4-H is Positive Youth Development Written by: Dr. Richard Clark Submitted by: Dannie Bradford

Positive youth development focuses on building on the knowledge and skills of every youth. 4-H accomplishes this through hands-on, experiential education that encourages each young person to strive to reach their best possible outcome. So what does this look like?

- Active, experiential engagement of youth in learning not just providing information.
- Connecting youth to their peers and caring adults in a positive environment that fosters friendship and teamwork
- Preparing youth with life skills to meet the challenges of daily life and work
- Emphasizing positive outcomes and not focusing on their failures
- Encouraging youth voice in decision making and planning of 4-H programs
- Reaching out to all youth in our communities
- Encouraging long-term involvement in 4-H in order to make the most personal impact
- Utilizing service learning to engage youth in improving their own community, country and world
- Utilizing collaboration with other organizations to provide a breadth of opportunities for young people to develop to their full potential

4-H is changing lives, changing communities, and positively impacting our world!

