



Wood County Clover Legacy Foundation

December 2021

Dear Wood County 4-H Donor,

Holiday Greetings to you and your family this season! I hope you find it to be a joyous time of family and friend gatherings in celebration of this year.

Wood County 4-H has much to celebrate and share with you! Our accomplishments in 2021 are numerous and we certainly could not have been successful without our generous donors, committed volunteers and stellar 4-H office staff leading the way. Many thanks and congratulations go to our esteemed 4-H Educator of 36 years, Jayne Roth who retired in October. Her vision and commitment to this program have made it one of the most successful 4-H counties in all of Ohio. Our new 4-H Educator, Liz Avers started her OSU Extension career in Ottawa County. Many of you know her as Liz Hirzel. She was recently married and looks forward to a lengthy career with us. She has made her way back to Wood County, as she is an alumna and former student assistant for this program. We are thrilled to welcome Liz and have significant plans for strategizing the future of 4-H in this county.

A Look Ahead...

Wood County 4-H celebrated 100 years in 2019. After the confetti was swept up, 4-H leaders determined it was high time to plan for the future! The first quarter of 2022 is sure to be a defining time for Wood County as volunteers are partnering with a local consulting firm to assist in determining our future direction for 4-Her's. We are elated with the prospect of planning for the short and long term of this program. Stay tuned for exciting plans, as we define our purpose and start shaping our future goals!

A Look Back at 2021...Below are just a few of the outstanding highlights!

- 4-H member Drew Thomas was selected to join the Ohio 4-H Teen Council in 2022 to represent Wood County.
- A first of its kind community service, the Wood County Postal Project engaged 16 4-H clubs who mailed "4-H Greetings" to over 200 individuals who were isolated at home.
- 4-H Day Camp took the place of the traditional overnight program allowing 190 4-H members to participate in two, 13-hour day camping experiences held at Camp Palmer. Forty-five teen counselors and eight adult staff planned and conducted the days' activities.
- 4-H Enrollment - 1,040 members aged 9-18: 175 adult volunteers.
- Bake-Off was back and stronger than ever...this team is excited to announce that one 4-H project book will be provided to every 4-H member in 2022.
- 4-H Teen Leadership Board started back in-person and gave leadership opportunities to members to work at project judging and created holiday ornaments for Wheeled Meal participants.
- Social Media presence has tripled through Facebook, Twitter, the 4-H blog, and 4-H app. Our virtual programming has reached new audiences and there are, on average, over 13,000 views per month.
- A safe environment was provided for 4-H in-person judging for approximately 1,852 projects at the Junior Fair Building and Livestock Pavilion on the fairgrounds this past July.
- Wood County members had a record number of champion projects at the Ohio State Fair this summer.

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*Empowering youth to reach their full potential,
working and learning in partnership with caring adults.*

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- Wood County had a record number of members place at the virtual Ohio State Fair Livestock Skill-a-thon, including the most youth participation in the state. Notably, Wood County 4-Her's received the top individual overall placing in the beef, goat, swine, and rabbit departments.
- Installation of the Art Tile Project for display at the Milkshake Barn was completed this summer. Individual clubs created tiles that showcased their unique membership.
- 4-Her's and adult volunteers made 21,271 milkshakes at the Wood County Fair and National Tractor Pulling Championships.
- The Wood County Clover Legacy Foundation awarded a total of \$3,400 to nine local 4-H clubs to complete a community service project of their choice.
 - CloverAchievers - Decorated and planted flowerpots for the residents of the Kingston Perrysburg Nursing Home.
 - Colorful Clovers - Planned a 4k run/walk benefit for local businesses in Bowling Green.
 - Farmcrafters - Created custom postcards to reach out to the community (loved-ones, home-bound, nursing homes) connecting people who have had little contact during the pandemic.
 - Klassy Kids- Teamed up with the North Baltimore Garden Club to work on the community garden beds (cleaning up, pulling weeds, and planting new flowers,) as well as, planted pots in front of local businesses.
 - Lake Harvesters - Cleared brush and brought mulch to spread on the walking/running trails at 4-H Camp Palmer in Fayette, Ohio.
 - Leaders of Tomorrow - Sent a monthly/bi-monthly 4-H greeting to individuals to bring happiness and improve mental health to those that may be home-bound.
 - Perry Go Getters - Repaired bleachers at the Risingsun ballpark.
 - Simply Stock - Created children's activity booklets for fair-goers eight years of age and younger to include basic livestock and agriculture facts on black and white coloring pages with four-pack of crayons.
 - Tontogany Hotwires - Repaired bleachers and benches at the Tontogany ballpark.

We are so very proud of the exceptional impact 4-H has on our youth and in turn, how our youth embody the 4-H spirit in our community. If you feel compelled to make a tax-deductible monetary gift to the Wood County 4-H program to continue to #inspirekidstodo, please do so in the envelope provided or securely online at <https://www.cloverlegacy.org/>. We sincerely thank you for being a friend of Wood County 4-H!

Sincerely,

Sara Foos, President

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