

Celebrating 30 Years of Service



*Supporting
Today's Youth and
Tomorrow's Leaders*

The history and vision of the
Minnesota 4-H Foundation



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Letter from the Executive Director



Dear Friends of 4-H,

It is my pleasure to bring you this compilation record of the Minnesota 4-H Foundation's first 30 years. Since 1981, the Minnesota 4-H Foundation has been generating private funds in support of extension youth development programs across the state.

At the Minnesota 4-H Foundation, we firmly believe in the future of our young people, and that is why we have determinedly been raising dollars in this effort for more than 30 years. We believe that all young people should have the opportunity to gain the life skills they need to succeed. With the support of the Foundation, we have seen countless Minnesota 4-H programs do just that.

And now, we are going as strong as ever. We hope that you will enjoy this record of what we've accomplished and take a look at what is yet to come. There is a bright future ahead for the 4-H Foundation and Minnesota 4-H programs alike.

We ask that you join the effort to empower today's youth in discovering their potential by supporting our committed and dedicated work.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cara Miller'.

Cara Miller
Executive Director
Minnesota 4-H Foundation

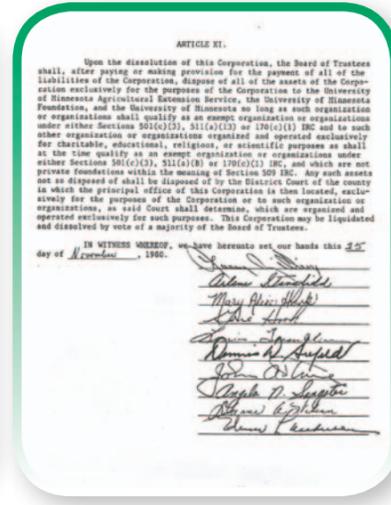


Establishing a Foundation

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation was originally chartered in 1981 as a non-profit organization. It was established with the mission of generating private funds for the purpose of creating and delivering the finest youth development programs in Minnesota. We believe that all young people should have the opportunities to gain the life skills they need to succeed.

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation supports educational programs offered through the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development, both at the state level and in the 87 counties that make up our state. Here are a few ways the foundation supports youth development:

- Providing scholarships, grants and awards for 4-H clubs and members.
- Finding sponsors to support the growth and development of 4-H project areas.
- Supporting the development of professional staff and youth development volunteers.
- Funding statewide marketing and recruitment efforts for youth development programs.



Minnesota Hall of Fame Inductees and Inductees with Minnesota Ties

Edward Aiton
Itasca County, MN
Nominated by: CSREES/USDA
Year Inducted: 2002

Lawrence Bieber
Lincoln County, MN
Nominated by: Illinois 4-H
Year Inducted: 2002

Elsie Carper
Saint Louis County, MN
Nominated by: CSREES/USDA
Year Inducted: 2002

Theodore A. "Dad" Erickson
Nelson, MN
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2002

Kathleen Flom
Belview, MN
Nominated by: National 4-H Council
Year Inducted: 2002

Leonard Harkness
Waterford, MN
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2002

Norman Mindrum
Rushford, MN
Nominated by: National 4-H Council
Year Inducted: 2002

Clara Oberg
Ramsey County, MN
Nominated by: NAE4-HA
Year Inducted: 2002

Richard J. Sauer
Walker, MN
Nominated by: National 4-H Council
Year Inducted: 2002

Richard Angus
Farmington, MN
Nominated by: Maryland 4-H
Year Inducted: 2003

Delores Andol
Roseau County, MN
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2004

Sue Fisher
Roberts, St. Croix Co., WI
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2005

David Pace
Muscatine, IA
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2006

Juanita Reed-Boniface
Oak Grove, MN
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2007

Joe McAuliffe
Shoreview, MN
Nominated by: New York 4-H
Year Inducted: 2008

Jim Kemp
Minneapolis, MN
Nominated by: NAE4-HA
Year Inducted: 2009

Bill Stevens
Fridley, MN
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2009

Wayne Carlson
New Brighton, MN
Nominated by: Minnesota 4-H
Year Inducted: 2011

Leading a Foundation

Foundation Executive Directors

Cara Miller	2004-Present
Linda Smith	2002-2004
Sue Fisher (Interim)	2001-2002
Deb Noll	1995-2001
Jim Lewis	1984-1995
Laurel Stulken	1981-1984

Minnesota 4-H Leadership

Dorothy Freeman	2003-Present
Dale Blyth	2000-2003
Carol Shields	1995-1999
Richard Byrne	1990-1995
Byron Schneider	1981-1989
Wayne Carlson (Interim)	1980-1981
Leonard Harkness	1949-1980
Arthur J. Kittleson	1940-1949
Theodore Erickson	1912-1940

2011 4-H Foundation Staff

- Cara Miller – Executive Director
- Liz Kliewer – Director of Annual Giving
- Susan Potratz – Database Manager
- Bill Welshons – Accountant



At the 4-H Foundation, we support 4-H youth development programs, which have always been inclusive and available to youth who are in kindergarten through one year past high school, whether they live in cities, towns, or in the country. 4-H welcomes boys and girls from all backgrounds.



Since 2006, the Minnesota 4-H Foundation has given over \$1 million every year in support of Extension Youth Development programs.

Why support Minnesota 4-H?

Because Today's youth are tomorrow's leaders. 4-H is Minnesota's largest youth-serving program providing young people with access to positive youth development and leadership programs in all 87 counties.

Response In 4-H, youth design and participate in their own education and activities, from raising dairy cows to building rockets or writing musical plays. This unique, learn-by-doing model teaches kids essential skills needed to succeed in life, such as problem-solving, decision-making, coping, communicating and responding to the needs of others.

4-H is delivered throughout Minnesota in urban, suburban and rural communities. With 130,000 annual youth participants, 4-H reaches nearly 13% of all Minnesota youth between the ages of 5-19. And, each year 12,000 adult volunteers contribute more than 1.1 million hours of service to support the positive development of Minnesota's youth.

Results According to a 2009 national study on positive youth development from Tufts University, youth who participate in 4-H are:

- More than twice as likely to be civically active and make contributions to their communities
- 47% less likely to have risky or problem behaviors
- Less likely to experience depression
- More emotionally engaged with school and have better grades
- More likely to see themselves going to college
- More likely to have features of positive youth development, including competence, connection, character and caring

4-H youth are uniquely prepared to step up to the challenges of a complex, changing world.



“We strive to enrich the developmental diet of young people in our communities and our nation, and work to ensure they have choices in how they exercise their learning muscles growing up.”

— Dale Blyth, Associate Dean,
University of Minnesota
Extension Center for Youth Development



4-H has something for everyone!

As a program of University of Minnesota Extension, 4-H's research-based curriculum includes a focus in four major areas to ensure positive youth development and quality learning opportunities for youth to explore their interests during out-of-school time:

Animal Science and Agriculture

Agriculture and animal science is at the core of 4-H's beginnings. Today, 4-H youth explore the latest information in technologies, industries, ethics, manufacturing, marketing and careers in agriculture and animal science fields.

4-H Science

The United States is falling behind other nations in developing its future workforce of scientists, engineers and technology experts. Minnesota 4-H's initiative in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) helps youth become the next generation of scientists, engineers and technology leaders by actively engaging in programs including water quality, robotics, biofuels, wind power, aerospace and wildlife biology.

Citizenship

4-H is committed to developing youth who are passionate, active, engaged and informed citizens who contribute to their communities and help foster social change. Through 4-H, youth learn the leadership skills to become responsible citizens and contribute to their communities today and in the future.

Healthy Living

Healthy living has been a core belief of 4-H from its beginnings. By supporting the physical, mental and emotional health of our youth, we help them lead healthy and productive lives into adulthood. Programs address such critical issues as childhood obesity, substance abuse and physical safety.



“Minnesota 4-H State Arts-In has taught me to be someone who is always willing to make a new friend, take a risk, and give it all I've got. The people I've met in 4-H State Arts-In exemplify the 4-H mottoes of 'learning by doing' and 'making the best better.'”

— Amelia Brooks



Making an Impact

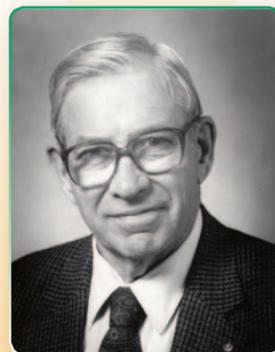
The Minnesota 4-H Foundation has given more than \$1 million in each of the past six years to University of Minnesota Extension Youth Development Programs. Of every dollar raised, 76 cents goes to support programs.

Among the efforts that the Minnesota 4-H Foundation funds:

- Opportunity grants to the Center for Youth Development staff that provide seed money for new programs, projects and ideas.
- 4-H Science projects featuring STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).
- Youth Work Institute – training for adult youth workers and volunteers.
- 4-H State Arts-In.
- Animal Science programs including livestock ethics training and state fair awards.
- Communicate. Lead. Succeed. This statewide program recognizes 4-H members for a wide variety of communication work.
- And many, many more extension youth development programs.



Amazing things happen when young people are provided with the necessary elements to reach their potential.



“Turning hands toward service in the community is at the very heart of 4-H.”

— Leonard L. Harkness

Designated gifts make a big impact.

Minnesota 4-H Scholarships

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation provides a variety of college scholarships for 4-H youth. Check our website at www.mn4h.org/foundation to find out more about these scholarships.

- *Violet E. Kern Scholarship*
- *David E. and Valerie H. Pace Scholarship*
- *Andrea Reusch Scholarship*
- *Ada and Helmuth Schroeder Scholarship*
- *Edward Schulz Scholarship*



Minnesota 4-H Endowments

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation holds 83 endowments including 30 for programs and scholarships and 53 for county specific programs. Mille Lacs County was the first county to establish an endowment with the Minnesota 4-H Foundation.

Designated Endowments

Below are three of the many designated endowments held by the Minnesota 4-H Foundation. If you would like to establish an endowment with the 4-H Foundation, please contact Executive Director Cara Miller at 612-624-8132.

- **Howland Endowment**
The Howland Endowment advances research and practice in youth leadership programs.
- **Harkness Endowment**
The Leonard and Maxine Harkness Endowment helps provide operating funds for the 4-H Foundation.
- **Lea A. and Elsie L. Wildung Endowment**
The Wildung Endowment supports Helping Hands Grants that enable local 4-H clubs to better their communities through service projects.

Add to Our 30-Year Success Story. Give Today.

“Participants in 4-H programs had higher school grades, greater emotional engagement in school and were more likely to see themselves as going to college.”
— Tufts University



“4-H was a large part of the reason I chose agriculture as my career path and now work in the dairy industry. I grew up on a dairy farm, but 4-H helped me see what I could do in the industry, helped cultivate my passion for it as I met many friends who were enthusiastic and gave me confidence in my abilities. 4-H also led me to the college I attended, as the person who told me about the college was a friend from 4-H.”

— Anna Wagner,
4-H Alumni



“Extension’s 4-H prepares youth to excel in college, careers and communities by teaching them lifelong skills, including communications, problem-solving, decision-making and coping.”

— Beverly R. Durgan,
Dean,
University of Minnesota Extension



4-H is a community of young people across Minnesota who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.



“Celebrating the future means that we are being purposeful with our actions while making decisions that are highly critical for assisting Minnesota youth in developing life skills.”

— Dorothy Freeman,
State 4-H Program Leader and Assistant Director

To make a gift to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation,
visit us online at:

www.mn4h.org/foundation

or call us at

612-624-7971

Our Vision

Providing all Minnesota young people opportunities to learn, lead, and succeed.



Our Mission

The Minnesota 4-H Foundation supports quality youth programs by building relationships with donors to secure private financial resources for the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development.

