

Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council (TLC)

Hannah K. Epley and Becca Goodman, State 4-H Office



The 2016-2017 Ohio Teen Leadership Council

INTRODUCTION

The Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council (TLC) is a statewide group of 4-H teens and young 4-H alumni that provides a youth stakeholder perspective in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of Ohio 4-H programming. In this process, council members develop knowledge, skills, attitudes, and aspirations needed for future success. Council members share advice and recommendations to 4-H professionals in order to improve, strengthen, and expand the Ohio 4-H program. Members also make recommendations regarding opportunities for Ohio 4-H teen programming. They serve as a sounding board for Ohio 4-H program direction.

WHAT

There was a merge between the Ambassador program and the Teen Advisory Council (TAC) groups. Beginning September 1, 2016 this group is known as the *Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council (TLC)*.



Council members participating in a workshop.

WHY THE NEW GROUP FORMED

- There was confusion with county 4-H professionals and in turn older youth on the difference between the TAC and Ambassadors.
- There was confusion among the older youth who were members of the groups as to what their role is.
- Both groups were doing similar programs.
- The majority of the funds used to support these programs are earmarked for “teen” programs.
- Most states have one statewide council/board.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COUNCIL

- Have a definitive leadership role for youth who engage and participate at the state level.
- Offer multiple levels of responsibility, so youth may select their level of involvement.
- Provide a structure to assist youth develop throughout their tenure as an older 4-H youth member.
- Create a unified program for the teens to be involved at the state level, and in turn has comradery among all older youth in Ohio 4-H.



Council members shared 4-H programming information with 4-H Foundation Board members at their fall luncheon.

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- Must be 14-18 as of January 1 the year of application to apply for white, green, silver, and gold levels. Platinum level must be 18-20 years old (as of January 1) when they apply.
- Must be an Ohio 4-H member. (or alumni if applying for platinum).
- Youth apply annually and serve a one year term. Individuals may re-apply for multiple years.

CURRENT COUNCIL PROJECTS

- Reaches Out Curriculum
- Committees planning various activities and events
- State Event Assistance (skillathons, still project judging, achievement award banquet, etc.)
- Race Event Planning
- O4HC Luncheon planning
- State Fair 4-H Educational Display
- Foundation Board Youth Representatives
- Delegates to National 4-H Conference
- Assist in county events and workshops



2016-2017 Officer Team at their officer retreat.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- Serve at Ronald McDonald House
- Donate Items to Lighthouse Shelter
- Ohio 4-H Cares for Kids-donations to Children's Hospital
- Military Donations
- Foster Care Donations
- Hurricane Relief Donations

APPLICATION INFORMATION

- May/June: Gold, Silver, and Platinum level applications due, in-person candidate interviews
- August (Friday following the Ohio State Fair): white and green applications due.
- August (mid-late): Phone interviews for white and green candidates
- Late August: Applicants notified of selection
- September 1-August 31: Term for selected level
- Individuals have an opportunity to apply for their preferred level of involvement and responsibility. A selection committee determines the final decision regarding what the responsibility is for each applicant, if selected to the council.

COUNCIL LEVELS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The following lists the various levels the council offers and the respective responsibility of each level.

Year(s) on the Council	Level	Responsibility
1-5 years	White	(Member) Participates in meetings Works statewide events
1-5 years	Green	(Committee Member) Participates in meetings Works statewide events Serves on a committee
2-5 years	Silver	(Committee Chair) Participates in meetings Works statewide events Leads a committee in achieving their goal(s) Informs officers and advisors of committee happenings and progress
2-5 years	Gold	(Officer) Participates in meetings Works statewide events Leads council in achieving their goal(s) Serve as the “first contact” for the youth voice perspective for statewide programs
3-5 years	Platinum	(Junior Advisor) Participates in meetings Overseas state programs and events Assists members, chairs, and officers to achieve their goals(s)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Applications are due the Friday following the Ohio State Fair for first year applicants.
- Applications and additional information are available online (go.osu.edu/TLC).

