Michigan 4-H Youth Development
Seven Guiding Principles
for Positive Youth Development

1. Youth develop positive relationships with adults and peers.
2. Youth are physically and emotionally safe.
3. Youth are actively engaged in their own development.
4. Youth are considered participants rather than recipients in the learning process.
5. Youth develop skills that help them succeed.
6. Youth recognize, understand and appreciate multi-culturalism.
7. Youth grow and contribute as active citizens through service and leadership.

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Berrien County 4-H Youth Program

Berrien County 4-H Vision:
To make a positive difference in the lives of Berrien County youth.

I pledge…
My HEAD to clearer thinking,
My HEART to greater loyalty,
My HANDS to larger service, and
My HEALTH to better living, for my club, my community, my country and my world.
Organizational Structure

Berrien County 4-H achieves success through five major units. The first is the 4-H Club. Members can belong to one or more clubs that are organized by an adult Club Coordinator. The second major units are the County Committees and Associations. These groups set the standards for projects, and a wide variety of activities. The next unit is the 4-H Leaders Council. This elected body consists of both adults and teens and serves as the governing body for 4-H.

Working closely with the Leaders Council is the Berrien County 4-H Foundation, Inc. This is a group of citizens and 4-H Leaders who oversee investments that provide the majority of the 4-H Youth Program funding. Lastly, the Michigan State University Extension Office provides the management of the 4-H Youth Program and takes care of the day-to-day operations. For additional information, please contact the Michigan State University Extension Office in Berrien County at 269-927-5674.
Galien


Niles

**The Crew**—Rabbits, Poultry, Arts & Crafts

Sodus

**Town & Country-Paws & Pals** - Dogs

Stevensville

**Derbyshire** – Horse & Pony, Animal Science Notebooks, Horse Hippology

**Stewart** - Sewing, Woodworking (age 10 & up), Crocheting

St. Joseph

**Best Friends**—Dogs for disabled youth

**Tryon 4-H Saddle Club** - Horse & Pony, Animal Science Notebooks

Three Oaks

**Point of Impact**—Shooting Sports: Rifle, Arts & Crafts, Rabbits/Cavies, Poultry, Goats, Animal Science

**River Valley Wranglers** - Arts & Crafts, Photography, Horse & Pony, Horse Judging, Sewing, Poultry, Beef, Rabbits, Community Service, Goats, Sheep, Swine, Woodworking

Watervliet

**Four Flags** – Horse & Pony

**Straight Shooters** - Shooting Sports: Archery, Shotgun, Trap, 22 Rifle, Air Rifle, BB Gun, Muzzle Loading

Why Join Berrien County 4-H?

4-H in Berrien County offers a wide range of personal development experiences through projects that focus on gaining life skills that help youth succeed. Members range from age 5 through 19. 5-8 year old programming is activity-based, cooperative, fun and experiential. It allows youth members a variety of learning opportunities with a non-competitive focus. Based on age-appropriateness, members can also be involved in:

- Tours of many places around the county and state
- Local, state and national events that allow you to travel and meet 4-H’ers from our state, our country, and our world
- Everlasting friendships
- Developing skills to last a lifetime
- Citizenship Washington Focus as a 15-19 year old to spend a week visiting the nation’s capital
- Exploration Days places 11-19 year olds on the Michigan State University campus for 3 days of classes and activities
- Making a difference in our community
- Living the 4-H Motto: “Learning By Doing”

The combined efforts of parents, leaders, resource personnel, and the Michigan State University Extension staff provide opportunities for the youth of Berrien County to learn, grow, and have fun! Berrien County 4-H averages 600 members, 33 clubs, and is supported by over 200 adult volunteers.
**Berrien County 4-H Clubs**

Clubs are the core of the Berrien County 4-H Youth Program. Relationships with caring adults, enhancing life skills, and spending positive time with peers in a safe environment are the strengths of the 4-H club program. Some focus on the young people in a given community while others focus on a particular subject area - and involve young people from all across Berrien County. The following is a list of the active 4-H Clubs in Berrien County and some of the projects that they offer. Most of our clubs are also active in leadership, volunteerism, and citizenship development with an emphasis on community service.

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<tr>
<th>Berrien Springs</th>
<th>Double Bridle — Horse &amp; Pony</th>
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<td><strong>Baroda Bunnies</strong> — Rabbits</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Boots N Saddles</strong> — Horse &amp; Pony, Arts &amp; Crafts, Goats, Personalization, Sewing, Animal Science Notebook, Flower Arranging, Woodworking,</td>
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<td><strong>Fuzzy Friends</strong> — Llamas, Rabbits, Poultry, Art &amp; Crafts, Animal Science Notebooks, Robotics</td>
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<td><strong>High Spirits</strong> — Horse &amp; Pony</td>
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<td><strong>Rainbow Tracks</strong> — Poultry, Goats, Rabbits/Cavies, Sheep, Animal Science Notebooks, Sewing, Horse &amp; Pony, Swine, Knitting &amp; Crocheting, Sewing</td>
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<td><strong>Redbud Gypsies</strong> — Horse &amp; Pony</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>South Lakers</strong> — Arts &amp; Crafts, Crocheting, Foods &amp; Nutrition, Sewing, Woodworking, Weaving, Photography, Home Design, Quilting, Personalization</td>
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<td><strong>We Can Ride</strong> — 4-H therapeutic horseback riding and stable management for youth with Disabilities—PEP program</td>
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<th>Beechman</th>
<th>Al-Bar — Horse &amp; Pony</th>
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<td><strong>Happy Landings</strong> — Horse &amp; Pony</td>
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<td><strong>Great Expectations</strong> — Horse &amp; Pony</td>
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**Cribbs** — Baskets  
**Baroda**  
**Baroda Bunnies** — Rabbits  
**Boots N Saddles** — Horse & Pony, Arts & Crafts, Goats, Personalization, Sewing, Animal Science Notebook, Flower Arranging, Woodworking,  
**Fuzzy Friends** — Llamas, Rabbits, Poultry, Art & Crafts, Animal Science Notebooks, Robotics  
**High Spirits** — Horse & Pony  
**Tumbleweeds** — Horse & Pony  
**Teen/Service** — Youth Entrepreneurism, Community Service

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