
Sponsor: Communications & Public Relations

Meeting Date: 11/23/2021

Title: Agreement with the University of Minnesota and Ramsey County for 4-H Youth Development Programs

File Number: 2021-570

Background and Rationale:

4-H Youth Development Program (4-H) is delivered in a county-based funding model across the state of Minnesota. This historical partnership between University of Minnesota Extension and counties has allowed the rich resources at the University and in local communities to be exchanged for greater understanding and benefit.

4-H is a positive youth development program for young people of all beliefs and backgrounds in grades K-13, empowering them with skills to lead for a lifetime. Through hands-on non-formal learning experiences, young people engage with peers and caring adults to develop a spark for learning while nurturing and growing their leadership, civic engagement and life skills.

4-H programs have higher intensity, duration and sustained involvement than other youth programs. 4-H participants have better school attendance, grades and test scores, work habits and interpersonal skills.

In Ramsey County, the 4-H Youth Development program:

- Supports hundreds of member youth from across Ramsey County and their engagement in 4-H clubs, camps, showcases and other 4-H learning experiences. This includes recruitment, screening and training of well over 150 volunteers, interns and partners to support these youth experiences.
- Partners with Ramsey County Library to offer enrichment experiences for young people.
- Builds sustainable funding out of the 4-H Ramsey County Leaders' Council that supports Ramsey County 4-H youths' participation in the larger 4-H program and reduces barriers to participation.
- Provides youth worker training and technical assistance to youth-serving organizations.

Funding was approved under the Communications & Public Relations budget for fiscal years 2020-2021 to provide extension programs locally, relating to 4-H Youth Development Program and the employment of Extension staff. In early 2020 the County Manager executed an agreement between Ramsey County and the University of Minnesota.

This new agreement in support of the 4-H program, aligns with the Ramsey County vision to support, "a vibrant community where all are valued and thrive" by creating youth learning experiences in partnership with Ramsey County departments.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve an agreement with the Regents of the University of Minnesota on behalf of its Extension unit, 240 Coffey Hall, St. Paul, MN 55108, for 4-H Youth Development programs for the term January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023, in the amount of \$180,000 per year.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to approve and execute amendments to agreement in accordance with the provisions of the agreement, provided the amounts are within the limits of available funding.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Ortega, seconded by Commissioner McDonough.
Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board