



Ozaukee County 4-H Programming: April 2026



Extension 4-H Program Educator, Abi Quinlan, is working to enhance youth development opportunities through the 4-H program. She strives to strengthen local engagement, expand outreach, and provide meaningful learning experiences for youth and their families. Her work

focuses on building a robust and sustainable program that supports both new and existing members.

Priority Areas

Youth Empowerment – Prioritizing youth empowerment by creating opportunities for young people to lead, make decisions, and partner with adults in meaningful ways. Through youth-led clubs, leadership roles, and community engagement, members build confidence, voice, and a sense of belonging. The focus is on helping youth see themselves as capable contributors who can shape their communities and their own futures.

College and Career Readiness - Helping youth identify their interests and strengths while building transferable skills like communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. Project-based learning, leadership experiences, and exposure to post-secondary and career pathways support informed decision-making beyond high school. These experiences are designed to connect learning today with success in education, careers, and life.

Countywide Key Highlights:

- Ozaukee County 4-H Educator is being recognized for her collaborative programming efforts with Washington and Fond du Lac county 4-H programs, receiving two statewide awards – one from the Joint Council of Extension Professionals and another from the Wisconsin Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals.

- Ozaukee County 4-H has seen an increase of 8% membership from 2024-25 to 2025-26!

Current Projects:

- **2026 Summer Camp Planning**
 - 2026 camp dates are set for June 18-21, 2026; new location will be Camp Lakotah
 - Youth leaders are leading the planning with support from Educator and key adult volunteers
- **4-H Club & Group Meetings**
 - Attending meetings helps build relationships, support club health, and guide improvements in youth engagement.
- **Partnership with Cedarburg School District**
 - Successfully completed programming in collaboration with CSD, reaching over 200 youth in the district
- **2026 Club Officer Training**
 - Teaching youth leaders how to run meetings and manage responsibilities. Influenced by the Older Youth Council to ensure programming meets their needs.
- **2026 Volunteer Training**
 - Preparing club leaders with tools and updates to support safe, effective programs.
 - New monthly e-newsletter focused on equipping leaders with more small consumable tips to engage youth.
- **2026 Board Member Training**
 - Helping club boards understand roles, improve communication, and lead confidently.
- **2026 Cloverbud Programming**
 - Three one-day programs for youth in K-2 grades throughout the summer to expose them to key concepts of 4-H through hands on activities.
 - Engaging older youth to provide low-barrier leadership opportunities.
- **Countywide Family Engagement Ideas**
 - With the end of The Haunt, new ideas are being researched to support on-going countywide family engagement type events, such as Open Mic nights and Trunk or Treat events.