



### We Are Growing 4-H

**INVEST**  
in New Hampshire's  
future



**Invest in  
New Hampshire 4-H**

[4Hfoundation.org](http://4Hfoundation.org)



We are often so busy, we don't take the time to reflect both on our challenges and our achievements. In preparation for the 4-H Alumni Reunion, I had lots of opportunities to reflect and project on the path the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire board of directors has taken and is leading us into the future.

In 2004, the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire and the rest of the state was starting to see a recovery from the two previous years of recession. There were no payouts from our endowments and our donors were loyal but giving at a smaller level.

Fast forward 10 years..... the market value of the Foundation's endowments has grown by \$250,000. The annual revenue generation grew by almost \$64,000. What does this mean for program?

The board has continued to support the trips to National Congress, Conference, and Dairy Conference, support national competitive teams in dairy and equine, and many in-state events including volunteer leader training and recognition.

New programming has been funded to support Animal Science Bonanza, Sea Perch, and other robotics programs, All About Dogs Weekend, the National Science Day Experiment, Healthy Living national summits and instate events. They have also increased their commitment to State 4-H Teen Conference and camp scholarships.

The future is bright as the board sets its fundraising goal this year at \$150,000, hoping to double that over the next five years. This goal can be reached because of the outstanding donor base we currently have, which continues to grow. There have been increases in participation in 4-H Foundation fundraising events such as the Tom Fairchild Friend of 4-H Golf Tournament and 4-H Night at a UNH men's hockey game. Special thanks is extended to the "4-H Family" who supports the foundation through its contributions from 4-H clubs, 4-H leader groups and county 4-H foundations, reaching over \$9,000 this year.

It is an exciting time to be executive director of the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire and I commend the dedication demonstrated by members of the board to set such goals and chart the way to achieve them.

Thank you to all donors who believe in maintaining a vibrant New Hampshire 4-H youth development program that grows confidence, competence, connection, character, and caring in the 4-H'ers that leads them to be contributing members of their communities.

Sincerely,

*Wendy L. Brock*



Wendy L. Brock  
Executive Director

## Just the figures

The yearly activities and events are important components of the 4-H Youth Development Program.

Listed below are participation figures from this past year for 4-H Foundation-supported events.

### National

4-H Conference - 4 youth  
4-H Congress - 5 youth  
National Dairy Conference- 4 youth  
Dairy Judging - 4 youth  
Horse Quiz Bowl - 4 youth  
Hippology - 4 youth  
Horse Communications – 4 youth

### Regional

ESE Livestock - 92 youth  
ESE New England Center - 54 youth  
NE Regional Horse Contest - 15 youth

### State

Activities Day - 167 youth  
All About Dogs -50 youth  
Barry Conservation Camp - 234 youth  
Dairy Judging - 30 youth  
Dairy Show - 65 youth  
Dairy Quiz Bowl - 42 youth  
Hippology Contest - 26 youth  
Horse Judging Contest - 34 youth  
Horse Show - 82 youth  
Horse Quiz Bowl - 42 youth  
Shooting Sports Certification - 56  
Teen Conference - 174 youth

An additional 400 adult volunteers supported the above events.

### 4-H Foundation Board Members 2014-2015

Regina Smick-Attisano, Chair, Lee  
Jon Ring, Vice-chair, Exeter  
Katherine Thomas, Secretary, Spofford  
David Bishop, Bedford  
Rolf Carlson, Amherst  
Lindsay D'Anna, Milford  
Emily Gibson, Lee  
Todd Hammond, Chichester  
Ian McShane, Hanover  
John Porter, Boscawen  
Charles Powell, Manchester  
Chris Streeter, Hancock  
Stephen Wheeler, Concord  
Wendy Brock, Executive Director

## Today, I Saw that the Future of 4-H is Going to be Amazing by Ray Hackett

Bringing my past to meet the present—4-H has done it again for me, only better.

Judging the New Hampshire State 4-H horse show served me many reasons to love the life that is on my plate.

The honor of judging 4-H shows has helped my life to feel complete for many years and is literally what I live to do, but today was special.

I was told that one exhibitor in the small equine division was going to be in a motorized wheelchair, was visually challenged, and would have a handler on the other side of his miniature companion horse.

My heart melted as I judged him in his first few classes. I of course wanted to give him special consideration for the tasks at hand, but I did my best to balance everything as fairly as could be with my placings, feeling he would not want to be treated different.

I listened to his assistant giving him verbal cues and beamed as I saw him respond in earnest. The crowd and I could feel and see his determination.

The In-hand jumping class started and he was third to go. His mighty small equine companion cleared each fence from a standstill with ease and purpose. I know everyone else watching could feel the same goosebumps rising on their arms. He was the only one who got a clear round with no refusals and received a “First place blue” Danish-style ribbon. The crowd cheered and his enormous smile embraced your heart in the most amazing way.

We all have special needs, let's face it. We are all different and we are all driven for the same core reasons. Today we were blessed to see the reason why we need to remember that we can overcome anything with the right loving, determined attitude.

Today reminded me of why I love the ideals 4-H sets forth. They were planted in me the first day I learned what 4-H was all about and why I was drawn to it. Today I saw that 4-H really is always striving “to make the best better.”

Today, I saw that the future of 4-H is going to be amazing.



## New Hampshire 4-H Clubs Do Make A Difference

New Hampshire 4-H clubs, members, and volunteers take the 4-H Pledge very seriously when it comes to making a difference in their communities. As we think of the essential elements that make a strong and positive youth development program, two important ones are a sense of belonging and a sense of generosity.

4-H members learn how to develop respect for the uniqueness of others, and more importantly, embrace the opportunity to help them while developing their own teamwork skills. One hundred thirty-one clubs responded to a 4-H club survey and 92 percent completed at least one community service project in the past year as a group, for a total of 355 different club community service projects.

4-H youth spent more than 18,560 hours and adults spent more than 14,270 hours conducting these community service projects.



“Civic responsibility is a strength of our society—community service improves our lives and the lives of others,” says Katarina Vogel.

“Random Acts of Kindness—doing good for other people every day is as important as a big one-time project,” says one volunteer leader.

“Our club raises poultry at school and donates all the eggs collected to our school food pantry.”

*Lion Cubs 4-H Club of Coös County work on clean-up of Center Cemetery.*

Eighty-five percent of enrolled volunteers responded to the survey. In total, they provided 54,138.75 hours of volunteer service to all levels of the program, club, county, and state programming with an economic value of \$1,237,611 (based on

the 2013 independent sector volunteer value of \$22.68).\*

“Our club got the community involved in writing thank you notes for soldiers overseas.”

“We participate in Ice Harvest at Remick Museum, coordinate families to attend with cattle and speak with visitors about the role working steers had in the past as related to ice harvest and how they are used today.”

The 4-H members put together a presentation for the local high school and middle school PTO organizations about the risks of texting and driving.

\*On average an enrolled 4-H volunteer provides 70 hours of service, well above the national average of 50 hours of service per volunteer, as reported through the Bureau of Labor Statistics 2013. Overall as a program this equates to 15,400 hours above and beyond what volunteers give to other similar organizations.



*Teen Conference volunteers were kept busy checking schedules.*



**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.**

## Today's Leaders ..... Tomorrow's Future

The New Hampshire State 4-H Teen Council is a group elected by their peers. The group works with adult advisors creating a youth and adult partnership that sets common goals.

The council has the opportunity to put into practice all the life skills they have been learning throughout their 4-H experience, especially while they plan the annual State 4-H Teen Conference.



“As a young 4-H'er, my participation in 4-H helped me to overcome shyness to the point where now I am a member of the 4-H Teen Council for the state of New Hampshire to help plan and organize the 2015 NH Teen Conference,” says Grace Flynn.

In observing the group, one first notices the respect demonstrated as they move through tough decisions. The group quickly learns the value of teamwork and how to agree to disagree, but come to common consensus supported by the group.

This group accepts the challenge of planning a conference that is “by teens, for teens.” Acknowledging that 4-H'ers come from cities or small towns, enjoy livestock or building a rocket, are homeschooled or attend large public schools, pay attention to detail whether making a dress or taking a photo, they have a common bond when coming to UNH for the conference. They want to meet others who have the same interests, accept their uniqueness and are challenged to try things they never could do in their home town.

“Through Teen Council, I am learning self-reliance and responsibility. Teen Council continues to help me move out of my comfort zone,” says MaryClaire Attisano.

As the council hosts a delegation of about 200 youth and adults they become ambassadors of the 4-H program, they demonstrate their teaching skills as they help present workshops, they learn how to build a budget and live within that budget, they polish their public speaking skills using a microphone in a large auditorium, they operate on little sleep while maintaining an upbeat “we can do it” attitude while at the same time having fun!



These young role models are an inspiration to all who attend. The adult chaperones often say “I could never do that at their age. Our future is bright because these and other 4-H'ers will be taking on the leadership roles in our communities and places of business. They show us an optimistic future.”

“4-H has given me the opportunity through fair presentations, community service volunteering, Teen Council, Rockingham County Foundation, and other experiences to develop my diplomatic and leadership skills for my community and individual growth,” adds Katarina Vogel.

