

University of Minnesota Extension

2009 Budget Request Washington County

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Historical Perspective 4-H Youth Development

- The 4-H Youth Development program was built into the land-grant university system in partnership with USDA over 100 years ago, providing the research base
- 4-H is publicly owned and operated through county, state & federal dollars and some private donations
- The program cannot discriminate and must provide access to all
- 4-H cannot operate privately on its own at a state, county or local level

We Know from Research that . . .



- What youth do in out of school time matters greatly for their own learning and development as well as their contributions to their community
- A youth’s daily “developmental diet” of caring people, constructive places and challenging possibilities during this large block of time is what shapes their learning and development
- This is true for all youth regardless of income levels, cultural diversity, or where they live – suburban or rural
- Opportunities that combine caring people, constructive places, and challenging possibilities make the most difference – this is why 4-H works and has for 100+ years

Longitudinal Study by Tufts University



- Results from the study 2002-2006, continuing until 2010
- Study matched samples that compare youth in other organizations with youth in 4-H Youth Development
- Key Results to Date – 4-H Youth are:
 - 1.5 time more likely to be in highest Positive Youth Development trajectory (competence, confidence, connection, character, caring/compassion)
 - 3.5 times more likely to be in highest Community (civic engagement) Contribution trajectory
 - More likely to be on the lowest trajectories for depressive symptoms and risk/delinquent behaviors
 - More likely to report they intend to attend college

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4-H Youth Development Program Highlights

- Over 800 4-H Youth Development participants in 23 clubs
- Current locations for 4-H clubs:
 - Cimarron Mfg. Home Park, Lake Elmo
 - Investigation Station, Landfall
 - Parkside Apartments, Cottage Grove
 - Lincoln Place Apartments, Mahtomedi
 - Lakes Area Youth Service Bureau, Forest Lake
 - 18 community clubs located across the entire county
- 4-H volunteers contributed over 16,000 hours of service in the last year, valued at \$289,000

Master Gardener Program

- The Master Gardener program began over 30 years ago.
- Master Gardeners must commit to 48 hours of initial training, pay for that training and provide a required amount of volunteer service back to the county as well as continuing education for each year they volunteer.
- Collaborates with multiple partners including county agencies, public health, cities and watershed districts, providing U of M research to a variety of projects.

Washington County Master Gardeners

- 110 trained paraprofessional volunteers highly committed to serve Washington County residents
- 7080 volunteer hours in '07 valued at \$138,000; equivalent to 3.4 FTE staff
- Investment in management of volunteers leverages resources and increases capacity of volunteers and partner agencies to deliver services to Washington County residents

Environmental Stewardship Washington County MG Core Focus

- Emphasis on priorities begun in 2007
 - Stormwater management/rain gardens
 - Noxious/invasive species.
- Additional emphasis on sustainable landscaping best practices to reduce fertilizer and pesticide use.

Environmental Stewardship

Washington County MG Core Focus



- Incorporated into all delivery venues – classes, information booths, Q&A phone line, demonstration sites, media, individual consultations.
- Teach and lead other groups in installing rain gardens and eradication projects
- Emphasis to increase public awareness, educate about solutions, consult with individuals

Additional Program Priorities Washington County Master Gardeners

- Habitat for Humanity – supervise new home owners and volunteers in installing low maintenance and sustainable landscape
- Youth education programs involving – tree planting, rain gardens, invasive species, food/healthy eating
- Phone line and diagnostic clinic – respond to hundreds of citizen's consumer horticulture questions

2009 Budget Summary

- \$147,525 – County Budget Request
 - 2 FTE's in 4-H Youth Development - \$129,800
 - .25 FTE in Master Gardener - \$16,225
 - \$1,500 Extension Committee Per Diems
- Additional Costs Provided by Revenue from 4-H and MG
 - Support staff costs and operating expenses - \$35,540

Additional Costs Paid by Participants/Families

Cost to Families in 4-H Youth Development

- In addition to the \$45.00 fee which goes towards county revenue, 4-H costs average between \$600 - \$800/year based on number of projects enrolled in and activities participated in

Cost to Volunteer Master Gardeners

- Each volunteer pays \$200 to take the required 48 hour training and pays for required additional training. They must give back 50 hours of volunteer service in the first year and a minimum of 25 each year they remain involved. In WC Master Gardeners average 64 hours of service a year.

Thank You

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