



An Overview of Maryland 4-H

4-H is the youth development program of the University of Maryland, College Park, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Quick Facts about Maryland 4-H'ers

In 2007, nearly 50,000 youth were enrolled in Maryland 4-H youth development programs.

- 10,300 were members of 4-H clubs;
- 30,000 were members of 4-H after-school and special-interest groups;
- 6,000 participated in 4-H school-enrichment groups; and
- 2,000 attended 4-H day and overnight camps.

They participated in 4-H in the following subject areas:

- Citizenship and Civic Education
- Communications and Expressive Arts
- Consumer and Family Sciences
- Environmental Education
- Healthy Lifestyle Education
- Personal Development and Leadership
- Plants and Animals
- Science and Technology

4-H at a Glance



The 4-H Emblem: The H's on each leaf stand for the words Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

4-H Colors: Green and White

4-H Slogan: "Learn by Doing"

4-H Motto: "To Make the Best Better"

4-H Pledge: "I pledge my Head to clearer thinking, my Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service and my Health to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world."

There are 4-H programs in Baltimore City and in every county in Maryland.

Volunteers in 4-H

Volunteers are essential to the successful delivery of 4-H programs. In 2007, a total of 3,100 enrolled adult volunteers worked directly with youth in the Maryland 4-H program.

4-H Military Partnerships

Youth whose parents are active-duty and reserve military personnel participate in Maryland 4-H clubs and after-school programs on Army, Air Force, and Navy installations in Maryland and Europe. "Operation: Military Kids" programs reach out to youth whose parents are in the National Guard or Army Reserve.

The Maryland 4-H Foundation

The Maryland 4-H Foundation is the 501(c)3 organization that builds the financial resources to create a positive impact on the lives of Maryland youth through a partnership with the Maryland 4-H program. The 4-H Foundation's mission is to build and manage the financial resources to support Maryland youth in reaching their potential as competent, caring, responsible individuals through 4-H programs.

Founded in 1959, the Maryland 4-H Foundation supports diverse programs in five main areas: national trips, state 4-H events, county grants and programs, awards and scholarships, and program endowments. Examples of these programs include

- national 4-H conferences and congresses;
- national 4-H project judging, bowl, and events;

- the state Diamond Clover program;
- the Berlage Innovative Grants program for after-school programs;
- state teen council;
- the state communications contest;
- 10 scholarships to senior 4-H members and 4-H alumni; and
- 25 program endowments that support ongoing 4-H programs in all project areas.

The Maryland 4-H Foundation also owns and operates Thendara 4-H Center, a camping and conference facility in Hurlock, MD. Each year the foundation hosts several 4-H club meetings, state leader trainings, a regional camp, and other non-4-H events at this center. The facilities can be rented for birthday parties, family reunions, company picnics, retreats, church events, overnight camps, and more. Visit: <http://extension.umd.edu/local/Dorchester/> for details.

For more information about the foundation and how you can help through pledges, gifts of cash or securities, real estate, bequests, life insurance policies, and deferred or planned giving, contact Amanda Brown, executive director, Maryland 4-H Foundation 301-314-7832 or akbrown@umd.edu



The Maryland Cooperative Extension's programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, or national origin.

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Complete information below and mail to: Maryland 4-H Foundation 8020 Greenmead Drive, College Park, MD 20742 checks payable to: Maryland 4-H Foundation

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