



# SACRAMENTO COUNTY 4-H 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



## Building Back

BY MARIANNE BIRD  
4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ADVISOR

The Covid pandemic isn't over, but most of us are relieved that we are back in school, collaborating in-person with work mates, and joining with friends and family in our favorite activities. In Sacramento 4-H we share that sentiment. We are grateful that our clubs are meeting, camp is happening, and our afterschool partners are back in business.

The pandemic brought both challenge and opportunity to 4-H. Membership dropped dramatically when clubs could no longer meet in person, when camps were shuttered, and when school districts paused their afterschool programs where we deliver STEM projects. We lost kids. We lost volunteers. We lost projects, programs and even clubs. But... what we didn't lose was our sense purpose and our desire to serve.

During Covid we birthed the Virtual Cooking Academy, a six-week, teen-led cooking project that brought the ideas and energy of teenagers to 4th-6th graders learning to prepare safe, healthy snacks. The teen teachers amazed us with their creativity (and technology skills!), and the program continues now in-person at Expedited Learning sites in Elk Grove. We furthered our reach with 4-H Day Camp at River Bend Park these past two summers. We formed a Day Camp Committee of volunteers, youth and 4-H staff to plan and deliver a stellar week-long program last year. Evaluations confirmed its value for the kids that learned and loved it, and the parents who were looking for engaging summer activities for their children.

In both the loss we felt and the new programs we embraced, Sacramento County 4-H is "building back." Club membership is on the rise and numbers are up 33% from last year. We have contracts in place with school districts to serve more youth than ever in our afterschool science education projects. And, we welcome a new staff person to our team of 4-H professionals—Michelle Ross—who is onboard to serve and develop our 4-H clubs and camps.

As we move forward there is renewed energy for the work ahead. And move forward we will. Thank you, as always, for your support in our shared effort.



Identifying lake life  
4-H On the Wild Side



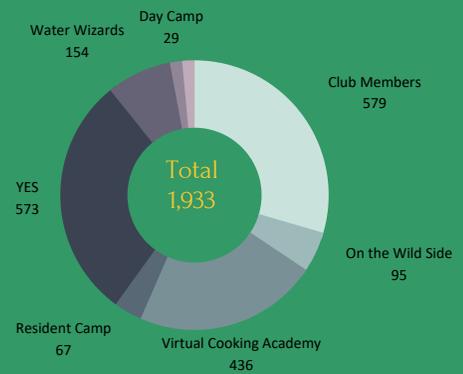
Showmanship  
Sacramento County Fair



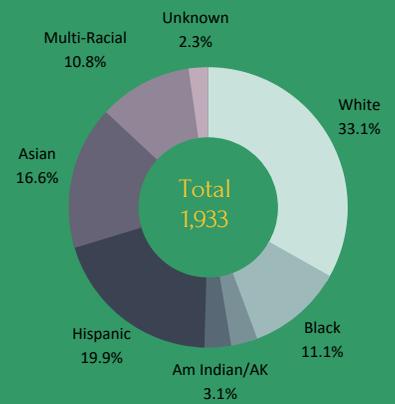
Dissecting owl pellets  
4-H Day Camp

## Youth Served 2021-2022

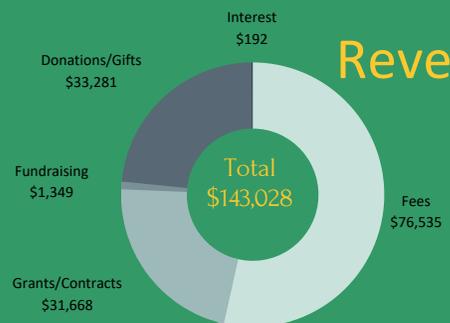
1,933 in Total!



## Who Are We?



## Financial Snapshot



## Revenue



## Expenses



**When everything else in the world is confusing**, or complicated - you can always come home to 4-H camp. After two years away, everything could have changed when we got back to Camp Gold Hollow this past summer (and some things did) but the important things stayed exactly the way we needed them to - campers splashed each other during an early morning Polar Bear Plunge, filled the dining hall with laughter after a long day of fun, and told each other bedtime stories after lights out, the sky lit up with a thousand stars they can't see from home. Teen staff spent 8 months of the year planning, building, and putting their all into making our promise of "the best week of summer" a reality for themselves and their campers. - [Justina Sharp, 4-H Adult Volunteer](#)



**4-H has had an amazing impact** on my family and especially in the life of my daughter. She was able to participate as a day camp counselor this past June and work in person with both youth and adults. Learning to lead in 4-H and having this opportunity to share her skills and excitement has given her such confidence. I am grateful for the chances she is given to develop in her unique way through 4-H. - [Susie Clark, Green Acres 4-H Adult Volunteer](#)

**I joined 4-H when I was nine years old** and have done various projects throughout the 8 years I have been involved. Coming back to in person 4-H has given me the opportunity to gain leadership within the group as well as attending service activities. I am homeschooled so in person 4-H gives me the chance to work on my speaking skills that do not get in school. I am also able to make and keep friendships that have greatly benefited my fair experience. - [Jersey Lambert, Herald 4-H Youth Member](#)

**Getting back to in person meetings** and regular fair was great, because we got to do more and learn more at the meetings. I had missed canning and got to do it again, which made me happy. - [Gweneth Cremers, Sheldon 4-H Youth Member](#)

**During the spring of 2022**, I was so happy to be back Camp Gold Hollow for the first time since the pandemic. Before the pandemic, I had been to Gold Hollow a few times as a resident camper. This year I went as a teen teacher for 4-H On the Wild Side, and again had an amazing experience. In preparation, I wrote a lesson plan on water quality that included teaching the campers about pH, turbidity, and salinity through hands-on activities. When the lesson was executed at camp, it was so rewarding to see the students get excited as they learned about science. But 4-H On the Wild Side wasn't just about teaching, I also made connections with students - talking on the sleeping decks, singing songs, and making skits to perform at campfire. It was a lot of work and responsibility to be a teen teacher, but it was worth it to see the campers having so much fun! - [Catie Barnett, Teen Teacher, 4-H On the Wild Side](#)



Preparing for the show ring  
Sacramento County Fair



Teen Leadership  
4-H On the Wild Side



Learning to use kitchen tools  
Cooking Academy

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