

2025 RES-208

RECOGNIZING THE IMPACT OF 4-H CLUBS, MEMBERS, AND VOLUNTEERS IN DANE COUNTY

WHEREAS, 4-H is a youth leadership organization that empowers young people through opportunities to grow and thrive guided by the Life Skills Model built around the four H's of the 4-H clover, which symbolize Head, Heart, Health, and Hands; and

WHEREAS, annual National 4-H Week was commemorated this year from October 5—October 11, 2025, and highlighted the impact of 4-H programs and the dedication of its volunteers, educators, and supporters; and

WHEREAS, youth participants in Dane County 4-H grow and expand their horizons by developing leadership skills through elected club positions as President, Historian, Treasurer, and more. They also have the opportunity to learn and connect with youth members across the country, which helps them build a global worldview and better understand their roles in the world; and

WHEREAS, Dane County 4-H'ers are active contributors in our communities, learning the importance of volunteerism through various acts of service such as playing BINGO with local senior citizens, cleaning up stretches of highway, making blankets for people in need, and placing flags at local cemeteries to recognize Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, participation in the Dane County Fair teaches 4-H'ers the value of practice, dedication, and organization, as they learn and display their diverse skills and take pride in presenting their projects and animals. 4-H members who show animals enjoy talking with fair attendees about the effort and preparation that went into getting their goat, cow, llama, or rabbit ready to show; and

WHEREAS, through UW Extension programs such as 4-H and the Youth Governance Program, youth build confidence, strengthen their voices, and learn to engage thoughtfully in discussions on complex issues, advocating for themselves and others. Older participants also serve as mentors, modeling leadership and offering guidance to younger members; and

WHEREAS, Dane County 4-H has 918 youth members and 247 adult volunteers representing 33 community clubs, the Youth Governance Program, By Youth For Youth, and the Youth Advocates for Community Health program. These intergenerational partnerships are at the heart of 4-H's success, giving adult mentors and youth members a space to learn, grow, and lead together.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes the 4-H members, volunteers, and UW-Extension staff that continue to make 4-H such a successful and impactful program.

Patrick Miles, Chair
Dane County Board of Supervisor

Signed and sealed before me this
_____ day of _____, 2025.

Scott McDonell,
Dane County Clerk