpenter  
\*Davon T Cook  
\*Catherine Crawford  
\*Clarence R Creger  
\*Ernest E Davis  
\*H.T. Davison  
\*Sue Farris  
\*Mary B Gibson  
\*George G. Gibson  
\*Thomas A Glazier  
\*Meatra D Harrison  
\*Helen L Hart  
\*Will R Hubbard, Jr.  
\*Shawn Irvine  
\*Jan Irvine  
\*Dan James  
\*Beverly Kloessel  
\*J. Arthur Moncrief  
\*Tommy and Doris Morris  
\*James Norman  
\*Daniel Pfannstiel  
\*Helen Piehl  
\*Bill Piehl  
\*Joe Rothe  
\*Aubrey Russell  
\*Joe Townsend

## TEXAS 4-H ALUMNI CLOVER CLUB



The Texas 4-H Alumni Clover Club brings together all Friends and Alumni in support of Texas 4-H Youth and Programs. The Texas 4-H Alumni Clover Club offers exclusive discounts and benefits provided by Texas 4-H Foundation Alliances & Partnerships and more.

The goal of the Texas 4-H Alumni Clover Club is to connect with our Texas 4-H Friends and Alumni and join in support of our current and future Texas 4-H Youth and Programs. Depending on your membership level, a percent of your membership fee will fund a scholarship in the name of the Texas 4-H Clover Club.

### **Annual membership levels include:**

\$4.00 - Clover  
\$100.00 - Bronze  
\$250.00 - Silver  
\$500.00 - Gold  
\$1,000.00 - Platinum  
\$2,500.00 - Diamond



SCAN THE JOIN THE TEXAS 4-H



# 4 UNDER 40 ALUMNI

The Texas 4-H Foundation 4 Under 40 alumni recognition program was created in 2025 to recognize and celebrate young Texas 4-H alumni. Through a process of nominations and social media voting, four alumni were selected as the inaugural recipients of the 4 Under 40 Alumni Award. These alumni embody “making the best better” in their everyday life beyond their years in 4-H.



*Dr. Dottie Goebel*

Dottie was a member from 2000-2010 participating in Sheep, Consumer Decision making, Livestock Judging, Leadership, Public Speaking, Community Service, Swine, Goats, and Safety and Injury Prevention. She is now the Assistant Professor & Extension Specialist - 4-H Youth Development Agricultural Learning Strategies. Dr. Goebel puts her head, heart, hands, and health into every avenue of her life. She has been instrumental in the progress of junior livestock projects in Texas and is the reason the Texas Validation System thrives today. She has impacted countless youth in monumental ways through Texas Youth Livestock and Agriculture. Personally, she stays involved in her family's sheep operation in West Texas and, with her husband who also works in the agriculture industry, is raising their sons with the same values she was taught through 4-H. Dr. Goebel lives out the 4-H motto, gives back to the program, and is an example for youth across the nation. She is a prime example of what a 4-H alumni should be.



*Dr. Loni Lucherk*

Loni was a member from 1996-2008, as the Texas 4-H President, Governor of State 4-H Congress, National and State Champion 4-H Meat Judging Team, State Champion 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Team, National Congress Teen Entertainer, and participant of Share the Fun, Illustrated Talk, Food Show, Sheep and Swine. She is now the Gordon W. Davis Endowed Chair in Meat Judging and Associate Professor at West Texas A&M University. Dr. Lucherk is deeply committed to student development both inside and outside the classroom. Loni strives to make the best better everyday with the students she interacts with at WT. She works to push students past what they believe they are capable of, so they realize what they can achieve. Many students who she recruits and interacts with may or may not have come from a strong 4-H background. She instills a level of excellence in them through the art of intercollegiate judging and evaluation teams. She works diligently to give students the best collegiate experience through experiences both inside and outside of the classroom. She also enjoys giving back to Texas 4-H by hosting numerous events and tours at WT.

*Continued on next page...*



*Brady Ragland*

Brady was a member from 1999-2008 as the District 2 Vice President, Texas 4-H 1st Vice President, State Food Show Winner, State Beef Record Book Winner, State Champion Livestock Judging Team Member and Overall High Individual, and exhibitor of numerous livestock projects (steers, heifers, pigs) at local, regional, state and national levels. He is now the CEO of the Tri-State Exposition/Tri-State Fair & Rodeo. Brady has sought to continue making “the best better” since exiting the 4-H program in 2008. Every professional role he’s assumed, he has leaned on the values instilled in him during his time in 4-H. Brady learned team work, critical thinking and communication skills through many 4-H endeavors and those skills have served him well as he occupied roles at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo, Alabama Farmers Federation, and currently as the CEO of the Amarillo Tri-State Exposition/Tri-State Fair & Rodeo. Each of these roles have offered a strong connection to 4-H, allowing him to give back to a program that gave so much to him. In his current role as CEO, Brady has expanded the number of youth contests at the Tri-State Fair & Rodeo by adding events like Food Challenge, Archery, Consumer Decision Making, Public Speaking, and Livestock & Horse Quiz Bowl, and Vet Science Skillathon. His team recently organized the creation of a new \$25,000 Ambassador Scholar to be given to one high-school junior in the Texas panhandle. Finally, under his leadership, the dream of starting a new livestock show for exhibitors across the country has come to reality in the Amarillo Classic Junior Stock Show which debuted in 2024.



*Nathan Spencer*

Nathan was a member from 1998-2007 in the Goat, Sheep, and Horse projects and as a Gold Star Winner. He is now the creator of Flowco Production Solutions and President of Sandel Operating. Nathan's journey exemplifies the heart of 4-H—head, heart, hands, and health—through his enduring commitment to personal growth, community involvement, and professional excellence. His story is one of resilience, work ethic, and character, deeply rooted in his 4-H upbringing. After graduating from Huntsville High School, Nathan attended Abilene Christian University and later earned a degree in Construction Management from Sam Houston State University. His commitment to hard work followed him into adulthood, as he quickly transitioned into the oil and gas industry, starting at PCS. Nathan's natural leadership and entrepreneurial spirit helped him in being a part of creating a new company called Flowco, a Houston-based company that later went public. Today, he serves as President of Sandel Operating, bringing his expertise full circle to help others in the field succeed. Despite his professional success, Nathan has remained grounded in his community and values. He currently serves as a Deacon at his local church, where he oversees the children's ministry — investing in the next generation with the same care and leadership that 4-H fostered in him. As a 4-H Horse Club leader, Nathan continues to mentor youth, passing down the same lessons that shaped him. Nathan is more than a product of 4-H. He is a living example of what 4-H stands for. He embodies lifelong learning, servant leadership, and a commitment to community. His story is still unfolding, but his roots remain strong on the organization that helped shape him.



# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION: Relies on you

The annual Texas 4-H Foundation Clover Club Gala is an opportunity for 4-H friends, alumni, and supporters to gather for an evening of celebration and fundraising for Texas 4-H. In 2025, the gala had a net gain of \$87,000 thanks to the generous support of attendees. Funds from this event directly support scholarships and the county grant program.

The Texas 4-H Foundation hopes to bring in \$150,000 at the 2026 gala. Save the date now to be part of this opportunity!



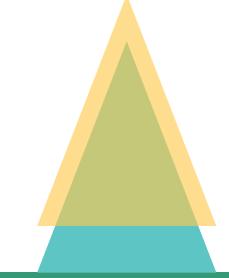
*About last year...*



# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION IS: *Giving*

The Texas 4-H Foundation founded their grant program to provide an opportunity for counties and districts to apply for funding for specific areas of need. The Clover Club Gala funds these grants. **In 2025, the Texas 4-H Foundation was proud to award grants to 43 counties, totaling \$85,830.** Recipients include:

**Coryell County** for their Citizenship Washington Focus D.C. Trip  
**Bell County** for their Urban STEM Project  
**Delta County** for their Fashion Project  
**Gregg County** for Mental Health First Aid  
**Lamar County** for their Community Garden  
**San Augustine County** for their Food Challenge Project  
**Grayson County** for their Shooting Sports Project  
**Denton County** for their STEM Summer Camp  
**Franklin County** for their Robotics Project  
**Panola County** for their Robotics Project  
**Bailey County** for their Learning Garden  
**Lubbock County** for their Quiz Bowl Projects  
**Lynn County** for their Food & Nutrition Project  
**Potter County** for their After School Program  
**Roberts County** for their Shooting Sports Project  
**Hartley County** for their Agri Sky Eye Project  
**Moore County** for their Robotics Project  
**Blanco County** for Hatching in the Classroom  
**Caldwell County** for Agriculture Outreach and Curriculum Enrichment  
**Zapata County** for the Bovine Injection Simulator  
**Zavala County** for their Poultry Project  
**Comal County** for their Food & Nutrition Project  
**Real County** for their Fashion Project  
**Bandera County** for Leaders Creating Leaders  
**Kerr County** for CORE Academy  
**Atascosa County** for their Archery Project  
**Duval County** for Rifle Targets  
**Wilson County** for their Entomology Project  
**Gillespie County** for their Champion School Projects  
**Fort Bend County** for Hatching in the Classroom  
**Brazos County** for their Fashion Project  
**Lavaca County** for Summer Sewing Camp  
**Washington County** for their Food & Nutrition Summer Series  
**Karnes County** for their Outdoor Adventure Project  
**DeWitt County** for their Robotics Project  
**San Jacinto County** for their Photography Club  
**Howard County** for Livestock Judging  
**Taylor County** for Kids, Cows, & More  
**The Texas 4-H Center** for the Nature Center  
**District 9** for Shooting Sports  
**District 2** for Quiz Bowl Buzzers  
**District 4** for Ultra Leadership Lab  
**District 5** for 3-D Archery



*Coryell County in Washington D.C.*



*San Augustine County Food Challenge teams practice for district competition.*



*Participant of the Denton County STEM Summer Series.*



**Denton County 4-H was awarded a grant in the amount of \$3,000 to purchase science equipment to host its first ever summer STEM camp.**

Offered once in June and once in July, different activities were offered each time. Twelve- to thirteen-year-old 3rd-5th grade campers attended from 9-12 each day with focuses on chemistry and biology/ecology. The funds helped purchase various lab items for 3 chemistry labs on the first day of camp and 4 biology/ecology labs on the second day. For the chemistry labs students got the opportunity to practice measuring liquid volume with graduated cylinders and test tubes, explored endothermic and exothermic reactions, and heated sugar to observe a chemical change. For the biology labs students learned how to use microscopes and how to prepare a wet mount slide. They used microscopes to observe onion cells and human cheek cells and learn the differences between plant and animal cells. They dissected owl pellets and matched the bones they found in their pellet to the pictures on the dissection mat to determine what animal the owl had eaten. They were really excited to find several intact skulls! For many of the campers, dissecting the owl pellet was their favorite activity! Lastly, students learned about adaptations by participating in an activity that simulates how different types of bird beaks are best adapted for specific food sources.



Due to the positive feedback received from the surveys, parent comments and our own observations, we plan on offering STEM camp again next summer. Most of the materials we purchased with the grant funds can be reused indefinitely. We are very pleased with how well our summer STEM camp went and are considering adding a third day of camp next year to focus on geology or physics activities. We are very grateful to the foundation for awarding us this grant which enabled us to offer quality summer programming to our county residents, allowing them the opportunity to explore and learn about the world around them in a fun and safe environment!

 **Denton County 4-H**

# TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION:

## *Happens because of you*

THANK YOU, CORPORATE AND EVENT SPONSORS!



Businesses, organizations, individuals and families play key roles in funding Texas 4-H scholarships, programs, and events.

Anthony Johnson  
 Bill Jerman  
 Bob Benson Family  
 Brazoria County Groundwater Conservation District  
 Caldwell County Education Fund  
 Clint Swindall  
 Corpus Christie Water  
 Dr. Martha Couch  
 Davidson Foundation  
 Dickson-Allen Foundation  
 Doyle Warren Family  
 D2 Enterprises

Ed Rachal Foundation  
 Floyd Lynch Family  
 Glockzin Family  
 Hiram McGee Family  
 Johnie Schulte Family  
 KHC Family Foundation  
 Lee-McElroy Charitable Foundation  
 Marcus & Adrianna Hill  
 McLean Estate  
 Piehl Family  
 Pure Party Ice  
 Steven Davis Family  
 The George Foundation  
 Tom Family  
 Waggoner Family  
 Will Looney Family

# THANK YOU, ALLIANCE PARTNERS!



Wyndham Hotels & Resorts – Wyndham Hotels & Resorts gives to Texas 4-H when you book and use our code, which also provides a discounted rate! Use the code: 1000028575



South Texas Tack - Receive a discount online or in-person at South Texas Tack in Brenham, Texas when you sign up for the 4-H Members ONLY Benefit Program. When you shop, 5% of your purchase is gifted to Texas 4-H projects and programs.



Tractor Supply Co. - Twice a year, Tractor Supply host a paper clover campaign. 90% of the funds raised stay right here in Texas 4-H!



BOGS and 4 H have worked together to design and produce new, custom 4 H branded boots! For each pair sold, \$5 will be donated to support the growth of 4 H outdoor education programs in animal and agricultural sciences across the country.



Lone Star Silversmith - 10% of all purchases of 4-H branded jewelry will be donated to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation to support youth programs.



The 4x4 for Texas 4-H fundraising campaign will secure endowed donors to raise 4 million dollars in 4 years for our Texas 4-H programs. This campaign will raise awareness of the positive impact our programs have on the youth of Texas and provide long-term stability to build a brighter future for Texas 4-H.

## THANK YOU, 4 X 4 ENDOWED DONORS!

To date, the 4x4 donors on the following page have endowed \$400,000 through the 4x4 campaign.

### Texas Poultry Federation



The Texas Poultry Federation continues to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to Texas 4-H youth and the future of the poultry industry. This year, the Federation established a second endowment to support the Texas Poultry Ambassador Program, ensuring the continued growth of educational opportunities for youth interested in poultry science and agriculture. As long-time partners of the Texas 4-H Foundation, their dedication to equipping young leaders with the skills and knowledge needed to strengthen the poultry industry reflects their deep belief in the power of youth development and education.

### The Tom Family



The Tom Family are long-time supporters of Texas 4-H, continuing a legacy of generosity and commitment to empowering young people across the state. Mrs. Nancy Kay Tom, a dedicated Texas 4-H Foundation Board Member, recently established an endowment to support 4-H leadership and project initiatives that youth across Texas will benefit from. Through their enduring support and leadership, the Tom Family helps ensure the continued growth and success of 4-H programs that build future leaders for Texas.

### The Piehl Family



The Piehl Family has shown an extraordinary belief in and commitment to the mission of Texas 4-H. As long-time advocates for youth development, their generosity established the largest endowment of the 4x4 campaign. This remarkable gift will support 4-H leadership and project initiatives, empowering young people across Texas to learn, lead, and succeed. The Piehl Family's investment ensures that the legacy of 4-H continues to thrive for generations to come.

### The Waggoner Family



The Waggoner Family are proud supporters of Texas 4-H and its mission to provide youth with hands-on learning opportunities that build skills for life. Mr. David Waggoner, a dedicated Texas 4-H Foundation Board Member, and his family established an endowment to support livestock and STEM programming across the state. Their generosity reflects a strong belief in the power of 4-H to inspire innovation, responsibility, and leadership in the next generation of Texans.

# Texas 4-H Foundation Team



*David White*

President & CEO



*Bailee Wright*

Program Manager,  
Scholarships, Grants,  
and Alumni



*Sydney Watson*

Senior Administrative Assistant

## WAYS TO GIVE TO THE TEXAS 4-H FOUNDATION

**1**

Scan the QR code

OR go to <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/texas4-hyouthdevelopmentfoundation>  
and then

Select a particular program destination OR select for a generic Foundation donation.



**2**

Send in a check:

Please make checks payable to the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, designate your gift in the memo section of the check and mail to:

Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation  
PO Box 11020  
College Station, TX 77842-1020