

## Why Volunteer?

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Why should you volunteer? Did you know that kids who participate in 4-H are four times more likely to contribute to their community, two times more likely to be civically engaged, two times more likely to attend college, and forty-one percent less likely to engage in risky behaviors? Pretty impressive stats aren't they.

4-H Volunteers are the key to a successful 4-H program. They have the unique ability to provide life changing opportunities for youth. 4-H offers an endless amount of opportunities for volunteers. Would you like to be apart of this organization? There are so many ways to volunteer. Let me break it down for you.

**General 4-H Club Leader:** General leaders serve as a club or community club leader by organizing, enrolling, and leading youth involved in the 4-H program. Organizational leaders take the lead in making sure that the youth have a positive experience coordinating with other volunteers.

**Activity Leader:** Activity leaders volunteer to organize a 4-H activity or event for the youth within a club. Activities and events may include club talks, fashion revue, community service project, a hiking trip, showmanship clinic, talent show, a shooting sports shoot, or even a fundraising activity. Activity leaders serve within a club and organize short-term activities.

**Ambassador or Teen Council Advisor:** Advisors serve in much the same capacity as club leaders, only working with youth in an Ambassador or Teen Council program.

**Chaperone:** Chaperones are adult volunteers who commit themselves to the safety and well-being of the youth participants during a 4-H event or trip. Chaperones are required to participate actively in the program and are trained to practice positive youth-adult partnerships with youth.

**Camp or Event Activity Volunteer:** Camp or event volunteers are adults who assist with the planning and delivery of USU Extension- hosted camps or events.

**Project Leader:** Volunteers may choose to lead a club that focuses on one specific project or one that is organized around a specific activity or need. Project leaders use their expertise, whether it is woodworking, computers, cooking, sewing, service, or the environment, to teach young people. If they work with a general/organizational leader, a project leader's time commitment is for preparation and time spent teaching the project.

**Discover 4-H Club Leader:** Volunteers may choose to lead a club that focuses on a special interest or a Discover 4-H Curriculum that will only last for a short period of time (approximately six hours). Like a project leader, they use their expertise to teach young people within a short-term club setting.

**Short-Term/ Episodic Volunteers:** This group of volunteers includes individuals who volunteer for a short period of time or periodically step-in and assist with a specific program or activity.

Leader's Council/ Board Members: Those that participate as a board member or volunteer on the Leader's Council serve to oversee certain aspects of 4-H programs, e.g., fair boards, advisory boards, fundraising boards, scholarship boards, etc.

Now that you've read all the ways you can volunteer, would you like to join us? We would love to have you. Registration is easy! Register on [4h.zsuite.org](https://4h.zsuite.org). Have questions? Give us a call. 435-623-3450 or you can email me directly [christi.nicholls@usu.edu](mailto:christi.nicholls@usu.edu)

University, U. S. (n.d.). *Utah 4-H Home*. USU. Retrieved January 17, 2023, from <https://extension.usu.edu/utah4h/>

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