

## **Meagan Daniel**

### **Outstanding New Professional Award**

#### **Section 1: Supporting the 4-H Program and Youth Development**

Meagan Daniel has made significant contributions to the Union County 4-H program, fostering a culture of innovation and engagement in youth development. As a 4-H Extension Agent, she develops, implements, and evaluates diverse educational programs designed to meet the needs of Union County's youth. Her efforts include school enrichment programs, community clubs, and day camps that emphasize life skills, leadership, and STEM education. Meagan has a specialization in volunteer management and youth leadership development, ensuring that the programs she oversees are impactful and inclusive. Her expertise in scaffolding instruction addresses the diverse learning needs of 4-H participants, particularly in areas like STEM education, animal science, and social-emotional learning.

Innovative efforts include her work on the "STEM-ulating Scientific Minds in K-5" program, which engages over 1,300 students annually in hands-on STEM projects. She has also expanded opportunities for youth through programs like financial literacy initiatives and leadership workshops, aligning 4-H activities with state educational standards to maximize their relevance and effectiveness. Meagan's commitment to volunteer recruitment and training has significantly enhanced the reach and quality of 4-H programming in Union County. Her volunteers deliver more than 100 educational presentations annually, directly impacting the development of critical life skills in youth participants. Additionally, she held a volunteer retention rate last year of 89% and has recruited 32 new volunteers over the past 3 years.

#### **Section 2: Professional Association Service and Development**

Meagan has been an active member of the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals (NAE4-HYDP) and the Florida Association of Extension 4-H Agents (FAE4-HA) since 2022. Her dedication to these organizations includes serving as a Regional Awards Judge for NAE4-HYDP and a Member Recognition Committee member for FAE4-HA. These roles reflect her commitment to advancing the professional standards of the 4-H program and recognizing excellence within the profession.

In addition to her association service, Meagan actively pursues professional development opportunities to enhance her skills and knowledge. She has completed over 160 hours of professional training since 2022, including certifications in youth suicide prevention, adolescent trauma, and STEM curriculum development. Meagan's goal is to leverage this knowledge to create programming that meets the evolving needs of youth and their communities. Her participation in leadership institutes and compliance training further underscores her dedication to excellence in youth development work.

#### **Section 3: Recognition and Accomplishments**

Meagan's efforts have been widely recognized at the local, state, and national levels. She received the 2024 regional "Citizenship in 4-H Youth Development Award" from NAE4-HYDP,

highlighting her innovative approaches to engaging youth in active citizenship. At the state level, she has been honored through FAE4-HA, with the "Diversity and Inclusion" in 2024. These achievements reflect her ability to create programs that are both impactful and inclusive, addressing the diverse needs of her community.

Locally, Meagan's leadership has resulted in increased youth participation in 4-H, with membership doubling since she assumed her role in 2022. Her grant-writing skills have secured over \$450,000 in funding to support educational materials, program supplies, and facilities. She has secured over \$180,000 of in-kind contributions to her programming. This funding has directly enhanced the quality of 4-H programming, providing youth with resources like STEM kits, gardening supplies, and photography equipment. Meagan's work continues to transform the lives of Union County youth, equipping them with the skills and confidence to succeed in the future.

In summary, Meagan Daniel exemplifies the qualities of an outstanding 4-H professional through her innovative programming, commitment to professional growth, and dedication to the success of her community. Her work has created a lasting impact on Union County's youth and serves as a model for excellence in Extension education.

### **Biographical Sketch:**

Meagan Daniel serves as the 4-H Extension Agent for Union County, Florida, where she is dedicated to fostering youth development through innovative, research-based programming. With over a decade of experience in public education before coming to extension, Meagan specializes in volunteer management, youth development, and STEM curriculum development. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Saint Leo University and is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Family, Youth, and Community Science at the University of Florida, with an anticipated graduation in 2025.

Meagan's time with Union County 4-H has been marked by significant growth and impact. Under her leadership, 4-H club membership has more than doubled, and her programs have reached over 1,300 youth annually. She has implemented initiatives in leadership training, STEM, day camps, and in-school programming, all designed to equip young people with critical life skills. Committed to community engagement, Meagan works closely with local organizations and volunteers to ensure 4-H programming is accessible and inclusive. Meagan is passionate about empowering the next generation to become confident, capable leaders and active contributors to their communities.

### **FAE4-HA Involvement**

- Active Membership: 2022-present
- Member Recognition Committee: 2023-present
- Member Recognition: State Awards Chair 2023
- State Awards Judge 2023 and 2024
- NAE4-HYDP: Regional Awards Judge 2023 and 2024
- Attended Member Meeting at EPAF 2022 and 2024
- Attended NAE4-HYDP 2024 in Boise, ID

### **Honors**

- 2024 NAE4-HYDP Citizenship in 4-H Youth Development Regional Award
- 2024 FAE4-HA Citizenship in 4-H Youth Development State Award
- 2024 FAE4-HA Diversity and Inclusion: Expanding the 4-H Audience State Award

Meagan Daniel

Outstanding New Professional

Supporting Documents:







**Overnight Opportunities:**

- 4-H University: Ages 14-18
- 4-H Legislature: Ages 13-18
- 4-H Summer Camps: Camp Timpochee and Camp Cloverleaf

**Events**

- County Events:
  - Public Speaking, Demonstrations, and Share-the-Fun (talent)
- Holiday Bake Off
- Table Setting Contest
- Fair Exhibits
- Skill-a-Thon
- Livestock Show and Sale

**Animal Projects**

- Rabbits- Ages 5 and Up
- Chickens- Ages 5 and Up
- Goats- Ages 5 and Up
- Pigs- Ages 8 and Up
- Heifers- Ages 8 and Up
- Steers- Ages 8 and Up




**Contact Us**  
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UF IFAS Extension Union County 4-H  
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18 USC 707

## Union County 4-H

Community Clubs, Animal Projects,  
 School Programming, Day Camps,  
 Summer Overnight Camps,  
 Leadership Opportunities and  
 Much More




### 5 Years and Older

#### *Cloverbuds*

A club for 5-7-year-olds that introduces them to the various topics of projects covered in 4-H.  
 Led by: Jessie Howard

#### *Bunny Buddies*

A club focusing on the 4-H rabbit project, including breeds, selection, and care.  
 Led by: Jennifer Dunniven

#### *Homeschool*

This club covers a wide range of topics related to various 4-H projects. It caters to homeschool families and meets from 10 a.m. to noon on the third Wednesday of each month.  
 Led by: Ashkea Dyal

#### *Pigtails and Ponytails*

A club covering a variety of 4-H projects with a heavy emphasis on livestock projects.  
 Led by: Selena Chassie

#### *Poultry*

This is a club focusing on the 4-H poultry project. It will meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Promised Land Family Ministries.  
 Led by: Kristyn Neuhofer

#### *Providence Friendship*

A club meeting at the Providence Community Center on the first Thursday of each month. A variety of skills and topics are covered for all age ranges.  
 Led by: Erin Harlow

#### *Sugarberries*

A club focusing on culinary that increases life skills while learning to cook and bake.  
 Led by: Kayla Dobbs

### 8 Years and Older

#### *Beyond the Buckle*

A club focusing on the 4-H horse project.  
 Led by: Amanda Boyette

#### *Bullseye Brigade*

A club focusing on archery  
 Led by: Shane and Kimberly Collins

#### *Chasin' Ribbons*

A club focusing on the 4-H swine project.  
 Led by: Ashlynn Turknett

#### *Growers and Showers*

A club focusing on all animal-related 4-H projects.  
 Led by: Kayla Kadlec

#### *New River*

A club focusing on livestock with an emphasis on cattle.  
 Led by: Randa Conner

#### *Or Outdoor Explorers*

A club that focuses on the environment and ecosystems while exploring the outdoors.  
 Led by: Caroline Moore

#### *Happy Mistakes Art*

A club focusing on hands-on art projects. They will meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 3-5.  
 Led by: Shannon Croft

### 11 Years and Older

#### *Avid Anglers*

Outdoor explorers with a focus on the 4-H fishing project.  
 Led by: Meagan Daniel

#### *Community Service*

A club that focuses on community service while helping to organize essential events for Union County 4-H.  
 Led by: Meagan Daniel

#### *Straight Shooters*

A 4-H shotgun club focusing on skeet, sporting clays, and trap.  
 Led by: Kenneth Cox




# EGG PARACHUTES

## SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN

**Standards:**  
SC.1.N.1.1, SC.1.N.1.2, SC.1.N.1.3, SC.1.N.1.4

**Procedure:**

- Explain to students that you are making egg parachutes to protect your eggs from a high drop.
- Ask, What do you think can protect the egg? How would you make a softer landing? How can you test your theories? (SC.1.N.1.1)
- Split students into groups or complete individually. Use teacher discretion to decide what works best for your class.
- Students can choose material for their parachute from a box provided by the 4-H agent. Materials boxes will include string, cups, plastic bags, tape, tissue, etc.
- After the parachute is complete. Test your parachutes on the playground. Observe how the invention is working. (SC.1.N.1.2) Make notes or draw pictures to decide how the first trial flight of the parachute went. (SC.1.N.1.3) What changes could be made? What makes it fall faster or slower? How do you know that will make it faster or slower? (SC.1.N.1.4)
- Make changes to improve your invention. Hold a class contest to decide whose parachute goes on to the grade level contest.

**Additional Questions:**

- Does a parachute fall faster if it is lighter or heavier?
- What can add extra protection for an egg?
- Why do items fall to the ground?

**UNION County**

# UF IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA SUMMER DAY CAMPS 2024

**June 4**  
**Sew Much Fun**  
Attendees will develop basic sewing skills and bring home sewing projects.  
**Ages 8+ \$2**

**June 11**  
**Adventures in Agriculture**  
Campers will visit Suwannee Valley Research Center in Live Oak and a Union County farm to understand agriculture.  
**Ages 8+ \$25**

**June 12**  
**All About Animals**  
Youth will visit the Santa Fe Zoo to learn about all types of animals. Then, they will learn about farm animals and animal showmanship at the extension office.  
**Ages 5+ \$25**

**June 18**  
**Camp Chopped**  
Youth will learn about food safety and sanitation. Then, working in teams, youth will develop and cook their own dish to see who can combine creativity with taste.  
**Ages 8+ \$25**

**June 19**  
**Camp Relaxation**  
Back by popular demand. We just had this camp in April and our 4-Hers loved it. We will focus on several relaxation methods such as exercising, planting flowers, foot soaks, watching a movie, hand scrubs, and much more.  
**Ages 5+ \$25**

**June 25-27**  
**Young Entrepreneur**  
Participants will learn about marketing, business plans, and other components needed to successfully run a business. Then, they will create a business plan and marketing tools.  
**Ages 11+ \$60**

**July 2**  
**Creative Cloyers**  
Mrs. Alexa Perez will complete a guided painting with campers. They will make jewelry and learn about floral design.  
**Ages 8+ \$30**

**July 3**  
**Splash Bash**  
Participants will learn about the water cycle, water related STEM activities, and a water slide to end the day.  
**Ages 5+ \$25**

**July 8**  
**Aviation Adventure**  
Attendees will learn about helicopters, airplanes, how airports work, how to get a pilot's license, careers in aviation and fly over Florida Field in a helicopter.  
**Ages 11+ \$60**

**July 10-11**  
**A Trip Back in Time**  
Youth will learn about living off the land, make homemade products like jam and bread. The second day will include a visit to Dudley Farm State Park in Newberry.  
**Ages 8+ \$50**

**UNION County**

# AVID ANGLERS 4-H CLUB

**LED BY: MEAGAN DANIEL**

9/16- CLUB INTRODUCTION  
10/21- FISH FARM  
11/18- POND FISHING  
12/16- CHRISTMAS FISH FRY  
1/13- CLUB PRESENTATIONS  
2/17- CEDAR KEY AT 8 AM  
4/21- POND FISHING AND AWARDS QUESTIONS

## 11 AND OLDER

*The goal of this club is to increase life skills and belonging while learning about fishing, aquaculture, and marine science.*



## Community Service Club

**LED BY: MEAGAN DANIEL**

**EQUIPPING YOUTH WITH LEADERSHIP SKILLS THAT LAST A LIFETIME**

September 19: Planning Meeting at 5  
September 21: Concessions 8-4  
October 10: Community Pride Project at 5  
November 20: Farm City Celebration  
November 27: Thanksgiving Meal  
January 24: Set Up for County Events at Sardis Baptist Church  
February 21: Help prepare for Goat Show  
February 22: Concessions for Goat Show  
March 14: Exhibit Room Setup  
March 19-22: Fair Concessions  
April 10: Finalize Community Pride Project  
May 1: 4-H Banquet Set Up  
May 2: 4-H Banquet Clean Up  
May 22-23: Memorial Flags  
Summer 2025: Assist in Summer Day Camps



**JOIN NOW**

<https://www.4honline.com>



# Enhancing 4-H Programs with the PUSH Model for Diverse Youth Engagement

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## OVERVIEW

- Developed by three North Florida 4-H Agents, offering strategic organizational and instructional strategies.
- Essential in delivering programs to a diverse youth audience with varying ages, skill levels, and special needs.
- Engaging a heterogeneous groups presents unique challenges.
- Provides 4-H Club and program leaders with research-based methods.
- Emphasizes flexible instruction, peer support, scaffolding, and targeted planning for special needs populations.
- Simplifies engagement with youth of different ages, skill levels, and special needs.



## PUSH MODEL

- Plan Intentionally.
  - Consider the needs of the group in advance.



- Use Peer Supports.
  - Allow seasoned youth to work with younger peers.

- Scaffolding is Key!
  - Provide varying levels of support based on each individual.

- Helpers are Needed!
  - Planning the number of volunteers needed will offer smaller instructional groups to enhance learning.



## EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS



## IMPACTS

**Increased Youth Participation:**  
There was a **20% increase** in the number of youth served in 4-H Clubs.

**Reduced Conflict:**  
**73% of volunteers** reported less need to resolve conflicts suggests that the PUSH Model.

**Enhanced Inclusivity or Youth with Disabilities:**  
A **17% increase** in the participation of youth with specific disabilities indicates a successful effort in making the 4-H program more accessible and inclusive.

**Improved Knowledge of Teaching Strategies:**  
**100% of 4-H Volunteers** reporting an increase in knowledge regarding strategies for teaching diverse populations is a positive outcome.

**Increased Confidence in Teaching Youth with Disabilities:**  
**100% of 4-H Volunteers** reported increased confidence in their ability to teach youth with disabilities.



## Top Tips for 4-H County Events

### Dress Requirements

- Wear official 4-H dress: black pants, white shirt, green tie or 4-H accessories (4-H patch), green vest or jacket, closed toed black or brown shoes.
- We have jackets and vests available for check out in limited sizes. Visit the Extension Office M-F, 8-4:30.

### Demo Preparation

- Set up demo left to right and move in that direction when you talk.
- Bring a plastic tablecloth and disposables for easy clean up.
- For PowerPoint or posters, use lettering that will be easy to read (consider size, color, and background).
- NO live animals.

Review rubric and practice at home before the event for optimal success!

### What to Expect

- Upon arrival, check-in.
- Keep materials organized and with you.
- 5 minutes or less to set up and clean up.
- Patience wait on instructions from events' leader.
- Each room is anticipated to be finished 2 hours after opening ceremonies.

### What Happens Next

- Awards ceremony will follow once each room has finished and judges are done tabulating scores.
- Score sheets will be available for viewing and pick-up the following week after the event.
- All blue ribbon winners will earn a space to compete at the district contest, details to be announced.



5

Telegraph, Times & Monitor - Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024

## UNION COUNTY

### Goat exhibitors warming up for fair

BY MEGAN DANIEL

Special to the Times

On February 17, the Union County 4-H hosted a goat clinic with a practice show to help exhibitors prepare for their upcoming fair next month. There were 40 goats registered, with 40 members accompanying them. The goats arrived early on Saturday morning to be checked by a veterinarian.

Next, Mrs. Kayla Kadlec, leader of the Union and Middle Goat Club, gave a demonstration to participants. She had assistance from 4-H member Kalli Kadlec. Mrs. Kadlec gave awardship tips while Kalli demonstrated. The demonstration showed how to set your goat up for judging. She emphasized how important it is to be respectful of other exhibitors. Then, they discussed how to work the ring with good eye contact and body language. Former 4-H member Hunter

Williams attended as the judge to teach participants how a real show is run. Hunter was patient with the members, explaining how each could improve before the Union County Livestock Association goat show. Hunter told members how he was an exhibitor in that show 12 years ago, when it first began. Now, he can attend as a judge to help a new generation of exhibitors.

He told 4-Hers that he truly felt completing their goat project enabled them to carry out the 4-H motto "To Make the Best Better."

Bong Bennett volunteered as our announcer to keep everyone ready and informed. Participants were broken into showmanship classes based on their 4-H age division. Cleveland (15-17 years old), Junior (10-14 years old), Intermediate (11-14 years old), and Senior (14-18 years old). Cleveland, went all winners, receiving a personalized face

brush. The Junior Showmanship Grand Champion was Grace Box, and the Reserve was Kalli Kadlec. Intermediate Showmanship Grand Champion was Kalli Kadlec, and Reserve Weston Daniel. Senior Showmanship Grand Champion was Jolene Moore, and Reserve was Jace Box.

Last, we divided participants based on what type of goat they had. Their goats were judged, and Hunter explained their placements so that members understood what the judge was looking for. The Dairy Goats' Grand Champion was Weston Daniel and Reserve Kalli Kadlec. The Meat Goats' Grand Champion was Grace Box, and Reserve was Jolene Moore. The Wethers' Grand Champion was Jolene Moore and Reserve Kalli Kadlec.



Junior Showmanship Grand Champion Grace Box (right) and Reserve Champion Kalli Kadlec (left).



Senior Showmanship Grand Champion Jolene Moore (right) with Reserve Champion Jace Box (left).



Intermediate Showmanship Grand Champion Kalli Kadlec (right) and Reserve Champion Weston Daniel (left).

