

UConn 4-H Fact Sheet

Funding in 4-H

FUNDING

Like every program, having appropriate funds to guarantee quality program delivery is crucial. 4-H receives its funding from a host of different contributors including public and private support.

⇒ PUBLIC SUPPORT

The UConn 4-H Program is conducted by the Cooperative Extension System of the University of Connecticut. In 1914 Congress passed the Smith-Lever Act which established the Cooperative Extension Service. This Act set aside funds for developing a 4-H youth development program to encourage rural youth to become interested and proficient in farm and home activities. Funding for the Cooperative Extension System comes from the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Smith Lever Act committed appropriations on the federal and state levels to support it. The state must match dollar-for-dollar the federal appropriations. These funds support salaries of Extension employees as well as maintenance of Extension Centers and basic programming needs.

⇒ PRIVATE SUPPORT

With the dissolution of county government in Connecticut in 1960, private support for 4-H became very important. Cooperative Extension volunteers were instrumental in raising funds to establish local Extension Centers, 4-H Camps and the 4-H Education Center at Auer Farm. Today private support for 4-H in Connecticut continues to play a crucial role in providing youth with exciting and unique learning opportunities.

◆ NATIONAL

National 4-H Council is a non-profit corporation which supports national and state 4-H programs with a focus on fundraising, brand management, communications, and legal and fiduciary services. Council also oversees the National 4-H Conference Center, and the National 4-H Supply Service, the authorized agent for items bearing the 4-H Name and Emblem.

◆ STATE

The 4-H Centennial Fund was established in 2002 in celebration of the 100th birthday of the national 4-H program. The 4-H Centennial Fund is an endowed account consisting of private donations held by the UConn Foundation. Endowments are established with a principal investment donation that remains intact in perpetuity. Interest earned off the principal amount is restricted and used for donor-specified purposes or for specific program needs. The 4-H Centennial Fund is a tremendous asset in sending 4-H members to national 4-H leadership



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conferences and supporting statewide 4-H events and activities.

Gifts can be made to the 4-H Centennial Fund by visiting the UConn 4-H web site at www.4-H.uconn.edu and clicking on “Donate to UConn 4-H”, or by mailing a check made payable to the UConn Foundation, Inc. Please include a note indicating the account name and number (4-H Centennial Fund, #30978) that you would like your donation to go to and mail it to the following address:

The UConn Foundation, Inc.
2390 Alumni Drive, Unit 3206
Storrs, CT 06269-3206

Planned gifts and gifts of stock can also be made to the 4-H program via the UConn Foundation and the 4-H Centennial Fund.

Competitive grant funds also provide substantial support for 4-H programming. Grants provide critical support in establishing after-school and summer programs, support for 4-H military youth and underserved youth in Connecticut as well as new and cutting edge program opportunities.

♦ COUNTY/LOCAL

Local Extension Councils are present in each of the eight counties in Connecticut. The councils serve as vital links between the communities and CES. Representative members of each council exchange and solicit ideas, identify major community needs, support the implementation of programs that best meet local needs, and overall, help people “put knowledge to work.”

Local advisory committees and foundations also raise funds and provide support for 4-H programming needs. 4-H clubs are encouraged to raise funds as well to support their club activities.



ABOUT CONNECTICUT 4-H

UConn 4-H Youth Development serves more than 18,000 Connecticut young people, aged 5 to 19, each year as the youth education program of UConn Extension. 4-H provides non-formal, out of and in-school community-based learning to all 169 cities and towns in the state. Programs are made accessible to youth through the leadership and support of adult volunteers. These volunteers offer learning opportunities that are age-appropriate, experiential/hands-on, and are focused on developing life-skills and open to all youth regardless of geography, ethnicity and ability.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

4-H is led by a unique public-private partnership of the Cooperative Extension System, land-grant universities, federal, state and local government agencies, and foundations. 4-H National Headquarters NIFA provides national program leadership to identify, develop and manage high quality youth development programs, through the extension land-grant system for 4-H. NIFA helps Cooperative Extension System and land-grant universities take research-based knowledge and expertise to identify and address current issues/problems facing youth in rural, suburban and urban communities. National 4-H Council is the private sector, non-profit partner of 4-H at all levels – national, state and local. National 4-H Council works to build stronger 4-H Programs through national fundraising support, marketing and brand management. For information on how to support 4-H contact:

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