



# 4-H Volunteer Project Leader Position Description



*We can never underestimate the influence or impact 4-H leaders have on youth, the face of our future. Your ordinary, everyday interaction with youth 4-H'ers is a powerful tool by which many youth learn decision making and leadership skills. The job YOU are doing IS important! Who knows, you may be influencing a future inventor, scientist, or even President of the United States.*

Teach skills and subject matter in a given project area. Help members learn to keep good project records, prepare demonstrations and exhibits, and participate in project related-events and activities. May be the overall club leader for a small 4-H club, assist a club leader in a larger club or assist several clubs within a district.

## RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Work cooperatively with the club organizational leader, any other helpers, club leaders, parents and members for a harmonious club experience
- Help members and their parents arrive at project selections that are challenging but within reach of the individual
- Share your knowledge of the project with members through meetings, tours, individual consultations and written references
- Update your skills in subject matter and human relations through leader workshops, consultations with other leaders and Extension staff and reading
- Maintain sensitivity to the individual differences of 4-H members: interests, abilities, personal needs and family support
- Help members find additional learning experiences and resources on their own
- Relate project experiences to their everyday lives and to career possibilities
- Encourage members to attend and/or participate in broadening learning experiences offered at the district or state level
- Recognize personal growth of individuals regularly through praise, add responsibility, etc.
- Serve as a positive role model for youth

## BENEFITS:

- Liability insurance for official 4-H activities
- Leadership training opportunities
- Leadership recognition
- Travel opportunities
- Opportunities to meet and share ideas with other leaders
- Contribution as a positive youth development volunteer

## TIME COMMITMENT:

- Varies with project type, number of members and time available for project leader. Can be short-term or several sessions spread throughout a year (minimum of four contacts with members, usually six to 10)

## QUALIFICATIONS:

- Enjoy working with people
- Ability to communicate with youth and adults
- Knowledge of the project area and willingness to update skills
- Patience, enthusiasm and the ability to cooperate and organize
- Complete 4-H Volunteer Leader Application and Agreement Form

## RESOURCES:

- Alaska Cooperative Extension 4-H faculty and staff
- District, state and national leader training activities
- Printed materials, slides, films and other teaching aids from the University of Alaska and other land-grant universities
- Assistance from parents, other leaders and others with special skills and knowledge

## RESPONSIBLE TO:

- Club organizational leader
- District 4-H faculty and staff