



South Dakota 4-H Mission Statement

South Dakota 4-H enables youth to be engaged in the following:

- Partnerships with caring adults
- Positive learning environments
- Developing their fullest potential
- Learning life skills

South Dakota 4-H Values Statement

Throughout the SDSU Extension 4-H Youth Development program, we value:

- Youth, families, and communities;
- Partnerships and coalitions that work for the betterment of youth in our state, and combined strength of local programming in cooperation with the land-grant university, South Dakota State University;
- Every child's individuality and uniqueness;
- Diversity and an inclusive environment that assures all youth access to programming;
- Caring adults who volunteer to work with, mentor, and teach youth;
- The Five Links of Character: honesty, respect, responsibility, kindness and citizenship.

South Dakota 4-H Beliefs Statement

For children and youth, we believe that 4-H:

- Advances the acquisition of positive life skills through experiential learning;
- Contributes to the development of critical communication skills, including the ability to interact with others, to speak and write with clarity, and to utilize technology with competence;
- Empowers youth to be independent thinkers who are developing their critical thinking, problem solving, and decision making skills;
- Encourages youth to become good citizens through leadership development, volunteerism, and community service;
- Promotes the involvement of youth in community building and equal partnerships of youth working closely with adults.

South Dakota State 4-H Ambassador Program Rationale

In an effort to continually meet the goals of the SDSU Extension 4-H Strategic Futures 2016-2021 Report the State 4-H Ambassador Program will meet the following objectives:

- Prepare Youth for Roles as Leaders, Mentors, and Problem Solvers
- Enhance Youth Communications, Public Speaking, and Critical Thinking
- Focus on Foundational Life Skills Employability
- Develop Skill Specific Career Exploration
- Improve Ongoing 4-H Program Delivery
- Provide Better Education On Existing Project Areas
- Create More Options for Older Age Youth