



Positive Youth Development Programming: April-June 2025



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Needs Assessment

- Youth have an opportunity to explore their spark(s)
- Mentorship programs where older youth (ages 15-24) can mentor or volunteer for younger generations.
- Youth engagement increases in county level programming

Hatching New Ideas in 4-H spark series for our Cloverbud (K-2 graders)-April

I taught the Youth Mental Health session on Puzzling World session while AmeriCorp member, Molly taught Collage ornament. We asked the parents to help youth respond to the following evaluation questions:

- 100 percent responded that they learned something new tonight.
- 100 percent responded that doing the kit at home gave them a chance to connect with my family
- 100 percent responded that they were excited about the next session.

Parents: shared one thing their child learned: "how to clean up glitter, how to decorate bulbs, making creating are cool, and they don't have to match the plan exactly, to have fun, Harper learned that creating stuff is fun, how to make an ornament, to have fun, thinking of improving skills every day".

Youth also attended educational project programs taught by volunteers. Those included:

- Archery
- Dogs
- Poultry, Rabbits and Cavies

Youth Safety Day-May

The Kubota/Progressive Ag Safety Zone is a program which features four different stations with volunteers teaching a different safety lesson at each station. Three 4-H youth volunteers taught safety lessons. It was a great opportunity for 4-H teens to gain some public speaking, community outreach, and leadership skills!

Outcomes of Effort

15 youth attended the event with their families to learn about safety from the 3 youth leaders and another community member

This was shared on the Beaver Dam Chatter page "Wow what an awesome fun little event put on by Powersports Company. The kids got some super cute things, learned about safety, and the end free fresh lemonade, cotton candy and shaved ice. Thank you for a fun little event. Can't wait until next time!!"

Tri-County Summer Camp-June

A 3 night overnight summer camp at Camp Lakotah for campers from Columbia, Dodge, and Sauk counties in grades 3-8 where youth participated in an immersive camp experience featuring educational and recreational activities. Through this program, participants deepened their connection to the Wisconsin 4-H, enhancing their independence, leadership, and social skills.

Youth mental health was identified as an area of need at the Dodge County Community Forum. Izzy, the Positive Youth Development Intern and I taught a session on youth mental health called Chill Out. The session is best described as life can be tough, but dealing with stress and making decisions doesn't have to be! From the session 68% of the youth indicated that the session taught them how to calm themselves down. Overall, at camp the youth identified they

- 78% said they feel more confident and are able to do more things on their own,
- 98% shared they learned something new,
- 71% answered they found out they liked trying new things, even if they're hard at first.

Current Projects:

- Summer AmeriCorps programs
- Education at the county fair