

## **Ohio 4-H News & Notes**

April 28, 2013

Hi,

*One of the good things about the biennium state budget process as it relates to Extension is the schedule of legislative visits that are arranged. Every two years there is a concerted and well-organized effort for every Ohio Legislator to be visited. These visits take the form of small group meetings, where there are Extension clientele from every program area, at least the County Extension Director from the host county, and a representative from Extension administration and OARDC administration.*

*Over the years I have had the opportunity to sit in on several of these sessions, first as that local County Extension Director (CED), and more recently as a representative of state Extension. It is such a good time to listen for 45-60 minutes while each individual around the table shares their "story" of how Extension has changed their lives. Probably the most impactful are the statements by 4-H volunteers, or even better, 4-H teens or other 4-H members (I am a bit biased). But I have also heard great stories from FCS, ANR and CD clients.*

*These anecdotes and testimonials go a long way in telling our story to the resource allocators. We need to thank clientele who are willing to take the time from their schedules, some even taking off work, to attend and share. It is also great that Legislators feel compelled to arrange their schedules to connect with constituents. Special thanks must go to the CEDs who are charged with scheduling and arranging the logistics of attendees, location and other creature comforts – not an easy task. The results have been very positive – keeping our state budget level when perhaps other budgets are declining, providing increases when monies are available, and stop-short declines when there are economic woes.*

*But the real thanks, the heart of the effort, must go to all the Extension Professionals who plan, develop and deliver impactful programming. If it were not for this catalyst, there would be no stories to tell.*  
Thanks,  
Tom

### **Design Team Update**

The State 4-H Alternative Delivery Methods Design Team has met three times since February. One result of these meetings is a change in the name of the team. It is changed to, "Innovative Programming Approaches". The primary reason for this name change was that it broadens the scope of education, beyond "delivery". Also, the Innovative Programming Approaches State 4-H Design Team plans to launch a survey in early May to assess the status of innovative programming approaches across Ohio 4-H. Look for the invitation in your email, and please respond. Thanks.

### **May Healthy Living Webinar on "Courage to Care" Program**

May 22, 2013, 2:00 – 3:30pm Eastern Time

URL: <http://nifa-connect.nifa.usda.gov/ctoc/>

Conference line: 888-858-2144

Access code: 1564913

The Courage to Care: A new evidence-based Extension Program to combat bullying and peer victimization by teaching compassion, kindness and empathy.

The Courage to Care program was developed by the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension with assistance from the NIFA Rural Health Initiative Funding in 2011. Since that time the program has shown very promising results in reducing bullying and increasing empathy in schools across the nation.

Learn about this Extension program and how you can bring it to your 4-H, afterschool, youth development and family programs and how you can collaborate with school districts. Learn how to team with educators in your state to promote positive youth development in the area of civility and

leadership! Learn about the exciting new research that indicates a new approach to changing school and community cultures and climates for young people.  
Learn more about the project at: [www.courage2care.com](http://www.courage2care.com)