

MARYLAND 4-H IS POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



4-H is one of the most powerful youth development programs in the world. 4-H has the ability to connect youth from all corners of a county, state, country, and the globe. Our program opens doors for young people to experience new things, meet new people, forge relationships with caring

adults, and have perhaps their first exposure to colleges and careers. For many, 4-H is the first class of a land grant university.

The 4-H Thriving Model illustrates the process of positive youth development in 4-H programs by connecting high quality program settings to the promotion of youth thriving.

Youth who experience high quality 4-H programs, are more likely to achieve positive youth development outcomes including, academic motivation and success, social competence, high personal standards, connection with others, personal responsibility, and contribution to others through leadership and civic engagement.

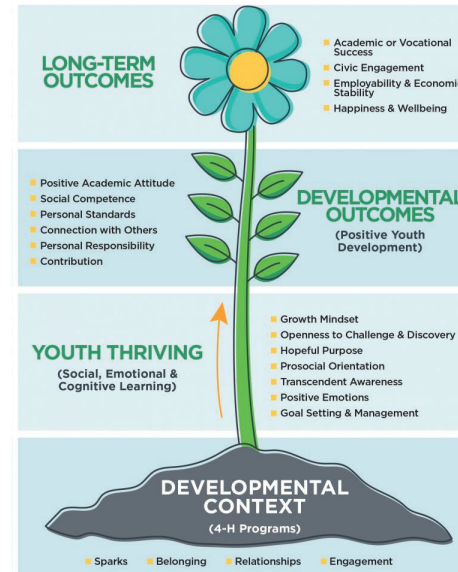
Youth who achieve positive developmental outcomes are more likely to also achieve long-term outcomes marked by vocational or academic success, civic engagement, employability and

economic stability and happiness and well being culture for generations to come. The world needs the heads, hearts, hands, and health of our youth.

As your Maryland 4-H program leader, here is my promise to you. We will continue to invest in the power of our young people, no matter their location, race, ethnicity, gender, or individual identity by highlighting and cultivating their valuable strengths and real influence to improve the world around us. This will be true in all communities across our state so that together we respond to the needs and circumstances of all Maryland communities. We will celebrate the longstanding richness of our programs and people while opening doors to those who have not had the same opportunity. Maryland 4-H will continue to provide a supportive and inclusive program for all youth to reach their fullest potential and dream big!

We look forward to an exciting future for Maryland 4-H, with renewed purpose and promise for all families who look to participate in a positive youth development experience. **This is 4-H.**

Dr. Nia Imani Fields
University of Maryland Extension Assistant Director and Maryland 4-H Program Leader



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UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



MARYLAND 4-H
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Find your Spark in Maryland 4-H



2021 ANNUAL REPORT 47,917 4-H youth and educational contacts

MARYLAND 4-H PARTICIPATION & OUTCOMES

Together, we are growing thriving Maryland communities.

47,917
youth and
educational
contacts
through 4-H



97
Extension
educators
and staff



1,841
volunteers
& professional
youth workers



1
Strong
Thriving
Maryland

4-H Grows Maryland Youth

- 6,417 Community Club Youth
- + 17,225 4-H Youth in Camping, In-School, Afterschool, Military & Outreach Programs
- + 24,275 Contacts through 4-H Educator programs

- = **47,917** Youth & educational contacts through 4-H
- + 1,223 EFNEP
- + 9,202 SNAP ED

- = **58,342** Youth & educational contacts through UME

*2,245 program participants have been served by the UMES 4-H STEM program.

Maryland 4-H Priorities:

- Building Community & Civic Engagement
- Developing Leadership Skills for Life
- Nurturing Social Empowerment & Resilience
- Improving College & Workforce Readiness
- Fostering Exploration & Creativity in Arts & Sciences
- Promoting Healthy Lifestyles & Self-Acceptance

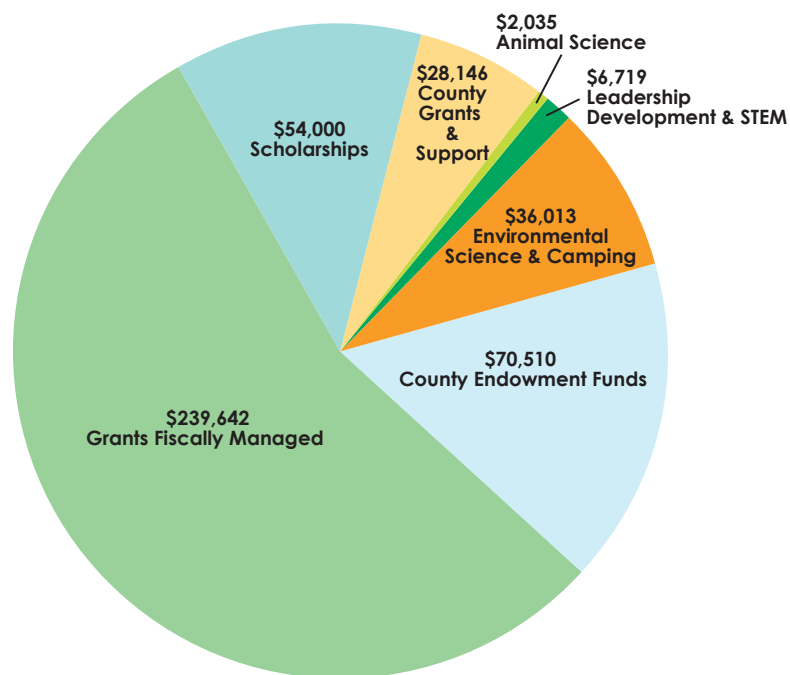
Maryland 4-H Foundation



"The Maryland 4-H Foundation is PRO youth. Their commitment to helping youth have more authentic experiences in the program is evident."
- 4-H Educator

Executive Director, Rose Greene Colby, Business Service Specialist, Holly Finneran and Coordinator, Lauren Mohler for the Maryland 4-H Foundation

Maryland 4-H Foundation Support



\$ 437,065.00 Total Program Support

** These numbers are based on the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2021. **

MARYLAND 4-H YOUTH THRIVE

Finding Youth Sparks



At the Mid-shore STEM Festival, the youth had the opportunity to experience hands-on science activities, enjoy workshops or find their spark in a STEM-related career.

Finding Youth Sparks

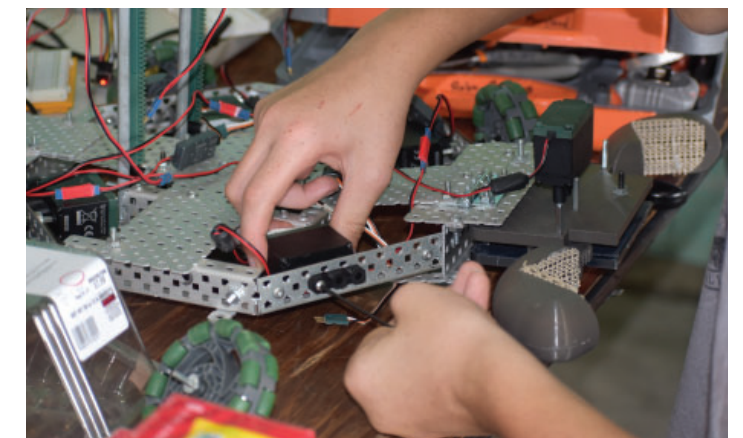


Youth are able to find their passions, develop them over the years, and share with others what they have been working on through fairs, projects and clubs.

"I am also very interested in social justice in addition to community service, so being involved with the Baltimore County and State Teen Council helped me better understand the work it takes to reach out to and impact communities."
- 4-H'er, Tamia



The Maryland 4-H/FFA Tractor contest at the Maryland State Fair allows youth to demonstrate mastery of skills that will be used in the workforce or on their farm.



Many youth enjoy building and competing in the Maryland 4-H Robotics competitions, where they learn how to program and work on a team, build skills in communication, explore the world they live in, and how robots can play an active part.

MARYLAND 4-H YOUTH THRIVE

Service to Others



Waverly Star Wars 4-H STEAM Program conducted a community cleanup in the Waverly community in conjunction with the Baltimore City Mayor's Fall Cleanup campaign.

Developing Leadership Skills for Life



The Maryland State 4-H Council, the state's premiere leadership team, met in a hybrid format so that youth from across the state could engage in public policy decisions, team building, marketing, and to share the work they're doing in communities.



The Diamond Clover Award Program engages 4-H youth in a variety of projects and activities that will enable them to acquire skills related to leadership, community service, civic engagement and advocacy. The award consists of six levels that require a 4-H member to plan and accomplish a broad range of age-appropriate goals with supportive volunteers and community members. The Diamond Clover Project is one-way 4-H youth can make a lasting difference in their community. Shown here is an example of a Charles County youth who led an effort to have water bottle filling stations put in at her local middle school. She raised money and awareness and was able to complete this project in the middle of a pandemic.



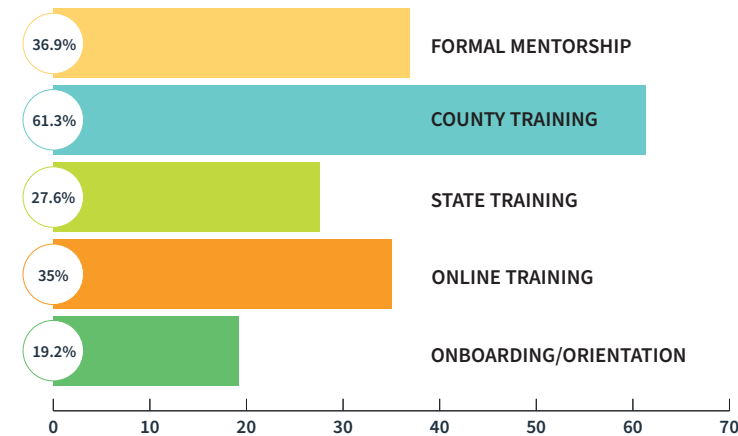
The 2021 closing campfire at the Maryland 4-H Environmental Education and Camping Center was a great time. Until next summer!



UMES STEM educators teach forensic crime techniques such as fingerprinting to the many partners such as Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester County Schools in addition to the Maryland STEM Festival.

NORTHEAST 4-H VOLUNTEER IMPACT SURVEY 2021

Training Types

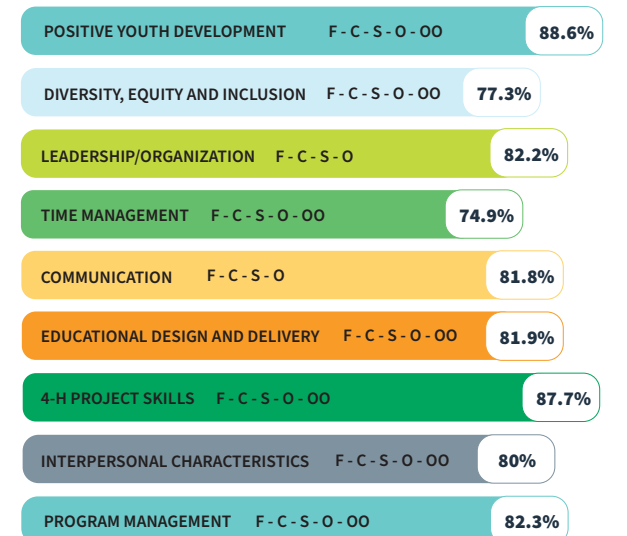


"It has been tremendously rewarding. I have learned a lot from the kids."
- 4-H Volunteer



Volunteers are instrumental in the robotics program as they work with youth from across the state. Many of our volunteers work in the field in which they mentor, thus providing them with a glimpse into college, careers and beyond!

Volunteer Personal Improvement Due to Training



Key: F-formal mentorship, C-county training, S-statewide training, O-online training, OO-onboarding/orientation



Without the volunteer program, our contests would not be possible. Volunteers nurture our youth by providing support and concern as a caring adult in their life.

4-H Volunteers

Volunteers nurture youth sparks and allow 4-H professionals to maximize local, state and federal resources.

1,841 Certified UME 4-H Volunteers each reported serving an average of **46 hours** in 2021, to the Maryland 4-H program, totaling over **84,686 hours** of service.

UME 4-H Volunteers' time valued* at a **\$2.6M** in 2021, contribution to the Maryland 4-H program.

*Source: 4-H Online Enrollment System & Independent Sector \$31.29 per hour Maryland average (2020)

MARYLAND 4-H YOUTH THRIVE

Providing Quality Experiences



Youth learned many new life-skills at the Mid-Shore STEM Festival.

Nurturing Healthy Relationships



Youth build positive relationships with their peers, adult volunteers, 4-H educators, and community.

Maryland 4-H Program Highlights

Animal Science & Ag Literacy Projects	Over 30,000
Career AGsperience	Over 10,000
Animal Husbandry and Quality Assurance Educational Program	3,253
Zoonosis kits	120
Mid-Shore STEM Festival	150 youth
4-H STEM Virtual Challenge	Over 50 youth
Camping Program	575 youth
New Archery Instructors	13
Shooting Sports Volunteers	189
Youth in Shooting Sports Clubs	628
State level Diamond Clover Civic Engagement Projects/Reports	29

- In 2021, over 30,000 Animal Science & Ag Literacy Projects were provided across the state.
- Over 10,000 youth were reached via a Career AGsperience Virtual Booth for the Junior Achievement of Central Maryland Inspire program. 300 youth participants and 100 adults participants from 38 states participated in the Career AGsperience presentation at the National 4-H Youth Summit on Agri-Science. The summit evaluation indicated, 98% of youth participants increased their knowledge of agri-science-related careers and 100% said the summit increased interest in pursuing agri-science careers. Additionally, 20 youth registered to participate in an intensive 6-week Career AGsperience program hosted virtually.
- There were 21 youth on 7 State 4-H Teams who competed at National 4-H Animal Science competitions in 2021.

- 3,253 youth completed the Animal Husbandry and Quality Assurance educational program in 2021 and 120 zoonosis kits were prepared and distributed to promote outcomes of healthy animals and healthy youth. Signs, banners, displays and table covers were created to use at fairs across Maryland and West Virginia to educate youth in agriculture and the public.
- Across STEM, more than 20 youth competed in our 4-H Engineering Contests at State Fair, over 50 youth participated in our 4-H STEM Challenge Virtual Series in the Spring, and over 50 youth comprising 9 teams competed at our Robotics Contests at State Fair, the largest 4-H contest at state fair in 2021.
- Maryland 4-H is proud to continue its fruitful partnership with our friends at NASA-Goddard, who had a significant presence at many of our regional, state, and national events, such as at the virtual 4-H Coding Jammers Club, the National 4-H STEM Summit, and our 4-H STEM Challenge Virtual series.
- During the STEM Challenge Virtual Series, numerous scientists, engineers, and researchers presented to youth covering an incredibly broad range of subjects including Astronomy, Computer Science, Physics, Astrobiology, Climatology, Mechanical Engineering, Meteorology and even Oceanography. NASA, as well as our other new STEM partners including the Digital Harbor Foundation, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and more, look forward to being present at more 4-H events in the future.
- After a season of separation, campers across the state found their way back to each other in a variety of ways this summer. Three resident camps, six

MARYLAND 4-H YOUTH THRIVE

Growing Thriving Youth



Fairs provide opportunities for 4-H youth to exhibit their project accomplishments, demonstrate mastery, develop leadership and teamwork, and receive important recognition.

Growing Thriving Youth



Shows and exhibitions provide venues for youth to engage with expert judges, other people with similar interests, and the public.



At the Teen Summit, youth learned about their carbon footprint, zoonosis, leadership development and gained insights on how their 4-H resume can translate into a college application essay.



Maryland 4-H shooting sports such as archery were enjoyed by youth across the state.

day camps, and one virtual camp experience served 575 youth from across the state. While safety guidelines were added, programs were adjusted, and changes were needed; what didn't change was the laughter, connection, and strength that comes from finding your way back to a place many call home. The moments around the campfire provided a bit of normalcy after 18 months of anything but.

- In October 2021, 13 new Archery instructors were certified in a one day training course. Two Volunteers traveled to National 4-H Shooting Sports Level 2 training to become state instructors (one for Archery and one for Rifle). End of the year instructor reports indicate that the program has 189 active shooting sports volunteers. These volunteers served 628

"An important way 4-H has impacted my career path is helping me discover and develop my passion of caring for living things. While in 4-H, I had the privilege to be able to raise and care for livestock. At times, raising livestock was challenging, but I gained satisfaction and sense of accomplishment with my projects."

- 4-H'er, Carl

youth in the club setting, 400 youth in special interest, 473 youth in camping, 81 youth at fairs, and 195 youth through virtual programming. The total number of volunteer hours given to the 4-H program by these instructors totals 5,171.

