



100 YEARS OF 4-H

# WISCONSIN CONVERSATIONS ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

When the 4-H movement reached its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, people didn't want to simply celebrate – they wanted to begin creating a better world for youth in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

UW-Extension and 4-H hosted local and state meetings for the “National Conversation on Youth Development,” engaging about 2,000 people in discussions at the local level in fall 2001. More than 300 youth and adults from around Wisconsin gathered in January 2002 on the UW-Madison campus to discuss how to make the state a better place for young people.

Eighteen delegates from Wisconsin participated in the National Conversation in Washington, D.C., in February 2002.



*I found out at a young age, that the way you find satisfaction is in service to other people. 4-H embodies that principle.”*

*Herb Kohl, U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, Honorary Chair for the Wisconsin 4-H Centennial.*

## WISCONSIN PARTICIPANTS BELIEVE COMMUNITIES CAN BE BETTER PLACES FOR YOUTH.

### HERE'S WHAT THEY RECOMMEND:

- **Create a culture in which youth are equal partners in decision-making and governance.**
- **Encourage youth community service and civic involvement.**
- **Recognize the ideas and efforts of youth.**
- **Provide more opportunities for youth and adults to learn about and experience cultural diversity.**
- **Establish innovative youth centers that actively engage youth.**

# 4-H IN WISCONSIN

4-H was established in Wisconsin in 1914.

44,757 young people belong to 2,229 4-H clubs in the state.

A total of 193,819 youth participate in 4-H youth development programs.

20,125 adults participate as 4-H volunteer leaders.

5,377 young people are youth volunteer leaders.



State political leaders Sen. Herb Kohl, former Rep. Steve Gunderson (left) and several state legislators participated in the state conversation.

Wisconsin youth and adults pledged **323,969** hours to community service projects through “The Power of Youth” campaign. They presented that pledge, in the form of a large check, to state government leaders who participated in the conversation on Youth Development.

Nationally some 1,300 conversations took place, with more than 33,000 people participating.



Delegate with UW-Extension chancellor Kevin Reilly.

For more information about 4-H and The Power of Youth, contact your 4-H youth development agents at your county University of Wisconsin-Extension office. Or contact the state office at 608-263-1095.

