

## **Budget Justification Resources**

### **Frequently Asked Questions – continued**

#### ***10. What Does a 4-H Youth Development Agent Contribute to your County?***

The Future of our state depends on the ability of our youth. Youth continue to be our most valuable resource. In order to be successful in life, youth need to learn skills such as responsibility, interpersonal communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving. Helping youth to develop in positive ways can help to buffer the challenges that they will face throughout their lives.

We know it is far more expensive, both financially and emotionally, to help redirect youth who have become involved in inappropriate behaviors. The 4-H Youth Development Program is preventative. Our goal is to provide youth, and their families, with knowledge and experiences can help foster positive and productive behaviors.

#### ***How Do Youth Development Programs Help?***

##### 4-H Youth Development Agents Work in Partnership with Volunteers:

The success of 4-H can be attributed to the tremendous involvement of adult and youth volunteers. County 4-H Youth Development Agents provide these volunteers with current information on youth development, teaching strategies, and program design. They work with other youth service agency professionals, such as schools, the judicial systems, after-school care and county fair boards to provide strong training programs.

##### County Agent Provide the Link to UW System Campuses:

County 4-H Youth Development Agents have access to campus specialists who provide information that can help volunteers work effectively with youth.

##### County Agents Provide Education:

County 4-H Youth Development Agents provide educational leadership to one of the largest non-formal youth organizations in the world - 4-H. The 4-H Program uses a variety of methods such as community clubs and school programs. Social issues which affect the entire community, such as parenting education, teenage drinking, and youth employment are often addressed.

##### 4-H Youth Development Agents Serve as Catalyst to Get Things Done:

County 4-H Youth Development Agents understand community needs and concerns. They act as facilitators to help citizens address issues that affect youth. By networking with others, 4-H Youth Development Agents help to prevent duplication of efforts and strengthen the local communities' commitment to serving youth and their families.

4-H Youth Development Agents Tailor Programs to Meet Local Needs:

Educational programs are targeted to meet specific needs of communities. In some cases youth will join a 4-H Club, in other instances they will take part in school or special interest programs.