

## This is 4-H

### MISSISSIPPI 4-H CORE COMPETENCIES UNIT 1

Slides referenced in each of the following divisions will be found in the "PowerPoint Presentations" section of Unit 1.

#### History of the Cooperative Extension Service

Mississippi 4-H Volunteer  
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Slides 2-8

#### **Who is the Cooperative Extension Service?** (Slide 3)

The Morrill Act established the first land-grant colleges in 1862. Land Grant colleges were mandated so all people would have affordable education.

Mississippi State University is the Land Grant University, which was established as a result of that original Act.

The Cooperative Extension Service was established in 1914 as a result of the Smith-Lever Act.

In 1890, Land Grant colleges were established for Black students. In areas where historically black schools were in place, they were often designated as the 1890 school. Mississippi's 1890 institution is Alcorn State University.

#### **Purpose for the Mississippi State University Extension Service** (Slide 4)

Education – The primary purpose for the Extension Service is to bring research based information to the citizens of Mississippi.

The information is presented to youth and adults through formal and non-formal educational settings, community involvement, and affiliated organizations.

#### **What does "Cooperative Extension Service" mean?** (Slide 5-6)

Cooperative refers to funding being received from multiple levels and sources: federal, state, and county government.

Federal – public tax funds through United States Department of Agriculture.

State – public tax funds through Mississippi State University Extension Service.

County – public tax funds provided through county government.

## Who is MSUES? MSUES is Mississippi State University Extension Service.

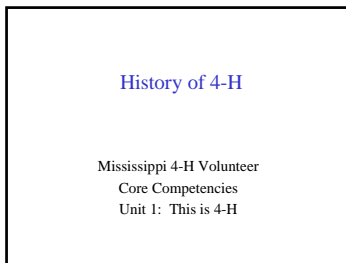
(Slide 7)

Four major program areas of MSUES:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Enterprise and Community Resource Development
- 4-H Youth Development

## Participation in MSUES Programs (Slide 8)

Mississippi State University Extension Service does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, or veteran status.



Slides 9-13

## History of 4-H? (Slide 9)

4-H was originally a means for reaching adults, through their children, with improved home and farm practices.

## Evolution of 4-H (Slide 10)

1902 Boys and Girls Clubs were established.

1907 Mississippi's first 4-H Club was organized in Holmes County by William H. "Corn Club" Smith, who secured the first federal dollar for 4-H. Eighty-two boys exhibited their corn in the county fair in Lexington. The average yield was 120 bushels per acre.

1908 The first Poultry Club was organized in Lee County.

1909 The first pig club was organized in Oktibbeha County.

1911 Young women joined the club movement and the first tomato clubs were organized in Copiah and Lincoln County.

1911 4-H and the clover were officially adopted.

1914 4-H found a permanent home when the Smith Lever Act established the Cooperative Extension Service. 4-H Boys and Girls Clubs became a part of the Agriculture (Cooperative) Extension Service.

1972 4-H's focus was broadened and deepened to include various ages, interests, and geographic locations.

## What is 4-H

(Slides 11-12)

4-H is the youth development component of Mississippi State University Extension Service.

4-H is the largest youth serving organization in the world. 4-H is available in all 50 states and more than 80 countries worldwide.

4-H's primary purpose is education and youth development.

Education is achieved through:

- Individual project work in the following areas: Plant and Animal, Science and Technology, Citizenship and Civic Education, Environment Education, Healthy Lifestyle Education, Consumer and Family Sciences, Personal Development and Leadership, and Communication and Expressive Arts.
- Local clubs – groups of youth who meet on a regular basis for fun and learning.
- County, district, state activities, and events – educational programs and competitive events. The District Project Achievement Days and the State 4-H Congress are conducted to provide forms of evaluation and motivation for an individual's project work.
- Short-term/Special Interest programs – directed at a specific need and interest for the time required to achieve the objective.
- School Enrichment – programs designed to supplement school curriculums.
- Mass Media – delivered to youth via television, newspaper, Internet, or other media.

## Who can be in 4-H? (Slide 13)

Membership is open to youth ages 5 to 18 as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.

8-18 year olds participate in competitive events.

5-7 year olds participate in a non-competitive program called 4-H Cloverbuds or pre-4-H members.

What is a 4-H Club?

Mississippi 4-H Volunteer  
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## Purpose of a 4-H Club (Slide 15)

A 4-H club is the local group in which 4-H members learn leadership and cooperation through fun and educational programs.

Slides 14-25

4-H club activities encourage members to:

- develop decision-making skills
- cooperate in group or team efforts
- practice and refine leadership abilities

- develop skills in group communications
- try new and different ideas
- gain new knowledge and skills
- take pride in group or team endeavors
- build self-confidence

### **Types of 4-H clubs** (Slide 16)

There are three types of 4-H clubs:

- Community Club – traditional method of reaching and teaching youth with diverse set of interests
- Project Club – group of individuals with a specialized interest in one area
- Short-term Special Interest Club – directed at a specific need or interest for a short period of time

### **What is a Chartered 4-H Club** (Slide 17)

A chartered 4-H Club is a club that has met the established requirements for being a 4-H club.

- Complete and submit an Application for 4-H Club Charter to the state 4-H office. (F-772)

For a club to maintain its charter they will be expected to:

- Complete and submit monthly 4-H Club Meeting Report, (F-573).
- Actively recruit and meet regularly with volunteers and youth from a variety of racial, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic groups.
- Complete an end of year report of club activities.
- Provide an annual financial accounting of club funds.
- Annually enroll 4-H members and volunteers.
- Encourage team of parents/volunteers to participate in Parent-Volunteer training opportunities.

A 4-H Meeting should be: (Slide 18)

- Scheduled on a regular/consistent date, time, and place.
- Run by the youth officers, with supervision and instruction from positive and caring adult volunteers.
- Educational
- Fun and enjoyable for members and families.
- An opportunity for recognition and peer support.
- Well organized.
  - Planned in advance
  - Start and end on time
  - Move briskly
  - Use parliamentary procedure
  - Informative and educational



## Mississippi 4-H On TRAC – Taking Revitalization to All Clubs

Refer to the outline "4-H On TRAC." and the Self Study Series 1E for more information regarding club structure and function. The power point slides/transparencies may be located in the section "Power Point Presentations."

Slides 19-25

### Parts of a 4-H Club Meeting (Slide 20)

#### Business

Opening ceremony – Pledges

Monthly business meeting

#### Educational Program

Speeches/demonstrations done by members

Lesson or program that could include one or more of the following:

Judging activity

Guest speaker, video, etc.

Group activity to learn by doing

Tour

#### Recreation & Refreshments

Games, songs, etc.

Snacks or meal

### 4-H Pledge (Slide 21)

I pledge

My head to clearer thinking,

My heart to greater loyalty,

My hands to larger service, and

My health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

### Local 4-H Club Structure (Slides 22-25)

#### Leadership Structure of a Local 4-H Club

- Organizational Leader – provides the primary leadership for the 4-H club. They coordinate, guide, and provide leadership for the local club. Their most important role is to encourage, involve, and develop other volunteers.
- Activity Leader – provide leadership for planning and coordinating an activity through a committee of youth and adults. (Talent Contest, Picnic, Service-Learning Project, etc.)
- Project Leader – provide the leadership in learning and educating members in a specific subject matter.
- Teen Leader – assist local leadership, as skills are acquired may serve as an activity, project, and organizational leader.
- Membership and families – actively participate in club meetings, committees, and activities. Share time, talents, and skills with club.

Structure of County 4-H Program

Mississippi 4-H Volunteer  
Core Competencies  
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## **The Big Picture** (Slide 27)

See Power Point slide for the flow-chart of the organizational structure of 4-H.

Slides 26-33

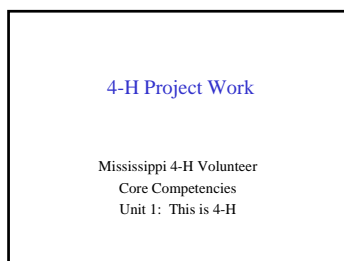
## **County 4-H Structure** (Slide 28-33)

**VOLUNTEER LEADERS ASSOCIATION** – Organized body of volunteers who provide program assistance and leadership at the county level. This organization may be called an association. Many county committees will evolve from the leadership of this group. The committees may be composed of 4-H members, 4-H volunteers, 4-H parents, interested community leaders, and available resource people in the county. The committees are responsible for planning, conducting, and evaluating activities and events. Evaluation will include a final report to the Volunteer Leaders Association with recommendations for future programs. The VLA promotes healthy youth-adult partnership with the Junior 4-H Council involving young people as active participants on county committees. Refer to Self Study Series 1C for more information regarding the VLA.

**PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL** – Body of interested adults and youth who are representative of the county geographically and ethnically. The group involves representatives of the 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association, the Junior 4-H Council, other youth organizations, and community agencies servicing youth and families. The group analyzes the needs and concerns of the 4-H program in the county and makes recommendations.

**JUNIOR 4-H COUNCIL** – Usually composed of officers from each club, headed by the elected club 4-H officers. The group functions in program assistance and leadership at the county level. The group works in cooperation with Volunteer Leaders Association. Youth are active participants on county planning committees.

**COUNTY ACTIVITY AND EVENT COMMITTEES** – Volunteers who serve on and chair these committees have added leadership responsibility for county-wide program planning and decision-making. Number and type of committees vary; they may be related to volunteer training, projects, activities, resources or publicity.



Slides 34-41

## **Why Do Project Work?** (Slide 35)

4-H projects are the door to the child and the foundation of the 4-H program.

4-H projects are the “Learn by Doing” component of 4-H.

Projects are a tool for helping boys and girls develop into more capable adults by teaching them how to set goals, make decisions, follow through with commitment, evaluate, and report.

Project work teaches desirable habits and attitudes.

Projects focus on helping members learn to help themselves, which leads to learning to help others.

### **The Purpose of 4-H Projects** (Slide 36)

A blue ribbon 4-H'er with a red ribbon pig is more desirable than a red ribbon 4-H'er with a blue ribbon pig.

4-H projects develop life skills of

- Decision making
- Goal Setting
- Planning, implementing, and evaluating
- Accepting responsibility
- Communicating
- Teamwork and Cooperation
- Record keeping

### **Goals and Objectives of Projects** (Slide 37)

- Develop Skills
- Learn by Doing
- Gain Knowledge
- Accept Responsibility
- Create Ownership
- Explore Careers
- Provide Sense of Achievement and Accomplishment
- Create Family and Community Ties

### **How to Select a Project** (Slide 38)

Consider the following when selecting a project:

- Interests, needs, and capabilities of the member
- Opportunity for sufficient challenge and growth
- Family situation
- Availability of adequate financing
- Availability of equipment and space
- Availability of leadership for the project

### **4-H Project Provides Opportunities** (Slide 39-40)

4-H projects provide opportunities for:

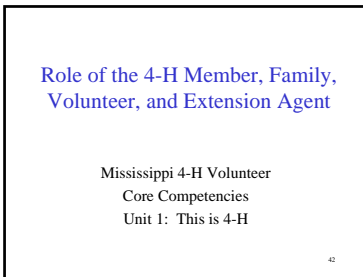
- Developing subject matter skills
- Life Skills Development
- Participation
- Developing communication skills

- Keeping records
- Sharing ideas
- Productive leisure time
- Recognition

### **Parent's Role in Project Work** (Slide 41)

Parent's role in project work:

- Aid in selecting, financing, and managing
- Guide work at home. Do not do the project work.
- Encourage follow-through and completion.
- Give praise and encouragement.
- Assist in gathering tools and supplies
- Encourage record keeping
- Provide support and transportation
- Assist organizational, project and activity leaders
- Become a project or activity leader
- Serve on committees to plan and implement club activities or project meetings
- Become a certified 4-H volunteer



Slides 42-48

### **4-H Roles** (Slide 43)

- 4-H Member
- Family
- Certified Volunteer
- Volunteer
- Extension Agent

**4-H Member** (Slide 44) Take responsibility for setting goals, working toward the goals, keeping records, and being a role model in deeds and actions.

### **Role of the 4-H Family** (Slide 45)

Encourage participation in 4-H programs at the local and county level, and to assist in the development of the 4-H member.

Support local and county 4-H program through time, talent, and financial support.

Work cooperatively with other families and 4-H volunteers.

Participate in Volunteer Training to enhance personal knowledge.

### **Certificate of Training for 4-H Volunteer** (Slide 46)

The Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Certificate of Training process is a means for recruiting, selecting, and training volunteers who work with 4-H members.

To maintain certification, volunteers must annually participate in Volunteer Training opportunities, enroll in their county program, review and agree to accept and follow the Mississippi 4-H Behavioral Guidelines, and participate in volunteer organization.

**Role of the 4-H Volunteer** (Slide 47)

Provide leadership to the local and county 4-H program. Leadership will include planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating programs and activities.

Work cooperatively with 4-H families, volunteers, and Extension Agents.

Participate in Volunteer Training to enhance personal knowledge of 4-H and to assist in the development of 4-H members.

**Role of the Extension Agent and Program Associate** (Slide 48)

Extension Agents are responsible for the management, leadership, and direction of the total 4-H Youth Development program in the county.

Extension Program Associate works with the 4-H program under the supervision of the County Extension Agent in the development of the county program.

Provide Volunteer Training at the county, district, and state levels. Training shall provide the tools and knowledge that parents and volunteers need to successfully implement, maintain, and develop 4-H clubs and members.

Provide the support and training for the implementation of a volunteer led program at the local and county level.

Work cooperatively with volunteers, families, and 4-H members.

**Teaching Outline:**  
**This Is 4-H**  
**Core Competencies – Unit 1**



**PowerPoint Presentation Support**

- Parent–Volunteer Training – “This Is 4-H” Core Competencies Unit 1
- This is 4-H Trivia
- Trivia Game Template

**Parent Self Study**

- 1A The 4-H Organization
- 1B A 4-H Club Meeting
- 1C County Parent–Volunteer Organization
- 1D 4-H Projects
- 1E Club Program Planning
- 1F 4-H Roles and Responsibilities

**Handouts**

- 4-H On TRAC Instructional Publication – Microsoft Publisher
- 4-H ON TRAC Local Club Planning Guide
- 4-H Parents – Microsoft Publisher
- 4-H Volunteers and Parents Ad – Microsoft Publisher

**Resources**

- “This is 4-H” Trivia Questions and Answers
- BIENVENIDOS A 4-H – Video Tape
- Mississippi 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Series
  - Welcome
  - About 4-H
  - Teamwork
  - Volunteers
  - Planning
  - Parents
  - Meetings
  - The Group
  - Projects

**Continued next page**

## **Resources (cont.)**

- **Activities**
- **Incentives**
- **Visibility**
- **Success**
- **Celebration**
- **Helps**

## **Newsletter**

- **See Newsletter Support Material Section for specific newsletter support material**

## **Evaluation**

- **See Knowledge Based Evaluations For Volunteers – Unit 1**
  - **A 4-H Club Meeting**
  - **4-H Project Work**
  - **4-H Roles and Responsibilities**
  - **Club Program Planning**
  - **County Parent-Volunteer Organization**
  - **History of Extension and 4-H**