



For more information contact:
Wood County Clover Legacy Foundation
woodcounty4H@cloverlegacy.org
cloverlegacy.org/serviceday
PO Box 271, Bowling Green OH 43402
Phone: 419-601-0811

Ohio State University Extension—Wood County 4-H
639 S Dunbridge Road, Suite, Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
Phone: 419-354-9050

Wood County 4-H Hands to Larger Service Day

When: Sunday, April 6, 2025

Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Where: Wood County Fairgrounds, 13800 W. Poe Road, Bowling Green, Ohio

Who: 4-H members and their families, 4-H clubs and volunteers, and the general public

What: A day of community service where hundreds of Wood County 4-H members, clubs, families, and volunteers will come together to complete projects for eight different local organizations all in one location.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wood County 4-H to host Hands to Larger Service Day

When youth join a 4-H club they learn and live the 4-H pledge, which includes: “I pledge my hands to larger service...for my community, my country, and my world.” On April 6 from 1-4 p.m., hundreds of Wood County 4-H members, their families and the general public are fulfilling that commitment to community service as part of the inaugural Wood County Hands to Larger Service Day at the Wood County Fairgrounds, 13800 W. Poe Road, Bowling Green.

Participants will come together with a shared purpose for the first-time community service event of this magnitude hosted by Wood County 4-H and supported by the Wood County Clover Legacy Foundation and 4-H Committee. Service projects are planned throughout the day for eight local organizations and include:

- Building headboards and bed rails for 30 beds for [Let's Build](#)
- Packaging 10,000 meals for [Kids Coalition Against Hunger](#)
- Stuffing and sewing pillows for Hospice of Northwest Ohio
- Creating “Senior Smiles” crafts and cards for the Wood County Committee on Aging
- Making greeting cards for Flag City Honor Flight
- Assembling dog treats and toys for Wood County Humane Society and the Wood County Dog Shelter
- Planting and decorating flowerpots for area nursing homes/senior citizen centers
- Completing improvement projects for the Wood County Agricultural Society

The day will be an open house format for volunteers to come anytime in the afternoon and stay as long as they would like. However, two of the projects—Let’s Build and Kids Coalition Against Hunger—require specific time commitments and volunteer sign-ups prior to the event. Fifty volunteers, from 4-H clubs or the community, are needed for Let’s Build and more than 100 volunteers are needed for Kids Coalition Against Hunger. All ages welcome! Volunteers can sign up for these opportunities and learn more at cloverlegacy.org/serviceday.

The goal of the event is to provide an impactful, hands-on experience for local 4-H members and their families to give of their time and talents, learn more about local organizations that support our communities, and provide the necessary "sweat equity" to give back in a big way. And to show the community one of the many facets of 4-H, community service.

How it began

The concept for the county-wide community service day was an idea by longtime 4-H club leader Karen Kotula and able to be put into action thanks to a generous anonymous donation. Kotula's 4-H club, Dowling Stitch, Stir, and Stock 4-H, participated in a Let's Build Beds event to fulfill a club community service initiative. She was so impressed with the organization's mission and commitment to providing beds to local youths, she wanted to expand the service to more Wood County 4-H clubs. "When Karen introduced the idea to the Wood County Clover Legacy Foundation, it was a perfect opportunity to highlight how 4-H youth give back to their communities through their clubs and service projects," said Ashley Vetter, president of the foundation. "Because the idea is foundational to 4-H, this initiative showcases how 4-H extends far beyond agriculture. Through hands-on community and leadership projects, 4-H empowers young leaders to make a lasting impact and give back to their communities.

The donor whose generous contribution to the Clover Legacy Foundation made this project a reality said, "As a lifelong 4-H member and proud product of Wood County 4-H, I have experienced firsthand the profound impact of the values and skills instilled through this program. The 4-H Pledge calls us to use our heads for clearer thinking, our hearts for greater loyalty, our hands for larger service, and our health for better living—and this donation reflects that commitment. Our family is honored to give back to an organization that continues to identify needs and meet them in our community. It is our hope that this support helps future generations experience the same growth, service, and leadership that 4-H has provided us."

All are welcome to participate and put your hands to larger service anytime throughout the day. For more information, visit cloverlegacyfoundation.com/serviceday

Photos from Karen Kotula's 4-H Club building beds for Let's Build and event logo files are [available here](#).

Wood County 4-H is part of America's largest youth development organization that empowers nearly six million young people with skills to go beyond the expected. In Wood County, the program, which teaches youths skills and abilities to be resilient, adaptable and ready for work and life, is delivered through the Ohio State University Extension Service. 4-H members are 2x more likely to have the goal of being a leader, 3x more likely to participate in community service, and 2x more likely to report living life with intentionality and purpose. Wood County is proud of its commitment to the 4-H pledge and thankful for the supporters that make the best better.

Let's Build is a 100% volunteer-run organization that believes every child deserves a bed. In northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, approximately 600 kids are on the waitlist for their own beds. The organization has grown every year since it started and to date has delivered over 6,000 beds into the community. All the funds raised stay within the local communities.

Kids Coalition Against Hunger is a 501 (c) 3 humanitarian food relief organization whose mission is to significantly reduce the number of hungry children in the United States and feed starving children throughout the world. The non-profit works with a multitude of organizations to produce a 390-gram food packet that provides enough nutrition for six adults or 12 kids. The packets are produced at packaging events, like the one that will be held at the Wood County 4-H Hands to Larger Service Day.



Clover Legacy Foundation
& 4-H Committee