

Dane County 4-H

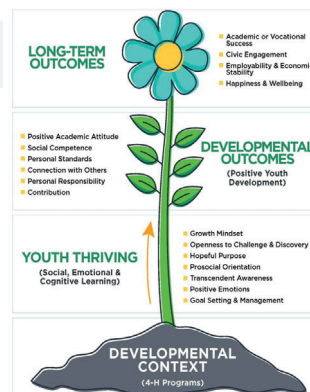
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4-H Thriving Model

The survey measures:
Program Quality (the roots on the flower), **Youth Thriving** (shorter term impact on a youth's social, emotional, and cognitive learning) and longer term **Developmental Outcomes** on 4-H youth.

The survey will not only track impact, but ensure high quality programming continues to be delivered.



Dane County 4-H Youth Survey Results Fall 2024

Sparks 5.04	Belonging 5.63
Caring Adults 5.61	Youth Adult Partnership 5.93

Data was collected via an electronic survey to enrolled members ages 13 years and older using a Scale of 1-7



Feedback from our 4-H youth

I have learned through the years that 4-H is way more than just showing animals, which is what I initially thought it was. I learned about community service, helping the youth through camps and programs, and multiple career opportunities to learn from.

I think creating things gives me joy. Being able to innovate is what gives me energy.

An adult always encouraged me to do my best and try new things.

I learned to try new things even if they seem hard at first.

4-H has been an amazing source of self confidence, it has taught me that I have a voice and when I speak up things can and I will be done!

Dane County 4-H Stats - Aug 2025

- 33 Community Clubs
- Leaders Association
- Horse & Pony Committee
- 918 Youth Members in Grades K-13
- 247 Adult Volunteers



Program Quality

- 4-H Programming are high quality youth development programs that promote:
 - Sparks**
 - Belonging**
 - Relationships**
 - Engagement**





Youth/Adult Partnership

When youth and adults do 4-H work together and everyone grows from the experience, it is a *developmental relationship*.



Youth-Adult Partnership

Creates a Sense of Belonging

Youth voices are heard, enhancing ownership and responsibility.

Builds Relationships

Youth are seen as capable partners, taking active leadership roles working alongside volunteers and staff.

Emphasizes Learning By Doing

Youth and adults gain hands-on experience learning from each other



Dane County 4-H Adult Volunteers

- 247 Approved Volunteers
- Youth-Adult Partnership
- Teamwork, Planning, Leadership



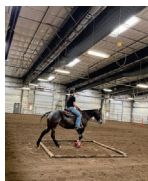
WI 4-H Project Leader Training

- Collaboration with Colleagues
- Statewide Launch 2025
- Skill Building for adults and older youth
- Experiential Learning, Youth-Adult Partnership



Dane County 4-H Animal Education Meetings

- Interactive, Creative Meetings
- Led by youth leaders & adults
- Planning, Communication



Dane County 4-H Camp

- Youth-Adult Partnership
- Teamwork, Planning, Leadership
- Confidence, Caring, Independence





Sparks

4-H Programs help youth learn about new topics, find their passion, and are a big part of who they are.



Dane County 4-H Sparks Days

- Youth Leadership
- 100+ participants/Art & Cake Decorating
- New skills, sharing talents



Dane County 4-H Science Fright Night

- Collaboration - 12 Partners, 21 STEM Activities
- 110 Youth and 80+ adults (20% new to 4-H)
- 21 Youth Volunteers
- Curiosity, Questioning



Dane County 4-H UW Partnerships

- DC Smith Greenhouse
- Allen Centennial Garden
- UW Entomology
- UW Biotechnology
- UW Physics
- UW Space Place
- UW Neuroscience
- UW Geology Museum



Outreach

Connecting youth to 4-H programs outside of community clubs.

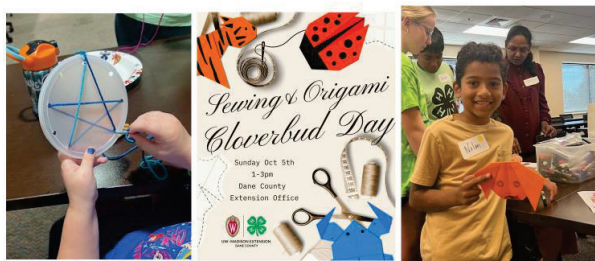


4-H ChickQuest Program

Participating Dane County Afterschool Programs:
 Goodman Community Center, Bridge Lake Point Waunona Neighborhood Center, and Kennedy Heights Community Center



4-H Ambassador & Cloverbud Connection



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Goals in 2025-2026

UW Connections

Build relationships with other UW-Madison departments and colleagues to create more programs that spark interest in possible post-HS opportunities.

Focus on Foods

Use 4-H Foods 101 Curriculum and Project Leader Training to increase the number of club Foods and Nutrition project meetings and youth leaders.

New Clubs

Update new club and promotional resources so volunteers and families involved feel confident starting a new 4-H Club. Goal is to start at least one new club annually.



Thank you!

Any questions?

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