



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources | 4-H Youth Development Program

County Teen Ambassador “ Body of Work” Monterey County, 2017-2018

The focus of a County Teen Ambassador (CTA) is to develop and complete one “Body of Work” that benefits the 4-H program and its membership as a team. This is to be planned, developed, presented, completed and evaluated during their leadership year. Through educational curriculum and democratic decision making the CTAs will agree upon one topic and then each will present to the community. A CTA will receive assistance and guidance from an Advisor and the County Program Representative through meetings, calls and emails. They are to be visible to the 4-H membership through some public appearances. The Body of Work should require little to no funding.

The CTA position has no star rank requirement. However, each CTA will be required to complete a Record Book during their service year(s). This will put them on to the path of achieving a Star Rank if they are not currently verifying their work through a 4-H record book.

There are five key steps in preparing for the CTA action plan:

1. Vision, discussion and agreement
2. Listing the desired outcomes/results
3. Mapping the plan in steps
4. Announcing the idea to Leaders Council, clubs and members
5. Conducting the activity (s) based upon the CTA calendar
6. Evaluating the outcome through discussion, input, analyzing and a written review
7. Taking part in an exit interview to determine eligibility for the Star rank

The Body of Work should be presented using fun, age appropriate and engaging methods. Such as:

- Create a skit for a club meeting or countywide gathering
- Create a video that features your message and post on the county website
- Create a county-wide club challenge related to the body of work with a prize or incentive for completion
- Make a Powerpoint that can be used at meetings related to the body of work
- Develop an engaging verbal presentation using props, boards or Powerpoint
- Write a song about the body of work theme and encourage clubs to sing during club “group siging”
- Research, design and develop handouts for club or project meetings that is related
- Plan a training session day and invite members from all clubs to attend
- Create an easy game that can be played in small or large numbers that teaches

As an “Ambassador”, the CTAs are to present this Body of Work to clubs, meetings, trainings and events. This should occur at least 5 times during the year to reach a maximum number of 4-H youth with the message.

The recommended areas to focus on the CTA Body of Work, based upon the California 4-H Program initiatives, to help the local 4-H members are:

Citizenship - Through hands-on activities, members learn leadership, empathy, communication, and organization while expanding their role in decision-making processes. With intentional connection to their communities, youth come to understand "the big picture" and their role in civic affairs. CTA can assist the 4-H program and the youth membership by introducing local ideas, hosting training sessions, researching related 4-H curriculum, reviewing club’s efforts, developing the use of technology and recognizing the efforts of members who complete their goals.

The California 4-H Program defines and supports 4-H Citizenship as:

- Enhance Personal Development and Self esteem
- Increase a sense of History and Cultural heritage
- Provide Experiential Study of Government and leadership
- Develop and Awareness of Community and Environmental Issues
- Investigate Societal Concerns and the Citizen’s Role

Star Ranks & Record Books – The star award ranking system is a voluntary advancement program utilizing the Personal Development Report form as a goal setting tool, aimed at encouraging broad-based participation and achievement in 4-H. 4-H members record their participation in eight categories for the current 4-H program year on the Personal Development Report. Activities are totaled for all years in 4-H and star awards are given to those 4-H members meeting the requirements.

CTAs can assist the local 4-H program and the youth memberships by introducing and supporting the star ranking to clubs that want to utilize this important aspect of the 4-H program. They can achieve this by hosting regular or online Record Book training sessions, reviewing record book efforts at club levels, developing the use of technology to complete a record book and recognizing the efforts of members who complete their goals. Or, they can promote how to earn a star rank by following the guidelines in the California Presentation Manual.

Other – Should a CTA have an idea that does not fit into the suggested focus areas listed above, a discussion and review will occur between the CTA Advisor, the program staff and CTA to determine its viability to serve the leadership initiatives.

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