

County Volunteer Leaders Association

COUNTY VOLUNTEER LEADERS ASSOCIATION – This organization is a body of parents and volunteers who provide program assistance and leadership for the total county 4-H program in cooperation with Extension Agents. Many county committees will evolve from this leadership group.

The committee may be composed of 4-H members, 4-H volunteers, 4-H parents, interested community leaders, and available resource people in the county. The county volunteer organization should encourage and promote a healthy youth-adult partnership with the Junior Council. They are encouraged to involve young people as active participants on county committees. This organization may be called an association, organization or council.

A committee should be thoroughly familiar with the task it is to perform, and allowed to perform that task without interference. The Extension Agent should provide a job description for the committee chair and a list of committee responsibilities. The committee will be responsible for planning, conducting, and evaluating the activity or event. Evaluation will include a final report to the County Volunteer organization with recommendations for future programs.

The County Volunteer Leaders Association must understand and accept the plans that a committee makes and assist the committee in carrying them out. The County Volunteer Leaders Association should be prepared to accept reasonable decisions presented by the committee.

If the action of the committee is not acceptable to the organization, the matter should be referred back to the committee for further study. It is not the organization's responsibility to try to make the changes or resolve an issue at a regular meeting.

Committees are kept active and interested when there is an organized way to replace membership on a rotation plan. People need to have the opportunity to indicate their preferences in committee assignments.

Standing committees are recommended for managing a large portion of a county 4-H program. Standing committees would include each of the county activities and events. The number and types of committees vary. There should be one committee for each major county activity and event. Possible committees will include 4-H Volunteer Training, 4-H Project Training, Talent Contest, Fashion Review, Public Speaking, Publicity, 4-H Awards and Recognition, etc. Sub-committees are formed within a standing committee so that a large task becomes more manageable.

Special committees are suggested when an *out-of-the-ordinary* task needs to be addressed. Special committees are dismissed as soon as the job is complete.

EXPANSION/REVIEW COMMITTEE – The ERC is a body of interested adults and youth who are representative of the county geographically and ethnically. The group involves representatives of the County Volunteer Leaders Association, the 4-H Junior Council, other youth organizations, and community agencies serving youth and families. The group analyzes the needs and concerns of the 4-H Youth Development program in the county and makes recommendations.

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

The primary purpose for a youth council is the development of leadership and decision-making skills and opportunities for responsibility. A youth council provides opportunities to grow and develop with the guidance of caring adults. Teens want to be involved in the decision making process, they want adult responsibilities, and to be respected for their thoughts and ideas. Teens act as young adults when treated with adult respect and responsibility. When given an opportunity, a youth council can address the needs and concerns of their peers with constructive ideas for improving the total county 4-H program.



**Important
People**

4-H Volunteers

4-H Volunteers needed to

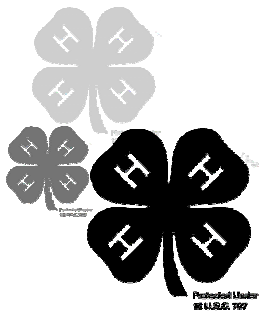
- **Create learning environment for youth and adults**
- **Structure learning experiences for youth and adults**
- **Help the learner interact with the information**

Mississippi 4-H Program is committed to providing County Volunteer Training on the local, county, district and state levels. The training opportunities provide individuals with positive social interaction with their peers and an opportunity to exchange ideas. For your personal development and 4H skill enhancement watch your county newsletter for details and



Check out Mississippi 4-H home page <http://msucares.com> for district and state events.

**Mississippi State University Extension Service
4H Youth Development
[www.http://msucares.com](http://msucares.com)**



Review Questions Unit 1C

Name _____ County _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Club _____ Phone _____

E-mail Address _____ Date Completed _____

A minimum of three (3) 4-H Volunteer Self Study Lessons may be completed as one of the three necessary trainings required to maintain active status as a Certified 4-H Volunteer. The completed review questions from each lesson must be filed annually by the date specified by your county office.

The purpose of the County Volunteer Leaders Association is:

Who will be the members of county 4-H committees?

Committees of the County Volunteer Leaders Association are for _____, _____, and _____ activities and events.

The final responsibility of the committee will be to write and submit reports to what organization?

Identify 3 types of standing committees.

What is the purpose for the County Advisory Council?

What is the purpose for a 4-H Foundation?

What is the primary purpose for Junior Council?

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