

## **4-H Strategic Plan – Significant Outcomes 2012-2017**

**4-H Science:** (Science, Technology, Engineering and Applied Math) Developing science interests, skills and abilities in the areas of agriculture, energy, environmental stewardship and technology. Helping youth think and problem solve within a scientific framework and encouraging an excitement for science.

- *“Increase the number of youth engaged in 4-H Science opportunities. Science interests, skills and abilities for those youth engaged in 4-H Science will be strengthened.” –Supporting IANR Goal*

**Short Term:** Youth will develop positive interests and attitudes about science and science related careers.  
Youth will gain a base knowledge of the science content of their projects.  
Youth will develop science skills and abilities.

**Intermediate:** Youth will apply science to their 4-H projects.  
Youth will utilize science skills and abilities to solve every day situations.  
Youth will teach others about science related to their projects.

**Long Term:** Participants will process information, analyze complex problems and make informed decisions regarding current agricultural (food and fiber system), environmental, energy and technology related issues. (A more science literate society)

An increased number of participants seek out higher education opportunities and careers related to science.

**Life Skills:** Decision making, Problem Solving, Critical Thinking, Wise use of Resources

**Agricultural Literacy:** Ensuring that Nebraska youth have a knowledge and appreciation of Nebraska's largest industry.

- *"Increase the number of 4<sup>th</sup> grade students in Nebraska that know where their food comes from." –IANR Goal*

Short Term: Youth will know where their food comes from.

Youth will develop positive attitudes and interests regarding local agricultural.

Intermediate: Youth will be advocates for agriculture in Nebraska.

Long Term: Participants will become informed consumers who advocate for the agricultural in Nebraska. (A more agricultural literate society)

Life Skills: Communication, Decision Making, Wise use of Resources

**Career Development/College Readiness:** Preparing youth to make informed decisions about their college and career path. Developing skills in young people that will lead to greater persistence in college and employability.

- *"Develop career and college readiness skills with the 1,500 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth annually enrolled in 4-H that will lead to high aspirations for post-secondary education and increased persistence rates. –Supporting IANR Goal*
- *"Introduce 500 4-H youth annually to Nebraska careers that help youth identify future opportunities in Nebraska." – Supporting IANR Goal*

Short Term: Youth will be aware of higher education options.

Youth will identify the relationship between careers and their 4-H projects.

Youth will develop college and career readiness skills.

Intermediate: Youth will aspire to and enroll in higher education.

Youth will be engaged in on campus events.

Youth will actively explore careers.

Long Term: Participants will achieve economic stability and be successful contributors to their communities.

Life Skills: Social skills, Stress management, Self-Discipline, Self-Motivation, Responsibility

**Citizenship and Leadership:** Fostering youth's commitment to their communities and growing future leaders.

Short Term: Youth will develop leadership skills.  
Youth will have a greater awareness of their civic responsibilities.

Intermediate: Youth will exercise leadership skills.  
Youth will participate in service projects.  
Youth will be represented on community decision bodies.

Long Term: Participants will be engaged, well informed citizens who are active in their local and global communities.

Life Skills: Leadership, Citizenship, Communication, Concern for Others, Contributing to a Group

**Healthy Living:** Educating youth about how to make healthy and safe decisions in their daily lives.

Short Term: Youth will gain knowledge and develop skills for making healthy and safe decisions in their daily lives.  
Youth will know what positive relationship looks like.

Intermediate: Youth will practice healthy and safe decision making.  
You will exhibit increased resiliency.  
Youth will develop positive relationships with adults and peers.

Long Term: Participants will maintain a healthy and safe lifestyle, leading to decreased health related problems and medical costs.

Life Skills: Decision making, Resiliency, Conflict Resolution, Social Skills, Personal Safety, Healthy Lifestyle Choices