



# Illinois *Leader*

Publication for Illinois 4-H Leaders

December 2008 – January 2009

## 4-H Mission Mandate: Citizenship and Leadership



Throughout the history of 4-H, citizenship and leadership development have taken a prominent place in the program. Therefore, it is appropriate that National 4-H Headquarters includes Citizenship/Leadership as one of the three mission mandates. University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development is currently focusing on core programming activities for 1) **Young Leaders** and 2) **Teen Leaders**.

The Citizenship/Leadership mission mandate area includes 4-H projects such as **Citizenship, Service Learning, Communications, Public Presentations, Intercultural, and Leadership**. Check out pages 15-18 of the 2008-09 *Illinois Clover* for a complete listing of the project areas that fall under this mandate.

4-H clubs can also focus on this mission mandate with involvement in one of the following group projects. **Leadership Development through Community Action** and **Public Adventures** both provide step-by-step guides to help youth and adults work together to better their communities through service learning or community involvement activities. The **Step Up to Leadership** or **What's Leadership?** projects involve all members in learning the necessary leadership skills to help a group move forward in planning programs and developing skills. Other group projects focus on a wide range of interest areas, including cultural activities, performing arts, and intergenerational activities. More can be found on pages 39-42 of the *Illinois Clover*.

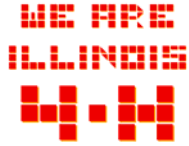
In addition to 4-H projects, youth can continue to explore the Citizenship/Leadership areas by participating in conferences or activities offered throughout the year on a county, regional, state or national basis. From serving as a host family to a foreign visitor through the IFYE program, to attending the Illinois 4-H Junior Leadership Conference or Illini Summer Academies, to participating in regional or statewide community service efforts, Illinois 4-H members can become increasingly involved in their communities, learn and build upon their leadership skills, and explore their rights as citizens. Contact your local Extension office for more information on how you and your members can become involved in Citizenship/Leadership mission mandate efforts.

## Host Families Needed for Inbound IFYE Delegates

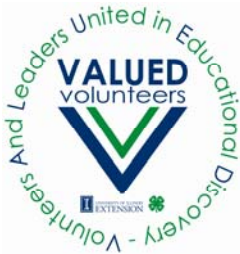


Would you like to experience life in Costa Rica, Finland, or Norway at a very reasonable price? If the answer is **yes**; why not consider being a host family? This coming summer delegations of high school age 4-H members from Costa Rica, Finland, and Norway will be coming to the United States to spend a month with 4-H families. Being a host family provides a wonderful opportunity to showcase your community and Illinois culture as you open your hearts and home to a 4-H member from another country. Host family application materials are available now for interested families. The earlier the application is received the greater the chances are of finding a suitable exchange delegate to place with the family. For additional information contact your local Extension office or contact Bill Million at the State 4-H Office via email: [wmillion@illinois.edu](mailto:wmillion@illinois.edu) or by calling 217-333-1256.

## 2009 Jr. Leadership Conference: We Are Illinois 4-H!



## VALUED Volunteer Orientation and Training Modules Offered Via Toll-Free Teleconference System in January – March



The Illinois Leader is your publication. Submit story ideas and comments to:  
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Get your 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade 4-H members ready to take action in your club – encourage and recruit them to attend the **2009 Illinois 4-H Junior Leadership Conference!** (JLC) Scheduled for February 21-22 at Lake Williamson Camp & Retreat Center near Carlinville, the weekend will provide lots of fun and leadership training – enough to get your members excited about their 4-H involvement and encouraged to take on bigger leadership roles in their club.

Workshops will focus on the areas of animal sciences, community involvement, healthy lifestyles, wind energy (a NEW 4-H project for 2009-2010), club leadership and communication, and more! Delegates will also be able to take advantage of several recreational opportunities offered by the facility – swimming, gym time, games, etc. Organized by the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team, JLC promises active involvement, fun, new friends, and a great learning opportunity for delegates who attend.

Early bird registration opens November 21 at \$88.00 and continues through December 31. On January 1, the registration cost will increase to \$95.00. Adult chaperones are also needed – so recruit a parent who is screened to come along or sign up yourself to see what the youth are learning so you can help them bring it back to your club. Adults need to register and pay also. **Registration ends at midnight, Friday, January 16.** On-line registration can be found at: <https://webs.extension.uiuc.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=2162>.

Informational brochures are available through your local Extension office, as are 4-H scholarship applications.

More than 200 volunteers from across the state are enrolled in the **VALUED Volunteer Orientation Program** this year. Participants engage in six one-hour sessions on the volunteer role in 4-H, club organization, program planning, positive youth development, communications, and experiential learning. The modules are taught via the web, telephone conferencing, self study packets, and face-to-face meetings. Recognition is given to those who complete the series.

Two of the Orientation modules are offered via the Extension toll-free teleconferencing system – **Positive Youth Development** and **Communications within a 4-H Club**. The PYD sessions will be offered at 7:00 p.m. for one hour on January 8, 13, and 14 while the Communications module will be conducted January 22, 26 and 27 at 7:00 p.m.

In addition three modules from the **VALUED Volunteer Training Series** will also be offered via the teleconference system this winter. **Public Presentations** will be offered February 3, 11, and 19 while **Parental Involvement** will be taught February 4, 10, and 17. Finally, **Risk Management** will be done on March 3, 11, and 19. Every session will begin at 7:00 p.m. All Illinois 4-H volunteers – whether enrolled in the **VALUED Volunteer Program** or not are welcome to participate in the three training modules. Participants may listen from their own home phones or by arrangement from the local Extension office.

Registration information for each of these topics will be available from your local Extension office in **early December**. Print materials for the sessions will be mailed directly to volunteers once they have registered for a specific topic and date. Registration will close **ten days** prior to the teleconference. There will be no fee to register. Please contact Sheri Seibold at [sseibold@illinois.edu](mailto:sseibold@illinois.edu) or 217-333-0910 if you have additional questions.

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