

2021 UC ANR CE Position Template (Advisor/Specialist)

Position Title: UCCE Fresno, Kings and Tulare County requests the position of an Area 4-H Youth Development Advisor to serve Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties, including programmatic activities.

Position: Briefly describe: The Advisor is responsible for the assessment, development, implementation, and evaluation of youth development programs and applied research around Positive Youth Development and in advancing the 4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development. The position will require a minimum of a Master's level degree in an area related to Youth and/or Adult Education (emphasizing Youth Learning theory, Psychology, Out-of-School-Time Programming, Youth and Community Development, or related areas). The 4-H Advisor will report to the County Director for Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties. The 4-H Advisor will have programmatic oversight of the education and extension activities of 4-H programs in Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties. The primary focus of the 4-H Advisor will be to continue engaging in applied research and extension projects related to Positive Youth Development.

The 4-H Youth Development Programs in Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties contributes to successful impacts in the following condition changes: developing a qualified workforce for California through increased civic engagement, college and career readiness and building effective public leaders; and promoting healthy people and communities through access to positive built and natural environments and developing youth leaders active in promoting improved community wellness.

Justification: The need for a 4-H advisor in these three counties is significant. There are currently no advisors with Youth, Families, and Communities responsibilities this region. Nonetheless there are robust 4-H programs and personnel in Fresno, Kings and Tulare Counties in need of leadership and academic expertise. UC ANR also seeks to significantly improve its reach of our 4-H programs in these rural communities and it is imperative that we have an advisor with research and extension knowledge and expertise to lead and optimize results.

Extension: The advisor will promote 4-H Positive Youth Development programs by designing, delivering and evaluating strategies for sustained behavior changes in youth and their families. The advisor will have the opportunity to work with Fresno, Tulare and Kings Counties 4-H members, their families, community agencies, school and after-school programs. The position supports existing strong local youth development networks of public and non-profit organizations and agencies and offers numerous collaborative opportunities.

Research: We have identified a series of critical research areas relevant to our region that 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;
- 3) Efficacy and relevance of the 4-H Thriving Model of Positive Youth Development in California;
- 4) Effectiveness of using youth as peer educators to youth development programs and curricula.

The advisor will publish results through UC Delivers, scholarly peer-reviewed publications, and will also present findings at local, state, and national conferences, and with online media.

ANR Network: The advisor will interact as part of a diverse statewide team, collaborating with 4-H Youth Development Advisors, the Positive Youth Development Program Team, UCCE specialists, the State 4-H Office Academic Coordinator for Volunteer Engagement, the ANR Healthy Families and Communities Strategic Initiative Leader. In addition, the Advisor will be expected to form collaborative interdisciplinary connections beyond the Healthy Families and Communities area.

Network External to ANR: The advisor will interact as part of a diverse local team across the three-county region to develop programs and conduct applied research for new youth audiences not presently engaged in 4-H programming. This will take place by developing partnerships and collaborations with local youth development partners in formal and non-formal education settings, through community service organizations, county government, and with youth-serving agencies.

Support: Support for this position, including office space, travel, communication (telephone, internet) and clerical support is available from all three Counties. Start-up funds will be used to purchase a computer and additional funding will be made available for research and program support from the previous advisor's various donor accounts.

Other support: It is expected that research support will come from externally funded competitive grants and in partnership with local community groups. Program guidance will come from the 4-H state office and through statewide and national 4-H networking and professional development opportunities. Local applied research should emphasize program impacts supporting UC ANR condition changes and can be accomplished through applied evaluation and impact design conducted by the advisor and collaborative work groups within UCCE.

Headquarters and Coverage Area: This position will be headquartered at our UCCE Tulare County office located at 4437 S Laspina St, Tulare, CA 93274.

Developed and proposed by: Karmjot Randhawa, County Director UCCE Fresno, Madera, Tulare and Kings Counties and co-authored by the Positive Youth Development Program Team with support from Statewide 4-H Director Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty.