4-H Depends On Volunteers

Volunteers enjoy 4-H as much as the kids do!
When youth join 4-H they can travel, laugh, learn more about themselves, go to camp, make new friends, learn new skills, explore careers and have a great time. When volunteers join 4-H they can travel, laugh, learn more about themselves, go to camp....well, you get the picture!

Areas volunteers are needed.
4-H needs adults who are interested in laughing, learning, sharing and helping kids. Kalamazoo County has a place for you if you are interested in helping young people. Areas that need volunteers are, Cats, arts, aerospace, crafts, bicycling, careers, gardening, dogs, horse and pony, draft horse, poultry, rabbits, and almost all animals, drawing, natural resources, woodworking, foods and nutrition, folkpatterns or about any hobby or interest that you would like to share. The 4-H office has many resources to help you teach. We are also looking for volunteers who would like to serve on event organizing committees.

What are my obligations if I decide to be a 4-H volunteer?
All 4-H volunteers go through the MSU Extension Child Well-Being Volunteer Selection Process. The process includes reference checks, criminal history check, a interview and a required orientation session.

Volunteers who wish to work directly with children must join one of the many community clubs in the county. A community club has many volunteers who lead several different projects that youth can participate in. As a project leader you can decide how often you meet with your project group and what activities the group will participate in. You can plan the time you spend in 4-H around your family and your job.

Volunteers who wish to serve on committees have many opportunities to choose from in Kalamazoo County. Auction Committee, Fair Committee, and the Member Recognition Committee are multi tasked and would welcome your time and talents.

Contact the MSU Extension office to receive a Volunteer Selection Packet and help in locating a community club near you.

Can you start your own 4-H club?
YES! If you know of 3 or more families that are interested in starting a 4-H club we can help you get started. It's easy, just contact the MSU-Extension office and we will get you started.

How much does it cost?
You decide what you want to invest. The amount of money and time will depend on the kind of group, the number of members, and the group's projects or activities. Kalamazoo County 4-H Leaders Council provides resources at no cost to leaders. They also offer scholarships to leaders for workshops and training seminars. Members are required to cover the cost of materials for their projects.