



# 4-H Annual Report

4-H empowers youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. Washington State University 4-H Youth Development is developing young people to become productive citizens who are engaged in positive change, meeting the needs of a diverse and changing society.



## A GREAT YEAR!

Over the past year, we have experienced remarkable progress. We have seen steady interest and growth, forged new partnerships, and provided educational programs for both youth as well as for our dedicated volunteers. We are proud to have been able to offer members of our community a range of exciting opportunities!

## 4-H SNAP SHOT

15  
CLUBS

50  
VOLUNTEERS

186  
YOUTH MEMBERS

94  
SPECIAL PROGRAM  
PARTICIPANTS

\$3407

GRANTS & GIFTS for PROGRAMS

2022 Stats for Comparison:

14 club

35 volunteers

169 youth members

62 special program  
participants

\$1800 in grants/gifts for  
programs

## 4-H HIGHLIGHTS



### AVISTA CONNECTIONS

Avista generously donated funds to Skamania County 4-H to help reduce barriers for participants, allowing us to purchase equipment & supplies for all of our members.

### VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Our 4-H Leaders Council membership is reaching new heights, and leadership successfully planned and implemented multiple activities & educational opportunities!



### FUNDRAISING

Our 4-H Leaders Council resumed fundraising after a break of several years and were able to bring in more than \$8,500 to support future opportunities for youth & volunteers!

### NEW PARTNERSHIPS

We were able to offer health & nutrition programming to 75 Skamania County youth thanks to new partnerships with Skamania School & the SCSD Summer School Program



### SOMER MEADE

WSU Extension - Skamania County  
4-H Program Coordinator  
FYS Technical Advisor



somer.meade@wsu.edu





## 4-H IGNITE! TEEN CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON DC



Skamania County 4-H has offered the Youth Advocates 4-Health! (YA4-H!) program for the last several years, thanks to a grant from the Walmart Foundation. In partnership with our local school districts, we utilize a teen teacher model to teach youth about health and nutrition. Hundreds of local youth have benefited from this program, and teen teachers learn important life skills and earn opportunities to attend conferences around the state and nation. In March, one of our long time teen-teachers Kaelynn S. was able to travel with Somer and a delegation from our state to the National 4-H Ignite Teen Conference to learn, network, plan, and tour our nation's capital. In addition to 4 days of conference workshops and festivities, our group had the opportunity to meet with our elected officials, tour the Capitol buildings, and plan a big community project to bring back to our communities! It was the trip of a lifetime!



## KIND CARE KITS



The YA4-H! Teen Delegation spent some time at the national conference brainstorming community projects that they could bring back home and make an impact with. Ultimately, they decided on "Kind Care Kits" for siblings of hospitalized children. Once they returned home, they met over Zoom to identify partners, materials, and needs. They submitted a Lead2Change grant application and were selected to make a live pitch to industry judges. Out of 30+ projects from around the country, their project was selected and awarded \$2,000. WSU matched those funds, and at the 4-H Teen Conference in June, approximately 100 4-H teens assembled 400 kits to be distributed to our new partners at Ronald McDonald Houses around the state. Over the summer, our Healthy Living teens visited those facilities, took tours, learned about the impact they were making, and dropped off the kits. In the fall, they applied for a \$5,000 Lead2Change grant to grow the project in the upcoming year. We're pleased to share their project was selected once again!







We sent 17 local 4-H'ers up to Puyallup for the WA State 4-H Fair, with several of them taking home awards!



With funding support from AVISTA, we offered STEM education for local students participating in One Prevention Alliance's PAWS club after school



Long time Skamania County 4-H'er Elliot B. sang the National Anthem at the 2023 Fair's Opening Ceremonies



4-H'ers made quilt squares that were assembled and auctioned off during the Youth Market Sale during the 2023 Fair, bringing in \$8,000 for the 4-H Leader's Council to provide more educational opportunities



4-H Leader's Council hosted their first ever fair orientation for dozens of families in partnership with the Fair Board to ensure a smooth and successful fair would be had by all!



4-H members and volunteers from multiple clubs attended the Skamania County Board of Commissioners meeting during National 4-H week to lead the 4-H pledge, share their experiences, & show support!



Students in grades K-8 enjoyed learning how to make healthy snacks, garden, exercise, and make overall healthy choices during 8 weeks of 4-H Healthy Habits after school programming at Skamania School, a new partner of 4-H.

## VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS

We are grateful for the many individuals, agencies, and organizations we got to share in meaningful work with this year:

**SKAMANIA COUNTY FAIR BOARD**

**ONE PREVENTION ALLIANCE**

**STEVENSON CARSON SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**SKAMANIA SCHOOL**

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE**

**US FOREST SERVICE**

**SKAMANIA COUNTY NOXIOUS WEEDS**

**SKAMANIA COUNTY COMMUNITY EVENTS & RECREATION**

**UNDERWOOD CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**CITY OF STEVENSON**

**SKAMANIA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

**STEVENSON CARSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

**SOUTH GIFFORD PINCHOT COLLABORATIVE**

**SKAMANIA COUNTY EDC**

**WA DEPT OF COMMERCE**

**NAT'L FISH HATCHERIES**

**US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS**







# FOREST YOUTH SUCCESS

FYS is a workforce training program offered for Skamania County teens in partnership with WSU Extension 4-H, the Stevenson Carson School District, and the US Forest Service. We had another great season in 2023 and appreciate all of the support from our community and our partners!



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Obtained Title II Funding from the USFS for two years of programming, as well as a Career Connect SW WA Grant, and a No Child Left Inside Grant
- Youth Participants had the opportunity to present to multiple stakeholders, including the Skamania County Board of Commissioners and the South Gifford Pinchot Collaborative
- Our crews visited with State Representative Kevin Waters and Congresswoman Marie Gluesenkamp Perez to learn about their work and share their experiences in FYS with elected officials
- With new grant funds, we were able to invest in and implement new forestry curriculum for our educational days
- Thanks to a generous donation from Green Diamond, our staff had new vests & helmets this year
- We welcomed new project partners this year, resulting in new experiences for our participants



BEFORE



AFTER

### FYS SNAP SHOT

# \$247,748

FUNDS SECURED FOR CURRENT & FUTURE PROGRAMMING



### PROJECT WORK



Trail Maintenance, Native Seed Collection, Habitat Restoration, Grounds Improvement, Invasive Species Removal, Fuels Reduction, Curb Painting, & Brush Clearing

# \$85,508

PROGRAM COST

# 20

YOUTH HIRES

# 4

ADULT HIRES

# 3

CREWS

# 9

PROJECT PARTNERS

# 3500

LABOR HOURS



fys@scsd303.org



[https://www.scsd303.org/programs/forest\\_youth\\_success](https://www.scsd303.org/programs/forest_youth_success)