Support 4-H during the county fair

Source: Mark Mains, assistant director of Kentucky 4-H youth development

County fairs and 4-H go hand-in-hand. With fair season firing up, now is a great time to show your support for local 4-H members.

The (COUNTY NAME) Fair runs from (TIMES, DATES) at (LOCATION, INCLUDING ADDRESS).

4-H project exhibits are often one of the highlights of county fairs. Our young people have worked so hard during what has been a really strange and difficult year, and the fair is their opportunity to showcase their best work. If you know a young person with a 4-H exhibit, be sure to congratulate them on a job well done.

You can also show your appreciation for 4-H by cheering on members competing in one of our on-site competitions, including livestock and horse shows. Our young people love to showcase their skills in front of a crowd.

During our livestock shows and sales, you can directly help your local 4-H’ers by purchasing all or a portion of a 4-H project animal, or you can serve as a connector to a business or other community members who might want to show their support for 4-H.

In addition to project work, many 4-H groups often sell concessions at the fair. This gives you another opportunity to directly support local 4-H programs while enjoying a cold drink or treat. It doesn’t get much better than that.

Our fair would not be possible without a ton of behind-the-scenes work from a lot of people. Volunteers who are willing to help 4-H staff with registration, events, take down and clean up are so appreciated, and we always welcome those willing to help. If you would like to help with 4-H events at the fair, contact the extension office.

You can also promote 4-H and the county fair through your business, personal or professional social media accounts and signage.

Perhaps the most meaningful thing you can do to support 4-H, regardless of the time of year or event, is to get your young people involved in 4-H and encourage others to do so. We really do have something for everyone. A vibrant 4-H program helps build a strong community of adults who are committed to positive youth development and seeing our kids succeed.

For more ways to support 4-H, contact the (COUNTY NAME) office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

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