

BENEFITS OF ESTABLISHING A COUNTY 4-H ENDOWMENT FUND WITH THE WISCONSIN 4-H FOUNDATION

Ten important points to consider when contemplating a county 4-H endowment fund...

1. **TAX DEDUCTIBILITY**

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and its investing partner, the University of Wisconsin Foundation, are 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations and gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

2. **PERMANENT FUNDING**

A county 4-H endowment fund provides a permanent source of funding to support local 4-H programming needs. As federal, state, and county sources of funding become more uncertain, private funding can play an integral role in county 4-H program work.

3. **MINIMIZE MANAGEMENT**

Establishing a county 4-H endowment fund through the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is an effective way of minimizing the local financial management needed to satisfy the fiduciary responsibility for funds given to a county 4-H program.

4. **MAXIMIZE YIELD**

Our partnership with the University of Wisconsin Foundation helps maximize the long-term growth and yield of a county 4-H fund. As one of the nation's largest and most successful university foundations, the University of Wisconsin Foundation provides growth and stability to all invested 4-H funds.

5. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

Professional staff at the University of Wisconsin Foundation and the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation provide financial management, accounting services, and donor acknowledgement. (Please note that solicitation of county 4-H funds is the responsibility of county 4-H representatives.) Staff are always available to answer your questions.

6. **CONTINUITY OF SERVICE**

By giving management authority to the University of Wisconsin Foundation, there will be consistency in service and record keeping through the years.

7. **WISCONSIN 4-H IS BENEFITTED**

A county 4-H endowment fund with the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation helps build the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation's assets, thus benefiting all of Wisconsin 4-H.

8. **GUARANTEED INCOME**

The county is always guaranteed an annual income of 4.75% of the fund principal. The principal will grow through gifts to the fund and interest earned via investments of the fund.

9. **DONOR INCENTIVE**

A properly managed endowment fund provides donors with an incentive to give, plus the security of knowing their gift will be used effectively.

10. COUNTY RETAINS CONTROL OF THE INCOME

The county 4-H program has sole authority in deciding when and how their income will be used.

“Going with the 4-H Foundation is the way to go.” Sandy, about their county 4-H fund.

COUNTY AND WISCONSIN 4-H FOUNDATION RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation will:

- Provide an annual report on the fund status, and update reports upon request.
- Deposit and track all monies received to the account and acknowledge the donors.
- Acknowledge memorial and honorarium gifts.
- Make withdrawals upon request of the county.
- Be an information resource for the county in its endowment fundraising efforts.

The county will:

- Be responsible for all fundraising efforts.
- Determine the use of the income.
- Recognize donors to their endowment fund.