

# 4-H TLC Council





## What is a 4-H Council?

The 4-H Program utilizes many tools or methods to provide educational experiences for youth. A 4-H Council at county, district, and state levels is one of these tools. The Council provides a link between local clubs or groups and County 4-H Programs. County Programs and State 4-H Programs. A Council is an elected representative group of 4-H members who meet, discuss, plan, and assist in carrying out 4-H programs and activities in the interest of the membership.

## Why a 4-H Council?

Participation in a 4-H Council provides the means for the personal growth of 4-H members through citizenship and leadership activities. Teens are looking for leadership roles and are interested in returning something to 4-H. Council participation gives 4-H'ers the opportunity to exercise their leadership knowledge and be of valuable assistance to 4-H Programs. As in all Extension programs, the purpose of the 4-H Program is to meet the needs of local people. Through the Council's activities the interests and concerns of young people can be learned and the Program's goals accomplished.

## The purposes of a 4-H Council include the following:

- Serving as a youth advisory group to provide feedback from membership on 4-H programs.
- Providing an opportunity for an idea exchange and sharing between clubs, groups, counties, and districts.
- Representing 4-H programs with agencies, organizations and groups. The best salesman for the 4-H program is a 4-H'er who has benefited from the experience.
- Assisting in the planning and implementation of 4-H events and activities. Young people are more anxious to participate in events that they help plan and execute.

## Will you be a good Council Delegate?

Good delegates are honest, sincere, friendly, and loyal. They give everyone a chance to help and let the members of the local club help decide what the council will do. Good delegates get things done right and on time. They are proud of their jobs and always try to do their best. They work with their 4-H Leaders to plan and carry out the council programs.

Delegates to the 4-H Council are representatives, not only of the local club, but also of the entire 4-H organization. Their skills and abilities, standards and ideals, grooming, speech, and even their smiles, represent the best in 4-H'ers and their club programs. Council delegates represent 4-H to the people in the community, at school, and at public events like 4-H Festivals, Talent Days, and fairs. This representation is one of your most important responsibilities, because to other people you are a 4-H'er all of the time, not just while you are in a 4-H meeting. serving as a 4-H Council delegate gives you a real opportunity to develop leadership abilities that will be useful in any organization when you become an adult.

### Qualities of Good Council Delegates 4-H needs council delegates who will:

- *Serve* – the council best during the year and not ride on successes of the past.
- *Work* – with all 4-H'ers and give everyone an opportunity to participate.
- *Share* – leadership with many and thereby give others an opportunity to grow.
- *Represent* – the best interests of the council to others.
- *Help* – Plan a program that the membership can support wholeheartedly.
- *Work* – with the officers, executive committee members, and leaders.
- *Try* – their best to make the meetings worthwhile and interesting.
- *Be* – Dependable.

How do you measure by this yardstick? Ask yourself, "Do I have the following desirable qualities?"

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I know my duties and responsibilities?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am I friendly to other 4-H'ers?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I work well with them and they with me?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am I willing to improve so I can be a better council delegate?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I willingly accept responsibilities assigned to me?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I do more than just what is required of me?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I give credit to others for work they do?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am I prompt in arriving at meetings?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Does my appearance inspire respect and confidence?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am I kind, tactful, and courteous?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I say "please" and "thank you" when I should?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Am I fair in my decisions?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I ask for suggestions to improve the meetings?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do I appreciate my leaders and parents for their time, effort, and devotion to 4-H work?

## Responsibilities of all Council Delegates

To be successful, 4-H Council delegates, committees, and members, working under the supervision of leaders, perform many duties. Some important duties are these:

- *Secure* – new members and organize local councils.
- *Plan* – the program for the year.
- *Arrange* – for a meeting place and for the proper care of it.
- *Conduct* – and take part in the meetings.
- *Keep* – the council records and give them to the leaders as required.
- *Help* – every 4-H'er find a place in the council and an opportunity to contribute.
- *Attend* – the 4-H Council training session when it is held in the county.
- *Maintain* – contact with the Extension Office, a good spirit and interest in the council, a good relationship with all individuals and groups,



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