



# Cloverline

4-H is a **community** of **young people** across **America** who are learning **leadership**, **citizenship**, and **life skills**.

June 2020

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*...and much more!*

## A Changing World

Part of my job is to keep an eye on what the needs of the youth in La Crosse County are. And suddenly, in March, everything shifted. Resources for programming became very limited, my connection pipelines closed down with the schools, families disappeared inside their homes, and I felt really isolated working with the limitations of my 22 month old twins.

Then some sad news came trickling in. Youth were feeling isolated too. Drug use was trending, depression and anxiety looming, the mental health is crippling. How on earth does someone fix that?

In 4-H we have 4 essential elements we rely on to help youth flourish. And we are really good at the Mastery and Independence elements. But those right now need to take a back seat. We need to focus on Belonging and Generosity. While the mastery and independence foster confidence and self-esteem, belonging and generosity foster worth.

As more disappointment over events looms, as kids miss out on their last year of everything, as they see the world spinning and moving on without them necessarily in it, that can feel incredibly daunting and isolating.

Reach out. Call or email your fellow 4-H families and check in. Share some memories, make future plans. And with those plans, focus on fun. Focus on rebuilding the team. Focus on belonging.

*Emily A Crook*

Emily Crook  
Positive Youth Development Educator  
La Crosse County Extension



# leadership >>>

## Leaders Board Meeting

**When:** Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 6:45 p.m.

**Where:** online! <https://uwextension.zoom.us/j/91799447191?pwd=czd5czFIYk8rZ21lcWFoZXEzczU2UT09>

For those needing to call in:

Call 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 917 9944 7191

Password: 951064

All 4-H members are invited to attend. The decision regarding the La Crosse Interstate Fair is being discussed by the AG Society on Monday, June 8th. Our leaders board meeting will largely discuss programming efforts for the summer.



# cancellations >>>

## Cancelled Events for 2020

The policy set forth by Wisconsin 4-H stands that for the month of June only absolutely necessary meetings that cannot be held virtually may take place but those meetings must be less than 10 people in attendance with the proper social distancing methods in practice. These meetings need permission for the AED for our area.

Most if not all events are being cancelled for June 2020. But when in doubt check with your project leaders to see if an online option will be available or not.

Any payment for any classes that have been cancelled has been refunded. Any checks that were received and not cashed will be shredded. Please call the office at 608-785-9593 or Wemail [lacrossecounty4h@lacrossecounty.org](mailto:lacrossecounty4h@lacrossecounty.org) if you have any concerns or questions.

## Events Under Construction

**Foods Revue** (formerly June 29) and **Clothing Revue** (formerly July 8) will be adjusted somehow and may not have involvement with a state certified judge, but we hope to allow the opportunity for youth to showcase their abilities. These events are currently under construction for virtual opportunity. Please continue to RSVP for these "events" so we know what you plan to show and who is interested in participating. To RSVP, visit here: <https://lacrosse.extension.wisc.edu/4-h-youth-development/events-activities/foods-clothingrevue/>

## Committee Members Wanted

With every special event or opportunity given to La Crosse County 4-H youth, there is a quiet band of committee volunteers that work to make it happen. Ever have thoughts on how to make something better? Want to be part of the magic? We would love to have your help with Clover College, Expressive Arts, Achievement Night, Record Books, or any of the county-wide things we do. If you are interested - here's a little survey to get your interest. <https://forms.gle/MyNx8KYaem7yheN9> Fill it out!

# adaptations >>>

## 4-H Documentation

As our merger with UW-Madison continues to settle, we discover new ways we need to communicate in their language. In order to maintain safety for our youth in all the various ways, we are being asked to submit all the events our county does that involves 4-H custodial experiences. Here is what defines that:

- 4-H program, project meeting or activity where Extension (4-H) Volunteers and/or Extension Staff provide Leadership.
- Extension (4-H) Volunteers or Extension Staff are responsible for supervision, care, or control of minors who participate in programs or activities without accompanying parents or guardians. (Some but not all parents may be in attendance requiring volunteers to be responsible for those youth without parents present)
- Duration of the 4-H program, project meeting or activity is six (6) or more hours in a single day.

**Club and Project Leaders** if you have an event that fits this description, please fill out the survey here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmAavLISYU5Gk3y1gflNj\\_tWlm\\_wPXbtihH\\_Isc29zRrMBw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmAavLISYU5Gk3y1gflNj_tWlm_wPXbtihH_Isc29zRrMBw/viewform?usp=sf_link)  
If you have any questions please email Emily at [emily.crook@wisc.edu](mailto:emily.crook@wisc.edu).

## Virtual 4H Meetings



Emily misses her 4H members, so every week, on Thursday's at 3pm, until this whole thing blows over, she's going to host a Virtual 4H meeting on zoom. To register for the zoom, please visit here to register:

<https://uwextension.zoom.us/meeting/register/v5Aqdu2rqDItdowNv02i7RRloq5AchXsiw>

This series includes a variety of educational interests. Past meetings include: Traditions, Chocolate, Rain Gardens/Stormwater, Cheese, BEES!, Victory Gardens, and Communication.

## 4-H in the News

Midwest Farm Report asked me to give an update on 4-H during the pandemic. If you're curious check it out! <https://www.midwestfarmreport.com/2020/05/29/this-year-has-not-been-for-nothing-4-h-persists-through-covid-19-cancellations/?fbclid=IwAR27ciN2Vesn267ryt9gFu2BwUQ9pMcWoTZcCnB76ckSb3PPIdzEs5O8VRo>

## More 4-H Summer Fun

In an effort to save our summers, Area 13 (La Crosse, Crawford, Monroe, Richland, and Vernon) Counties are teaming up once again to offer a "CAMP IN A BOX" opportunity.

Anyone with ideas of what they want in their box, feel free to reach out to Emily ([emily.crook@wisc.edu](mailto:emily.crook@wisc.edu)). More on this coming soon!

## Club Ideas to Ponder

I've heard so many wonderful ideas of 4-H youth buying essential workers lunch, getting local businesses to give out drive thru ice cream, and working hard on other service projects (shout out to the Groths!).

Need ideas on how to get your club together? Need training on virtual formats? Just let Emily know. We can brainstorm.



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**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
LA CROSSE, WI  
PERMIT NO. 234



The Cloverline 4-H Newsletter is produced monthly by the La Crosse County UW-Extension Office, 212 6th St. N. Suite 2200, La Crosse, WI, 54601 in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Madison, WI. Wisconsin Relay—711.

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The Cloverline can be found in color and with hyperlinks online at <http://lacrosse.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/cloverline-newsletter/> or 4HOnline.

We thank all who volunteer their time and talents to contribute to this newsletter.