

[View this email in your browser](#)



We hope you and your family are staying healthy!

The Maryland 4-H Volunteers' Association wants to thank our volunteers for all that you are doing to continue spreading the 4-H spirit. While it may be hard to stay positive with the continual delay of in-person programming, cancellation of events, and time of uncertainty, our youth members need us to stay positive, optimistic, and engaged. Thank you to the volunteers who are reaching out to families making sure they are ok. Thank you to the volunteers who are trying to move programs onto virtual platforms to provide consistency. Thank you to our volunteers who are working with county/city 4-H staff to develop innovative and creative ways of programming. We want to extend our gratitude to all of you! Our volunteer efforts are needed now, more than ever!

As a reminder to our volunteers, all in-person 4-H programming is canceled through July 31st. Starting August 1st, clubs and local programs can start to gradually resume safe and socially distant in-person opportunities following the guidelines set forth in Dr. Nia Fields,

State 4-H Program Leader's letter to families, fairs, and partners. To view this letter, please access <https://go.umd.edu/Guidelines>



Maryland 4-H Volunteers' Association

Thank you to all of the volunteers who attended our annual meeting and voted! It is a pleasure to announce our newly elected President and Vice President who will serve through fall of 2021.



President: Ms. Jennifer Hiscock
Carroll County



Vice-President: Ms. Hua "Eva" Guo
Montgomery County



Join Us
FOR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

We want your input!

We are happy to provide the opportunity for volunteers to participate in monthly general membership meetings from the comfort of your own home! Monthly meetings are open to any and all University of Maryland Extension volunteers and are an opportunity to dialogue with one another, share resources, and provide input as to the ever-changing needs of the association. We are here for you and nobody can tell us what you need better than YOU!

Our upcoming membership meeting dates are below:

July 23rd - Program: Virtual Games on Zoom for 4-H

August 10th - Program: Fundraisers and Financial Guidance for Clubs During COVID-19

September 17th - Program: State Council; Providing Opportunities for our Teens

To join the meeting, you may either connect virtually through Zoom or use the call-in option. Details are below:

Zoom link: <https://umd.zoom.us/j/5903694014>

Call-in option: 1-929-436-2866 and meeting code 590 369 4014



Volunteers embrace the 4 H's, but the Volunteers' Association is committed to embracing the 4 C's to help strengthen and further develop our volunteer base: Celebrations, Challenges, Communication, and Commitment.

CELEBRATIONS

We had such a great time spotlighting our wonderful volunteers during National Volunteer Week! The Association knows there are a large number of volunteers who deserve recognition; therefore, we want to continue spotlighting our volunteers all year long! If you know of a deserving volunteer to be spotlighted, please submit their information using our volunteer spotlight form located at <https://forms.gle/F1duwZWBizwshp5F8>

One volunteer will be spotlighted on our social media page per week and may even be featured in a future Volunteer Outreach monthly email!



This month we would like to recognize Dr. Kendra Wells! She is a stellar example of 4-H leadership and exemplifies a spirit of service having served the Maryland 4-H Program,

National 4-H Council, and youth around the world as the 4-H Military Liaison. The daughter of a career extension educator, Kendra grew up in the 4-H program. She participated in a local 4-H club for six years, spent a summer as a work-study student in the Prince George's County Extension office, and upon graduation from college, continued what would be a lifelong commitment to the values of 4-H youth development.

Kendra is always there when 4-H needs a hand and continues to support the program and the youth. She established a Maryland 4-H professional development scholarship and an undergraduate scholarship with the Maryland 4-H Foundation, supported by colleagues and family, as a tribute to her passion and commitment. She is passionate about building on the legacy of 4-H while helping to ensure that 4-H programs today and in the future are accessible to all youth and that 4-H at the local, state, and national levels reflects the rich geographic, racial, ethnic, gender and economic diversity of communities.

Kendra was selected as a 2020 inductee into the National 4-H Hall of Fame through National 4-H Council. A formal recognition ceremony will be held in October! Maryland 4-H is very proud of Kendra and cannot think of a more deserving candidate to receive this honor!



The Maryland 4-H Volunteer Awards are designed to recognize certified UME 4-H Volunteers for their dedication, hard work, and support of the Maryland 4-H Youth Development Program. There are a few awards that are designed to recognize non-4-H individuals or groups for their support of the 4-H Program, including the Friend of 4-H Award and the Partner in 4-H Award.

The nomination requirements are different for each award, focusing on either a specific quality or form of support rather than just a volunteer's years of service. All Certified UME 4-

H Volunteers are eligible for nomination, but they may be honored with an award only **once**.

The nomination process opens July 1 and closes September 30. You can access additional information and the online nomination portal through the volunteer website at <https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/4-h-program-areas/maryland-4-h-volunteer-awards>

If you have a volunteer celebration to be included in the next Volunteer Outreach monthly email, please send a short description to maryland4hvolunteersassociation@gmail.com

CHALLENGES

Looking for ideas to support your volunteer work during this time of social distancing? Join this one-hour Regional Share Fair to network with peers in the Northeast Region. Share your ideas, learn what others are doing, and find ways to support our essential volunteers. This opportunity will take place virtually on July 16, 2020 at 7:00pm. Registration is required to receive the participation link. Please register to attend at <http://go.uvm.edu/4hshare>

**4-H Volunteers:
Staying Connected
with Youth**



Looking for ideas to support youth in your clubs and programs during this time of social distancing? Join this one hour regional Share Fair to network with peers in the Northeast Region. Share your ideas, learn what others are doing, and find ways to support our youth.

**Thursday, July 16th
7:00-8:00 pm**

Please register in advance for this meeting by going to:
<http://go.uvm.edu/4hshare>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Brought to you by the
North East Volunteer Specialists and
the NE Region COVID-19 Volunteer Support Work Group

The Maryland 4-H Volunteers' Association is very excited to be re-engaging with our volunteers throughout the state. In our re-engagement efforts, the association wants to ensure that ALL volunteers know of their membership and ability to participate in our monthly meetings, training opportunities, and future events. The Volunteers' Association is open to all University of Maryland Extension trained volunteers! There is no membership application or fee to join. **We are here to help everyone!**

Maryland 4-H Volunteers' Association

The Volunteers' Association is open to all University of Maryland Extension trained volunteers! There is no membership application or fee to join.

We are here to help everyone!

The Association serves volunteers in the following capacities:

Training/Development

Mentors

Networking Opportunities

Delivery of Information

Advocates



You can stay connected with us at:

facebook.com/MD4HVOL OR md4hvolunteersassociation@gmail.com



COMMUNICATION

If you have served as a volunteer for 5+ years, you are expected to complete a volunteer refresher training, which is available as a video that can be accessed through the Volunteer Training webpage available at <https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/volunteers/training>

This training was created in response to requests from long-serving volunteers for a “refresher” on volunteer expectations and supported by data from the 2019 Maryland 4-H Volunteer Needs Assessment where volunteers expressed a clear need for training on 4-H Program Management competencies. It is designed to “refresh” an individual’s knowledge and understanding of volunteer and 4-H expectations and is intended for those who have served for five or more years as of 2020 (on-boarded as a UME 4-H Volunteer in 2015 or earlier).

COMMITMENT

We are committed to re-evaluating the structure, role, and responsibilities of a volunteer, as well as the Association as a whole! The Maryland 4-H Volunteers' Association is looking to change the way they support volunteers by advancing their practices, outreach, and communication into the decade of 2020 and beyond! Given the advancements, changes, and shift of demands in our society, please provide your input as to how you would like to see the Association change in the next 10 years.

Please provide your input by clicking [HERE](#)

All input will be taken into account as the Association starts to discuss changes, which will be presented during future General Membership meetings with a final plan to be presented at the 2020 Annual Meeting on October 10, 2020.



Please feel free to follow and contact us through Facebook or email. More information about the Maryland 4-H Volunteers' Association can also be found on the Maryland 4-H website.

Facebook - www.facebook.com/MD4HVOL/

Email - md4hvolunteersassociation@gmail.com

Website - <https://extension.umd.edu/4-h/volunteers/md-4-h-volunteer-association>
