

4-H Youth Development Advisor (Placer and Nevada Counties)

Position Description: The 4-H Youth Development (4-H YD) Advisor will design, implement and evaluate educational and applied research programs that improve the overall well-being of youth, families, and communities and help youth develop into healthy, thriving, self-directed, productive citizens. Advisor will demonstrate knowledge, leadership, and research expertise in youth development and volunteer management. S/he will collaborate with local professionals, UC ANR advisors, specialists, and relevant program teams to address positive youth development, science literacy, and healthy living. The advisor will provide leadership to 4-H YD programs/clubs in Placer and Nevada. S/he is expected to have expertise in youth development, and desired expertise in community development and program evaluation.

Justification: Position aligns with the ANR Healthy Families and Communities Strategic Initiative and with the following ANR public value statements:

2. Developing a qualified workforce for California. Current projects include computer coding, robotics, mechatronics, resume building, and job interview practice.

6. UC ANR: Promoting healthy people and communities. Existing collaboration with UC CalFresh. Placer has a Healthy Living project. Youth promote healthy living at events/meetings.

7. UC ANR: Developing an inclusive and equitable society. The Embryology program brings a very diverse audience to 4-H, and has resulted in parity for both Placer and Nevada.

Extension: Advisor will promote healthy families and communities by designing, delivering and evaluating strategies for sustained behavior changes in youth and their families. Advisor will have the opportunity to work with Placer and Nevada 4-H members, their families, and communities, along with local after-school programs. Position supports existing strong local youth development networks of public and non-profit organizations and agencies and offers numerous collaborative opportunities.

Placer and Nevada 4-H YD programs are supported by 1.5 FTE Community Education Specialists (CES) and serve over 1,000 youth and 281 volunteers in the community club program. Placer 4-H YDP also provides school enrichment and embryology programs that serve over 4,000 youth and 400 adult leaders.

Research: The HFC Strategic Plan identified a series of critical questions relevant to Placer/Nevada and could be addressed by this advisor, including 1) program factors or community strategies which contribute to Positive Youth Development; 2) outcomes and impacts of a multifaceted youth development program on positive youth development and science literacy; 3) effectiveness of using youth as peer educators to deliver science and nutrition curriculum. Advisor will publish results through UC Delivers, professional articles, peer-reviewed publications, local, state, and national conferences, and online media.

ANR continuum: Advisor will join a team of campus and county-based youth development experts. This 4-H YD advisor will be uniquely positioned to test current and new youth, family and community strategies and contribute to research in youth development. This will aid the design, delivery, and evaluation of strategies for sustained behavior changes. The results will lead to effective policies for all of California.

Support: Placer and Nevada will provide office space, secretarial services, phone, computer, internet, email, website, and support for local travel. County funding supports 1 FTE in clerical support for 4-H. 1.5 FTE UC Community Education Specialists support 4-H. Current program funding includes: Placer County budget of \$20,000 to support 4-H program, CES, and embryology. \$20,000+ in local grants annually to support the Robotics program, 4-H SET funding for rocketry and digital photography.

Other support: Two program teams, Positive Youth Development and Scientific Literacy recognize a significant gap in youth development in Placer and Nevada counties support this 4-H Advisor position.

Location: Advisor will be located in the Placer/Nevada Unit with offices in Auburn and Grass Valley. The position will be headquartered in Auburn, Placer County, CA.