



## **Strengthening club leadership Training capable 4-H leaders**

4-H club and project leaders need training, resources and support for their own continuing success and for the sustainability of the 4-H program. Volunteer leaders need to be more sophisticated, better prepared and more accountable. UW-Extension recognizes their responsibility to help meet that expectation.

### **Response:**

The 4-H team working to strengthen club leadership ramped up volunteer training efforts in 2005 and 2006. They developed new training materials and put them on a Web site. They offered workshops in three locations across the state where they shared these new club resources and tools. Three more workshops were held in early 2006.

### **Outcomes:**

69 people – 45 adults, 17 youth and 7 4-H staff members -- participated in three regional trainings in 2005. These people were club leaders, members of club teams, youth leaders and club officers.

After the training, participants responded to an evaluation. Almost all of them reported they felt better prepared to use activities and concepts taught to increase effectiveness of their 4-H club.

They reported that, as a result of the training, they would more actively welcome new members and support families, involve more people in decision-making, and become more active users of the 4-H Web site and its resources.

***“Strong, capable, volunteers are essential components of the 4-H movement in America. The 4-H movement provides opportunities for all youth to participate in innovative, fun programs through which they can develop valuable life skills. (National Conversations on Youth in the 21<sup>st</sup>. Century Report 2002, National 4-H Council).***

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