Program Overview



Why the need?

Youth leadership development at the county level is currently delivered 254 different ways. Some counties conduct thorough training while others may not even have an active County 4-H Council because they only have one 4-H club or have been unable to develop a structure that works effectively. Counties have limited resources available to help them train their County 4-H Council Teams. If you break down the fundamentals of a structured meeting (ie. 4-H club meeting), there are several reasons that it is important for youth to understand basic proper parliamentary procedure andleadership techniques. A structure to make fair decisions, keeping a meeting to a timely schedule, allowing each voice to be heard, and a basis of fun are all important factors that are made possible through this program.

Costs to implement and ideas for funding:

There is little cost to implement the program. Most resources can be printed for free online. Civic organizations (ie. Lions, Rotary, and Toastmaster Clubs) might be potential sponsors for any necessary cost at the local level.

Program website:

• texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/leadership/

Program Objectives:

- Increase the leadership skills of youth to equip them for future leadership opportunities in adulthood.
- Providing counties with a toolbox of resources to effectively train youth in leadership and parliamentary procedure.
- Recruit and train volunteers as leadership project leaders.
- Provide a contest opportunity to youth which allows them to develop and/or showcase their skills related to leadership and associated areas.

Lessons to Teach:

YEA 4-H: Take the Lead Unit, Parliamentary Procedure Made Easy Curriculum, Dunbar's Parliamentary Procedure Supplements, Current Edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Leaders 4 Life Contest Guidelines, Additional resources on Leaders 4 Life Website

Opportunities for Youth:

Opportunity structure will likely be similar from county to county: educational sessions and practice in county program, District Leaders 4 Life Contest, State Leaders 4 Life Contest, National Leaders 4 Life Contest.

Evaluation Indicators:

- Understanding of parliamentary procedure.
- Knowledge of how to manage an effective meeting.
- Understanding of new leadership techniques.
- Understanding of the importance of public speaking.
- Understanding of how to work with others in organized settings.