



University of Maryland Extension 4-H Africa Experience: Overview

When is it? June 24-July 9, 2012.

Program Cost: \$3750 (includes airfare and program costs) As this is our first year, program applicants must apply prepared to pay for the entire trip expenses. However, efforts are being coordinated in cooperation with the Maryland 4-H Foundation for fundraising as well as grants are being pursued. Local fund raising is encouraged following discussion with the local 4-H educator. As we have no way of knowing the amount that will be raised, participants must apply expecting to pay the whole amount.

Other costs to be mindful of: Cost for passport (around \$150), a visa (authorization to travel into foreign country (\$100 – obtained through Tanzanian Embassy)), incidental spending money, immunizations (this may vary depending on your health insurance or access to health clinic –it could range between \$300 and \$500 dollars – the only required prescription med we have will be Malaria medication)

Selection Process: Applicants must be between 15 and 18 years of age and enrolled in Maryland 4-H (applicants may have turned 19 during the calendar year). Applications and letters of recommendation must be submitted by March 16, 2012. Application and related materials can be found at <http://www.maryland4h.org>. Following a review of materials by the International 4-H Program Committee, those selected for an interview will meet with the committee the week of April 2 for a final delegation selection. Total delegation target is 15 to 20 youth. 2-3 Extension faculty members will accompany the group as chaperones on the first trip. On future trips there is intent to offer Maryland 4-H Volunteers the opportunity to serve as chaperones.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

Program is titled: Junior Take a Lead

Program participants will include youth from Finland, South Africa, and Maryland USA.

14 days including stays at Morogoro 4-H Center, Tanzania 4-H Center in Tanga City, on site leadership development, opportunity to teach 4-H project work to Tanzanian 4-H members, humanitarian work including painting school classrooms where 4-H meets and building a utility shed for the 4-H gardening project. Some fun too including access to Mount Kilimanjaro and a safari experience.

Chaperones: Dr. Jeff Howard, State 4-H Director, will accompany the group along with a state youth development specialist and potentially one additional Extension faculty member.

Other items to be mindful of:

Many of the places we will stay will be un-airconditioned (although the temp at the time we will be there will be fairly mild), no hot water, and non-western toilets. Sleeping at night will require a mosquito net. During the day, delegates are expected to apply an insect repellent and sun block.

Safety: We selected Tanzania for our inaugural African experience because it is a safe country with a stable government and tourist move freely throughout the country. Tanzania has established 4-H residential camping centers where we can lodge and the program is hubbed from. Our entire experience will be joined by the Tanzanian 4-H coordinators who live locally and speak Swahili and English. The director of Tanzanian 4-H is American educated and lived in the states for over a decade so she understands American culture and expectations.