

4-H Afterschool in **Florence County** is a partnership with Spread Eagle Sporting, a non-profit organization. We have two separate programs. One program is for 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders that meets twice a month throughout the school year and then again in the summer. The other program at this time is offered in the summer only. This program is designed for 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders and meets eight times during the summer.

The 4-H curriculum that is emphasized is determined by the participant's interest and themes that have been established by the staff. This year we have utilized the following 4-H curriculum: leadership, foods, leathercraft, aerospace and palette of fun.



Spread Eagle Sporting staff, local teens, other community partners and Extension staff lead the programs. Our sites are unique

because we do a lot with little resources. "No one can do everything, but everyone can and does do something," states Dallapiazza. "Our people are the key to our success."

Afterschool is structured loosely but includes the following three components: snack, social time and a structured activity. The activities are determined based on a participant inventory and available resources. During the summer there is an Outdoor Adventure program that builds leadership skills and emphasizes giving back to the community.

Our summer program for elementary students has 7 components: physical



activity, creativity, specials, garden, reading, lunch and junior leadership with community service.



In Florence County our 4-H program is in its infancy and if anything our afterschool programming has increased our visibility and has bolstered a new enthusiasm for 4-H.

Some of the challenges we face center around working in collaborations. These challenges have been identified as the 5 T's; time, talent, trust, turf and tradition. Recognizing these issues and putting them out on the table has helped build a more cohesive group and has allowed us to successfully work together for years.

**5  
T  
'  
S**

Our success has been the ability to offer major programming consistently without a major source of funding. Florence County is the black



hole for funding. We have no Boys & Girls club, YMCA or 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Center, or United Ways, yet we are able to pool(bag) what we do have and make it work for not only the youth, but also our families. Simply doing it because it is what is right to do!