



WISCONSIN 4-H FOUNDATION

WISCONSIN 4-H LIVESTOCK PROGRAM

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is working to create a fully-funded endowment which will permanently provide resources for livestock-related youth programming.

The Wisconsin 4-H Livestock Endowment Fund will provide resources for livestock-related youth programs, including programming in ag advocacy, quality assurance and record keeping.

The ultimate purpose of the 4-H Livestock Program is to provide opportunities for young people to develop the character and life skills they will need to become successful and contributing members of society.

In 2015, Wisconsin 4-H members had nearly



50,000 livestock projects, including cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry and rabbits. Additionally, the UW-Extension 4-H Youth Development department provided livestock programming, including the quality assurance program to an additional 25,000 Wisconsin youth who are not 4-H members.

Livestock programming is the largest project area in Wisconsin 4-H. Youth livestock programs have long been considered as model programs for youth development and for public understanding of American agriculture. The obvious purpose of 4-H animal projects is to teach young people how to feed, fit and exhibit their animals. The more important purpose is to provide an opportunity for personal growth and development.

WISCONSIN 4-H LIVESTOCK ENDOWMENT



The Wisconsin 4-H Endowment will provide perpetual funding that will support:

- State and regional livestock events and activities.
Examples: Judging contests, Area Animal Science Days, skillathons and quiz bowls.
- Educational programming.
Examples: Livestock Quality Assurance program, Commodity Carnival and management workshops.
- New and emerging opportunities.
Examples: Gateway academy, career exploration opportunities and programs that involve urban youth.

Developing curriculum that is used to educate youth about current issues in agriculture and in food production will build on the already-available curriculum that uses science and technology to study and explore issues related to agriculture, such as water quality and agriculture for a changing climate. Using the network of educators that already access 4-H programming, we can expand the ag education components of the program. These programs use experiential education to raise questions, challenge students to develop hypotheses and offer an opportunity to test theories to reach a conclusion. Experiential learning is a powerful tool that engages students deeply. Development of this program would represent a new direction in ag education that addresses current issues in a true learning environment.

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Generating resources to invest in the positive development of 4-H youth.

A 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Federal tax identification number 39-0914868.

Contributions to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation are deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

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