Positive Youth Development and the 4-H Thriving Model
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, February 22, 24 and 26, 2021
9-10:30 AM for Presentations and 1-2 PM for Discussions
Pacific Standard Time (PST)
Pre-register at https://ucanr.edu/4thrivereregistration
Limited to the first 100 registrants!

This series of three 90-minute webinars is designed to introduce 4-H educators to the 4-H Thriving Model, the Science of Learning and Development (SoLD) that is the body of evidence supporting the model, and the connection between transformative learning, thriving, and opportunity for all youth. Each webinar has specific learning objectives, and includes an assessment of pre- and post-session learning for participants.

Webinar #1: Monday, February 22
Introduction to the 4-H Thriving Model
Presentation 9-10:30 AM: How does 4-H work its magic? This webinar presents an overview of the 4-H Thriving Model, which describes the process of positive youth development (PYD) in 4-H programs. Participants will learn about the model’s three components: (1) Creating effective developmental contexts for youth; (2) promoting youth thriving; and (3) achieving PYD outcomes. Participants will learn about the connection of the model to the Essential Elements used in 4-H programs and how the model connects with 4-H Common Measures 2.0.

Reflection and Discussion Session: 1-2 PM

Webinar #2: Wednesday, February 24
Introduction to the Science of Learning and Development (SoLD)
Presentation 9-10:30 AM: What is the science behind the magic? The science of learning and development (SoLD) is the body of research evidence that undergirds the field of positive youth development. Participants in this webinar will learn about the eight key findings of learning and development and the recommended best practices for a “whole child” approach to education. The webinar will connect the SoLD principles to the 4-H Thriving Model so participants understand how these principles are an intentional part of high-quality 4-H youth programs. A special emphasis will be placed on the science of adolescence, with particular emphasis on brain development and stress.

Reflection and Discussion Session: 1-2 PM

Webinar #3: Friday, February 26
Thriving, Robust Equity and Positive Youth Development
Presentation 9-10:30 AM: How do we practice the magic? The third webinar in the series focuses on how learning in 4-H is transformative for youth in 4-H. Using common 4-H program settings such as camp, fair, and leadership events, webinar participants will develop a better understanding of how practice is aligned with science to promote youth thriving. The webinar will also introduce the concept of robust equity, and how attention to equity can ensure opportunity for all youth in 4-H to thrive.

Reflection and Discussion Session: 1-2 PM

Biography of Presenter: Dr. Mary Arnold is a professor in the Human Development and Families Sciences program, and a 4-H youth development specialist at Oregon State University. Dr. Arnold’s work focuses on translating the science of youth development into best practices in youth development programs. Since 2013 she has worked to develop a theoretical model of change for the 4-H program based on current developmental science. She currently chairs the PLWG Advancing the 4-H Thriving Model task force, collaborating with over 40 4-H professionals to provide professional development, conduct further research on the model, and ensure organizational alignment across the 4-H system. Dr. Arnold is currently on special assignment as the Director of Youth Development Research and Practice with National 4-H Council. A trained developmental scientist, Dr. Arnold received her MS and PhD from Oregon State University, with a focus in adolescent development, she received her bachelor’s degree in developmental psychology from Western Washington University.

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