

Application for T.A.G.

Name

Birth:

Clubs:

Address & Phone:

Email:

4-H Projects:

School Grade:

School:

How has your 4-H experience impacted and influenced your life?

My 4-H experience has been a great trip so far. I started in 4-H when I was 5 years old, showing my cat Lacey. Now I still show cats, but I do a lot more animal projects [dogs, rabbits, goats, etc] and a whole bunch of still life [crafts, art, flowers, etc]. I'm also the president of the --- Club this year. I've been the past president for this club for about 4 years. In my other club (--- club) I have been doing some secretary work by writing the donation letters for our fundraiser this year. Being in 4-H and showing my animals, has taught me lots of responsibility from caring for my animals right to getting things handed in on-time.

4-H has a heavy influence on my life. Most of the things that I do, have to do with 4-H. Other things that I do are normally a branch off from my 4-H projects. Because I started showing dogs in 4-H, it's part of the reason that I show dogs at A.K.C. events. My future now has dogs in it, and I'm working to be a professional handler. Now my life you could say has "gone to the dogs". I think being in 4-H has made me a better person all around. I've been in 4-H since I was little, so I don't know what I'd be doing right now without it. Most people that join later on, say it's a good program to keep kids out of trouble.

I've made tons of friends by doing 4-H. Some of which are just acquaintances and others I've known for a long time. 4-H has also helped me with my public speaking skills and being able to talk to adults. Sometimes I find it easier to talk to an adult rather than someone around my age. I believe that's from working with adults in this program.

What is the value of having youth assist 4-H staff with the 4-H program in Spokane County?

The value of this would be to see a different point of view. A teen could bring a new idea or a new way of thinking to the table. Our input is just as valuable as others, and it needs to be put out there for others to hear.

Another value of having youth assist is to give a report about what they liked and didn't like at a Spokane County 4-H event, program, meeting etc, so that next time we can do it better than the time before or if it wasn't good then don't do it at all. By doing this we could see what the youth want, so the staff and 4-H volunteers aren't wasting time on a project that isn't going to get us anywhere.

Youth assisting the 4-H staff could also help in a better career outcome for us. By learning how to run a meeting and conduct business with others we'll be better ready to step out into the real world.

Describe the first step[s] that you would take to strengthen our Spokane County 4-H program overall.

First, I would want to see what other teens that didn't get on T.A.G. in Spokane County wanted to do or change. To do this I would send out a survey asking what they would like to see happen in the Spokane County 4-H program.

Once they were returned I would review what they would like to see happen in Spokane County. Next I would start separating them according to which 4-H committee or staff member it concerns and bring the survey answers to their attention, so that changes could be made.

What should Spokane County 4-H do to improve opportunities for 4-H teens?

One thing that I would like to see is judging for the senior age level at the small animal events [cats, dogs, pocket pets]. Something else that would be a great thing to try is a career day at the extension office, where a youth could shadow someone that works with the 4-H program for a day. The youth then would be able to get a taste of what it's like to work at the extension office and come out with a little better idea of what they want to do for a career.

If we don't do things and put on events that our age group would like, we're going to lose this age group. So getting teens involved would help keep them more interested in the 4-H program