



## 4-H Youth Development: Investing in South Carolina's Future

4-H is a community of young people across America learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. The South Carolina 4-H Youth Development Program uses a learn-by-doing approach, the involvement of caring adults, and the knowledge and resources of Clemson University and the land grant university system to empower youth to become healthy, productive, and contributing members of society.

## Providing Positive Youth Development

*Positive youth development* occurs from an intentional process that promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, choices, relationships, and the support necessary for youth to fully participate. Youth development takes place in families, peer groups, schools, neighborhoods and communities. 4-H youth development programs provide just such opportunities, relationships, and support for youth to help them acquire the life skills necessary to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood.

## Youth in South Carolina 4-H

The 4-H Youth Development Program is part of the Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service. 4-H educational programs are offered to all youth, grades K-12, on an age-appropriate basis, without regard to of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status. In 2004, 79,171 youth (duplicates eliminated) participated in the following ways:

- 10,428 youth were members of 399 4-H organized clubs
- 20,586 youth were members of 771 4-H special interest groups
- 52,234 youth were involved in 1,459 4-H school enrichment groups
- 374 youth participated in 4-H individual study programs
- 1,646 youth participated in after-school child care education programs
- 271 youth participated in 4-H overnight camping
- 137 youth participated in instructional video/TV

## Nationally ...

4-H programs are conducted in 3,150 counties of the United States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Micronesia, and North Mariana Islands. There are 4-H-type programs in some 82 other countries enrolling approximately 4.5 million youth. 4-H Alumni total over 50 million.

## The 4-H's ...

**Head** - clearer thinking and decision making. Knowledge useful throughout life, science and technology literacy.

**Heart** - greater loyalty, strong personal values, positive self concept, concern for others.

**Hands** - larger service, workforce preparedness, leadership development, youth empowerment.

**Health** - better living, healthy lifestyles.

## Of the 79,171 youth in South Carolina 4-H:

- 4% lived on farms
- 57% lived in small towns and rural areas
- 35% lived in cities and suburbs
- 4% lived in central cities

## Grade in School:

K-3rd	54%
4th-6 <sup>th</sup>	31%
7th-9th	10%
10th-13th	5%

## Volunteers Serve 4-H Youth

Volunteers are essential to the successful delivery of 4-H programs to youth. The average adult volunteer donates 220 hours per year in preparing for club meetings and teaching youth. This year there were 3,990 enrolled Adult 4-H Leaders in S.C. There were also 578 4-H Youth Volunteers, teens who shared their skills with younger 4-H members and with other youth in their communities.

## MAJOR 4-H PROGRAMMING AREAS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

- *Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Environmental Stewardship*
- *Science, Technology, & Engineering*
- *Healthy Lifestyles*
- *Leadership, Personal Development, & Citizenship*

### 4-H PROJECT ENROLLMENT

<b>Personal Development and Leadership</b> .....	2,009
Workforce Preparation, Character Education, Leadership, Reading Literacy, Personal Growth, Social Recreation, Leisure Education, Exploring 4-H (grades K-3)	
<b>Science &amp; Technology</b> .....	3,847
Science/Technology Literacy, Biological Sciences, Technology and Engineering, Physical Sciences, Aerospace, Computers, Wood Science and Industrial Arts, Food Science, Marine Science	
<b>Environmental Education and Earth Sciences</b> .....	5,874
Environmental Stewardship, Geology and Minerals, Weather and Climate, Soils and Soil Conservation, Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries, Outdoor Education/Recreation, Waste Management, Recycling	
<b>Plants &amp; Animals</b> .....	11,392
Ag in the Classroom, Horse and Pony, Goats, Beef and Dairy Cattle, Birds and Poultry, Small Animals/Pocket Pets, Seeing Eye Dogs, Horticulture	
<b>Healthy Lifestyle Education</b> .....	48,417
Mental and Emotional Health, Foods and Nutrition, Food Safety, Food Preservation, Fitness and Sport, Child Safety, Physical Health, Bicycle Safety, Automotive Safety	
<b>Citizenship and Civic Education</b> .....	3,077
Community Youth Development, Diversity Education, Global Education, Volunteerism, Intergenerational Programming, Community Service, Service Learning	
<b>Communications and Expressive Arts</b> .....	4,487
Public Speaking, Dance and Movement, Drama and Theater, Music, Clowning, Arts and Crafts, Photography and Video	
<b>Consumer and Family Sciences</b> .....	2,417
Child Development, Child Care, Babysitting, Clothing and Textiles, Consumer Education, Home Environment, Parenting and Family Life Education	

*For more information about 4-H in South Carolina,  
contact the local Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service office in your county  
or the State 4-H Office by phone (864-656-3848) or email (sc4h@clemson.edu)*

You can also visit the state 4-H web site at:  
**[www.clemson.edu/4h](http://www.clemson.edu/4h)**



4-H is the youth development program of the Cooperative Extension Service, a nationwide partnership of federal, state, and county governments, and the private sector. The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.