

## Extension Program-Planning Guidelines, 2021-22

### 4-H Grows Plan

- Planning group involvement depends on individual counties but will include **the 4-H Program Area Committee, Youth Leadership** (County Council, Ambassadors) **Adult Leadership** (Adult Leaders, Booster Club) and other groups.
- The plan will be designed to support program management, volunteer development, and leadership.
- The plan will reflect defined strategies for program marketing and membership growth.
- 4-H Grows is typically an **outreach plan, based on activities and level of evaluation**.
- Enhancing the **local quality experience**.

### 4-H Agriculture and Natural Resource Project Plan

- The ANR Project Coalition will provide program planning and volunteer development guidance.
- The **ANR Project Coalition Tool Kits**, with resources and sample agendas, are available for those who need to form a coalition.
- Agents are encouraged to use other grassroots groups, committees, or task forces as needed to support learning opportunities in livestock projects and other ANR projects outside of livestock.
- The plan will be designed to support and grow the 4-H ANR programs.




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## 4-H Family and Community Health (FCH) Project Plan

- An FCH Project Coalition or Committee will provide **program planning** and **volunteer development guidance**.
- FCH Project Coalition/Committee **Tool Kit**, with resources and sample agendas, are available for those who need to form a coalition.
- The plan will be designed to **support and grow** the 4-H FCH project areas.

### Program Planning: What You Need to Know

- Each county shall have a **4-H Program Area Committee**. This group shall: identify local youth issues, build the county 4-H program through expansion and review, identify and secure resources and interpret and advocate. They will meet at least **three times per year**.
- Plans should be developed to address critical youth issues that have been identified in the county primarily by the 4-H Program Area Committee.
- **Project Coalitions/task forces/committees** to support ANR and FCH project areas should be active planning groups that meet **at least two times a year**. Depending on county staffing and program priorities, there may be a need for other focused project plans with a dedicated project coalition planning group.
- Each county shall implement **4-H Enrichment Curriculum** projects in partnership with schools and in a classroom setting. These projects should be relevant to local youth issues and include **5 sequential learning experiences**, each **at least 30 minutes** in length with a total of at least **2 hours of educational experiences**. These projects may be included in a specific youth subject matter plan or they may be included in a separate outreach or in-depth plan.
- The bulk of the 4-H experience happens at the **local level**; therefore, it is important that youth are provided with a positive, high-quality club experience that will promote greater and long-term participation. In order to support 4-H club managers, counties should be utilizing the **Enhancing the Club Experience** resources available when training and providing support to 4-H club managers.
- **Urban counties** should have at least one plan focused on **mobilizing volunteers** to help implement your program plan.



Each year Texas 4-H impacts more than 500,000 students.

by participating in 4-H, these students are statistically

- 5x more likely to graduate college,
- 4x more likely to actively contribute to their community,
- 3x more likely to be physically active,
- and 2x more likely to pursue a career in science, engineering, or computer-related fields.