



# Teen Focus

Cassie Anderson, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

## Fall 2015



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<http://hancock.osu.edu>

### Dear Teen 4-H Member,

There are lots of different opportunities for you as a 'teen' in Hancock County 4-H. If you are already involved, great! If not, please consider pursuing one or more of the following opportunities.

### Top 5 Reasons to get involved:

1. They are fun!
2. You have the opportunity meet new people from across the county, state, nation, and even internationally
3. You will learn something that will help you now and in the future.
4. You can make a difference in someone else's life.
5. Opportunities for scholarships, trips, awards and great items to list on your resume!

Challenge yourself . . . . . get Involved!

Sincerely,

*Cassie*

Cassie Turner Anderson  
Extension Educator  
4-H Youth Development



### Hancock County Junior Leaders Club

Junior Leaders is open to all teens (they do not have to be current 4-Hers) that are 14 years old and a freshman in High school. The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Hancock County Agricultural Service Center from 7-8:30 p.m. An average meeting starts with the officer led business portion and is followed by a program. The topics are determined by the club members. In 2015 topics included: touring the county jail, workforce skills, mock interviews, cooking lesson, and much more. The group also assists with many events throughout the 4-H program. Junior Leaders is a great club to have a direct say in what you want to learn, develop useful skills, have fun, and make a difference in our community.

### MEETING DATES FOR 2015/2016

- November 18, 2015; Program: Making 4-H work for you: awards, trips, & more
- December 16, 2015; Program: Toledo Zoo Lights Trip (pre-registration required)
- January 20, 2016
- February 17, 2016
- March 16, 2016
- April 20, 2016
- May 18, 2016
- June 15, 2016
- July 20, 2016
- August 17, 2016
- September 21, 2016
- October 19, 2016
- November 16, 2016
- December 21, 2016

### 4-H Camp Counselor Applicants Wanted:

Thinking about serving as a camp counselor in 2016? Now is the time to act! Teens that are at least 14 years old and currently a freshman in high school are eligible to apply. A team of camp counselors will be selected to plan and conduct our Hancock County Jr. Camp being held June 25-29, 2016 at Camp Ohio. Camp counselor candidates will complete a minimum of 24 hours of training. First year counselors will attend training at Camp Ohio on April 22 and 23. All other counselors are encouraged to attend also. Successful counselor candidates will have a portion of their camp fees paid by the 4-H Council. Interviews will be scheduled on December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year candidates will interview with the adult staff and teach a craft, song, game, or other camp related skill. Each candidate will present an idea for a camp theme to the adult staff. We are very excited about the 2016 camp season, and hope you are too. Applications are due no later than 4 p.m. on Nov.16 to the Extension Office. A resume must also be included. Late applications will not be accepted.

#### The draft schedule for training is as follows:

- December 30<sup>th</sup> – 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- January 27<sup>th</sup>- 6-9 p.m.
- February 14-15 - 7 p.m.-7 a.m. **MANDATORY Lock-in**
- March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6-9 p.m.
- March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 6-9 p.m.
- April 6<sup>th</sup> – 6-9 p.m.
- April 27<sup>th</sup> – 6-9 p.m.
- May 25<sup>th</sup> – 6-9 p.m.
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- June 17<sup>th</sup> – 10 a.m. -3 p.m.
- June 21<sup>st</sup> – 10 a.m. -3 p.m.

The application is available via [go.osu.edu/JrCamp](http://go.osu.edu/JrCamp)

### 4-H Council of Hancock County wants YOU!

The 4-H Council serves as the advisory board for the Hancock County 4-H program. They provide guidance with 4-H policy, help with 4-H programming, fundraisers, and fund 4-H programming in the county. This is a great opportunity for you to have a voice in the local 4-H program. We are looking for a youth representative from each school district. You do not have to attend school in the district, just live there. You need to be 14 years old and a freshman in high

school to be nominated. If you are interested or want to nominate someone, please contact the Extension Office by November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Elections for all council positions are held at the Volunteer Banquet (Nov.10). Youth members serve for one year and meet in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

### 4-H Achievement Record – What is it?

#### Why should I complete it?

Scholarships, trips, state level recognition are all potential outcomes of completing the Ohio Achievement Record. The record is a summary of your 4-H career. Your leadership, projects, awards, 4-H participation, and community service are all part of the record. The achievement record can be saved and added to from year to year. The document can be accessed at: [go.osu.edu/OH4Hawards](http://go.osu.edu/OH4Hawards). We will be covering how to complete the record at the November 18th Junior Leader meeting. I will work with individuals that are not able to attend by appointment. Final drafts of the achievement record are due January 19th to the Extension Office. I will review drafts prior to the due date by request.

Completing an Ohio Achievement record is not a quick or easy process. So why should you do it? It will help you develop your writing skills, it makes completing college scholarships much easier, and there are many opportunities for trips and awards. At the county level, achievement records are used to select youth to attend Ohio Leadership Camp, Buckeye Leadership Workshop, Sea Camp, Forestry Camp, and Citizenship Washington Focus. This is about \$5000 in trips members can win. The county awards committee also selects the youth that will represent Hancock County in the State Achievement Award selection in the different project areas for example beef, sheep, photography, woodworking, and many more. The youth that win at the State level will attend the National Club Congress in Atlanta GA.

If you have questions about the Achievement Record process please contact Cassie to discuss.



## Ohio 4-H Teen Advisory Council

The Ohio 4-H Teen Advisory Council (TAC) is the highest youth decision-making and advisement body in the state's 4-H program. Select teens from across the state work together to improve Ohio 4-H programming, administration, and relevance to youth in today's society through cooperation with State 4-H leaders, active support of new and innovative 4-H programming, and advocacy for 4-H and youth issues. The TAC's officers establish and moderate the agenda for the Council membership with the support of the TAC advisor and associate advisors. Applications for the Ohio 4-H Teen Advisory Council are due during the summer. If this sounds like an opportunity for you please contact Cassie in the spring for more information.

### An ideal TAC candidate has the following qualities and characteristics:

- 1) Age and experience
  - a) Be at least 15 years-old or a sophomore in high school, but not yet 19 years old, by January 1 of the year when her/his term would begin.
  - b) Have been an active member of Ohio 4-H for at least 24 consecutive months by January 1 of the year when her/his term would begin.
  - c) We encourage TAC applicants to be former or outgoing members of the Ohio 4-H Ambassadors and Ohio 4-H State Fashion Board, but service on these state-level groups is not a requirement.
- 2) County 4-H professional support (with a signature and a letter), and an additional letter of support from an adult advisor/teacher/coach who knows you well.
- 3) An interest in state level 4-H youth governance, representing peers & the Ohio teen perspective, supporting youth 4-H endeavors around the state and across state lines, and demonstrating the initiative to create new opportunities for the TAC and Ohio 4-H.

- 4) Independently or with family support, have the ability to travel to Columbus and across the state, to engage in phone calls and teleconferences with TAC members and 4-H'ers across the state, to send and receive email messages from a personal email account.
- 5) Self-starting personality, a strong work ethic, and the interest and ability to fit TAC work—both independent and group work—into the daily/weekly schedule.

### Consider becoming an Ohio 4-H Ambassador

Ohio 4-H Ambassadors are the youth spokespersons for Ohio 4-H. Each year outstanding 4-H teens who demonstrate excellence in 4-H achievement, citizenship, and leadership earn invitations to become Ohio 4-H Ambassadors.

Being a 4-H Ambassador is both an honor and a responsibility. Ambassadors serve as speakers, emcees, program facilitators, hosts or hostesses, committee members, and in many other youth leadership roles for 4-H and Extension programs and events throughout the state. Ohio 4-H Ambassadors are also tremendous role models who maintain the highest standards of excellence as they fulfill their 4-H pledge commitments of clear thinking, great loyalty, large service, and better living to make the best better in their clubs, communities, country, and world.

### All Ohio 4-H teens are eligible to apply who:

- a) are high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors on January 1 of the year of application,
- b) are approved by their 4-H Educators as good representatives of the Ohio 4-H Youth Development Program,
- c) accept the invitation to be State 4-H Ambassadors,
- d) agree to meet the terms and conditions of the program, and
- e) agree to participate in and complete the State 4-H Ambassadors Orientation

Applications for the 2016 State Ambassador Team will be posted in December 2015 at Ohio 4-H and will be due late January. Contact Cassie if you are interested in applying.



### Ohio Youth Capital Challenge – Will you be one of 50 youth chosen from across Ohio?

Exceptional community citizenship is one of the values that makes FFA, 4-H and Farm Bureau such successful organizations. These groups are partnering to bring the Ohio Youth Capital Challenge to you. Here is your chance to get involved and have a hands-one experience that will enable you to make your community a better place.

Applicants must be in at least the ninth grade and between the ages of 14 and 18 during the 2015-2016 schoolyear. Applicants are expected to have concern for local community issues and a desire to be more involved. Cost to youth is \$30 upon selection. Up to 50 youth will be selected for the challenge.

Participants will need to be ready to travel to Columbus for Phase One of the challenge. They will work in their assigned team during the following months developing a policy and presentation. Teams then will come together in Columbus to present. The winning teams will compete at the Ohio State Fair for cash prizes.

For more information on how to apply talk to Cassie, applications are due January 11, 2016. The application will be posted to our website soon.

### Looking to next year – think about becoming a Junior Fair Board member

Congratulations to the newly selected 2015/2016 Junior Fair Board Members! The applications for the 2016/2017 board will be available during the 2016 fair. The due date is usually mid-September. Junior Fair Board members work on planning and implementing the junior fair program each year. They meet monthly, conduct service projects, and fundraisers for their budget. Any youth in a Junior Fair organization is eligible; members must be at least 14 years old and a freshman in high school. This is a great local opportunity.



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TDD No. 800-589-8292 (Ohio only) or 614-292-1868