

4-H Volunteer Leaders' Series

A Volunteer

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Volunteer:

- A person who acts from his own free will;
- A person who decides based on choice or consent;
- A person whose decision or actions are self-determined and intentional;
- A person who acts apart from legal or financial obligation.

– Adapted from *Webster*

I. What motivates a person to volunteer for 4-H?

II. Why is a person sometimes reluctant to volunteer for 4-H?

III. What does a person need in order to have satisfaction and growth as a volunteer for 4-H?



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Note: This sheet may be used for self-directed study or to help a group think about volunteer leadership . . . Answers which others have given to the questions are on the reverse side of the sheet.

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I. What motivates a person to volunteer for 4-H?

for the children – interested in helping kids

for the family – looking for ways to structure time together

for personal growth – to develop skills, knowledge, attitudes

II. Why is a person sometimes reluctant to volunteer for 4-H?

afraid of a difficult task

afraid of getting hooked forever (or asked to do too much)

competition for time by many legitimate needs

competition for time by employment of both parents

changing personal and cultural values

III. What does a person need in order to have satisfaction and growth as a volunteer for 4-H?

to have a task that fits personal interests and abilities

to have a task that can be done in the time available

to have a task that matters and makes sense

to receive training for the task

to receive personal support from other members of the team

to have opportunities for continued personal growth

to have opportunities for increasing responsibility

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