



# **Engaging Volunteers**

Your guide to finding & engaging potential volunteers

**Brought to you by:** 





NIFA and National 4-H Council partnered to commission a comprehensive national study among current and prospective 4-H volunteers.

Harris Interactive was hired to conduct this twophased research project. To gather this data, they conducted:

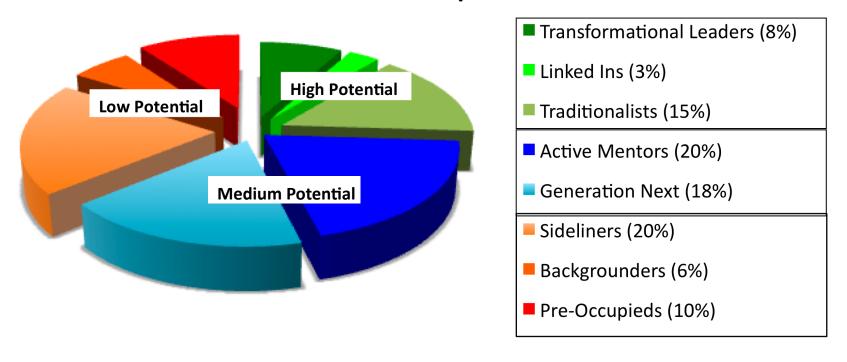
- One-on-one telephone interviews with volunteer specialists
- Online focus group sessions with current 4-H volunteers
- Survey of volunteers (both current and prospective volunteers)
- Results were tested via telephone focus group session with volunteer specialists

Following are the top five segments of people to target for 4-H volunteer recruitment based on matching mission and values.

For more information or to read the full research study, go to:

# **Volunteer Segments**

### % of Volunteer Population



Source: Harris Interactive Segmentation Study, September 2010



## **Engaging Volunteers: Prime Targets**

### **COMMON MOTIVATORS**

- Teach kids enduring life skills
- Have a positive impact on the next generation
- Apply what I've learned through hands-on experience

### **KEY MESSAGES**

- •You can have a positive impact on the next generation in your community by sharing your experience and knowledge
- •Help fuel the extraordinary efforts of our youth by joining the Revolution of Responsibility

## **Transformational Leaders**



### **Primary Motivators**

Want to be leaders/mentors for future generations
Like working with young people
Believe in the importance of teaching life skills
Like having longer-term engagements
Want to build relationships with kids
Like to set an example

### **4-H Relationship**

Extremely familiar with 4-H (72%)
Extremely favorable to what 4-H offers (70%)
1/3 say it never occurred to them to volunteer with 4-H

### Demographics

70% Female, 49% are 50+ Live in urban/suburban areas Spend a lot of time volunteering already (26.7 hrs./month) Most ethnically diverse segment (24% Black, 9% Hispanic)

### Lifestyle Interpretation

Experiences over things Active lifestyles

Care about multiple causes Highly organized

Natural leader, responsible Invest in what they believe in

Connected/in the know

# How to Approach Transformational Leaders

8%

### Why 4-H Needs You

•4-H needs caring, active volunteers to provide handson guidance and mentoring
•4-H seeks out natural leaders like you to set positive examples and build trusted relationships
•Help youth reach their full potential by building their confidence, leadership skills,

sense of responsibility

### Your 4-H Experience

•Do something you love by teaching important life skills through hands-on experiences
•A flexible experience where you decide your level of involvement; Volunteer in a variety of settings including in or after school, camp, or clubs

•90% of volunteers have been satisfied!

### **How You Make a Difference**

- •You will <u>lead by example</u> by having positive development of young people
- •When you share your experiences with 4-Hers, it pays its way forward as they make choices that matter and contribute to positive change in their lives

### **Touch Points\***

Community: Libraries, church, restaurants, grocery stores, gardening stores, parks

**Online**: MapQuest, photo share sites, recipe sites, medical sites, travel sites

TV: Weather channel, FOX news, CNN, Food Network, Lifetime, HGTV, Hallmark, NCIS

Magazines: AARP, Better Homes and Gardens, Good Housekeeping

Other: AM radio, direct mail to home

## Linked Ins



### **Primary Motivators**

Like to share their experiences/make an impact Want to apply what they've learned Like action and fun Inclined to episodic and virtual volunteering

### 4-H Relationship

Low familiarity with 4-H 62% have volunteered with youth organizations in the past Interest in 4-H rises when learn more about organization

### **Demographics**

58% Male

Highest educated (84% college+) – skills in SET

Highest income segment

High concentration of <50-year-olds

Highest representation of Hispanics at 16%

Already volunteering about 22 hours/month

### **Lifestyle Interpretation**

Highly engaged parents
Attend church regularly
Life revolves around their
children

Volunteer at child's school Draw on own childhood High value on family time

# How to Approach Linked Ins

3%

### Why 4-H Needs You

•4-H needs volunteers with a range of backgrounds and skills, especially skills in leadership training, science, engineering and technology, to create a positive impact on the next generation

### Your 4-H Experience

- •Enjoy hands-on experiences with a wide range of interests from robotics to photography •A flexible experience where you decide your level of involvement; Volunteer in a variety of settings including in or after school, camp, or clubs
- •90% of volunteers have been satisfied!

### How You Make a Difference

- •You will take an active role by having positive development of young people, and even learn new skills yourself
- •When you share your experiences with 4-Hers, it pays its way forward as they make choices that matter and contribute to positive change in their lives

### **Touch Points\***

**Community**: Restaurants, fitness centers, parent events, kids sports, home shows

Online: Facebook, YouTube, Weather.com, Google Maps/MapQuest, Amazon, Wikipedia, Gmail, ESPN

TV: Discovery, History, ESPN/ESPN2, TBS, TNT, Comedy Channel

## **Traditionalists**



### **Primary Motivators**

Interested in learning new skills Like working with different generations

### 4-H Relationship

Average familiarity with 4-H (53%) Above average favorability to what 4-H offers (62%) 4-H is already highly visible in their community

### Demographics

32% are rural residents
51% are 50+
66% Female
Least educated segment (46% HS grad or less)
Work/job responsibilities are an obstacle for volunteering but do so 18 hrs./month

### ifestyle Interpretation

Practical people Blue-collar Economic pressure

Bargain shoppers
Willing to roll up sleeves
Community is important

# How to Approach Traditionalists

15%

### Why 4-H Needs You

- •4-H needs volunteers to help young people of all ages succeed at home, in school and in life
- You can provide guidance and mentoring to enhance their confidence, leadership skills and their sense of responsibility to others

### Your 4-H Experience

- Enjoy hands-on experiences with others who enjoy learning new skills
- •A flexible experience where you decide your level of involvement; Volunteer in a variety of settings including in or after school, camp, or clubs
- •90% of volunteers have been satisfied!

### How You Make a Difference

- •Rolling up your sleeves and instilling confidence and compassion will create positive change and a lasting difference
- •When you share your experiences with 4-Hers, it pays its way forward as they make choices that matter and contribute to positive change in their lives

#### Touch Points\*

Community: Libraries, church, restaurants, grocery stores, gardening stores, parks

Online: MapQuest, photo share sites, recipe sites, medical sites, travel sites

TV: Weather channel, FOX news, CNN, Food Network, Lifetime, HGTV, Hallmark, NCIS

Magazines: AARP, Better Homes and Gardens, Good Housekeeping

Other: AM radio, direct mail to home

### **Active Mentors**



### **Primary Motivators**

Want to pass on the skills they've learned in life

### **4-H Relationship**

Average familiarity with 4-H (47%) Average favorability to what 4-H offers (49%)

### Demographics

Fairly equally balanced men/women
Oldest segment (52% are 50+)
Many retired (31%)
Beginning to have more time to volunteer than others
Average volunteering (17 hrs./month)
35% are rural residents

### Lifestyle Interpretation

Experience has given them strong opinions
Concerned about kids today – don't have skills needed

Active grandparents Loyal church-goers

# How to Approach Active Mentors

20%

### Why 4-H Needs You

- •4-H needs volunteers to provide youth with practical life skills, to reach their full potential
- •You can provide a positive impact on the next generation and enhance their confidence, skills and their responsibility to others

### **Your 4-H Experience**

- •Enjoy hands-on experiences working with young people and learn new skills
- •A flexible experience where you decide your level of involvement; Volunteer in a variety of settings including in or after school, camp, or clubs
- •90% of volunteers have been satisfied!

### **How You Make a Difference**

- •When you share your talents and life experiences with the 4-hers, you teach kids enduring life skills
- •You'll create change that makes a lasting difference paying its way forward as they make choices that matter and contribute to the community, their homes and the workplace

### **Touch Points\***

**Community**: Church, community banks, gardening stores, parks, traditional American events, hair salons,

barber shops, insurance agencies

Online: None

TV: Weather channel, FOX news, CNN, Lifetime, Hallmark, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

Magazines: AARP, financial magazines

Other: AM radio, direct mail to home, coupons

### **Generation Next**



### **Primary Motivator**

Want to teach skills to kids/be a mentor

### 4-H Relationship

Not very familiar with 4-H (30%)

### Demographic

### 70% Female

Youngest segment (41% 18-29 yrs.) (40% 30-49 yrs.)
On the verge of starting families, many students in this group Fairly diverse group (15% Black, 12% Hispanic)
Highest concentration of urban dwellers (35%)
Low volunteering pattern (12 hrs./month)

### Lifestyle Interpretation

Parents-in-training
Working at first "real" job
Trying to figure it all out
Have many priorities

Believe the future will be better than the past Altruistic –improve the world Care about a variety of issues

# How to Approach Generation Next

18%

### Why 4-H Needs You

- •4-H needs volunteers with unique skills and experiences that can help kids discover and explore what matters to them most
- •Even if you haven't done a lot of volunteering, you can apply what you have learned through volunteering with 4-H

### Your 4-H Experience

- •Enjoy hands-on experiences with a wide range of interests from robotics to photography •A flexible experience where you decide your level of involvement; Volunteer in a variety of settings including in or after school, camp, or clubs
- •90% of volunteers have been satisfied!

### How You Make a Difference

- •You will make a positive difference in your community by teaching young people skills, confidence and compassion, so they're set up for success
- •When you share your experiences with 4-Hers, it pays its way forward as they move toward a life of successful contributions

#### Touch Points\*

**Community:** church, school related activities, parades, grocery stories, fitness centers, pet stores/vets

Online: Facebook, YouTube, Weather.com, MapQuest, Amazon, Wikipedia

TV: Food Network, A&E, Lifetime, ABC Family, TLC, HGTV, Disney, E!, Academy Awards

**Magazines:** People, Better Homes & Gardens **Radio**: Contemporary and urban FM stations