# 4-H Volunteer Leader Recognition

Volunteers are the heart of the North Carolina 4-H program. Their energy and commitment create positive opportunities for young people across the state every day, and without their consistent, dedicated service, many of the 4-H programs available would simply not exist. The North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Association annually sponsors a statewide volunteer recognition program to formally acknowledge the excellent work of these individuals who give their time, talents and resources in support of the youth participating in North Carolina 4-H programs.

Volunteers fill many roles in the 4-H program. Their work may be in any of at least six categories of service which may be considered in examining a volunteer’s contributions to the 4-H program. These are:

1. Direct programs to youth,
2. Services to other volunteers (master volunteers who teach/coordinate programs),
3. Indirect services to 4-H through technical or support services, such as donors or in- kind contributors,
4. Advocacy for youth or for 4-H such as a county commissioner,
5. Administrative services such as a bookkeeper who handles 4-H funds, and
6. Policy advising on county, district or state levels.

Volunteers may be nominated for recognition through this program by 4-H agents, 4-H members, other volunteers, parents of members, or individuals may nominate themselves.

**Note:** There are several different nomination forms. Please take time to be sure that you are using the appropriate form for the award for which you are nominating individuals.

Adult Volunteer Recognition Schedule

December 1, 2021 All adult volunteer nominations for recognition at the February 2022 Conference (recognizing volunteer achievement from December 2020 through November 2021) must be ***submitted online by 5:00 pm.*** This is a state deadline – your county will have an earlier deadline.

December 20, 2021 Notification of county of award winners (state office does not contact individual award winners but leaves that to the discretion of the county agent and staff).

February 5, 2022 Presentation of adult state and district awards at the North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference.

# Volunteer Recognition Descriptions

**District Individual 4-H Volunteer Recognition**

Each county may nominate an individual volunteer worthy of recognition for outstanding service to youth for the past *one year period*. This award is sponsored by the North Carolina 4-H Honor Club. Up to four volunteers per district will be presented certificates at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference. Additional recognition may be provided at the District Activity Day events.

# State Individual 4-H Volunteer Recognition

One 4-H volunteer per district may be recognized for outstanding service to 4-H for the past *one year period*. The volunteer may be nominated for excellence in any of the following areas: services to other volunteers, indirect services to youth, advocacy, administration, or policy. A plaque will be presented to each recipient at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference. In order to qualify to receive the State Individual 4-H Volunteer Recognition Award, you must have previously received the District 4-H Adult Volunteer Recognition Award.

# State 4-H Volunteer Leadership Team Recognition

One club leadership team per district may be recognized for excellence for the past *one year period*. Nomination should reflect the team’s leadership in helping 4-H’ers develop positive self- concepts by gaining social and subject matter life skills through club involvement. A plaque will be presented to each award winning team at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference.

# State 4-H School Enrichment Volunteer Recognition

One volunteer per district may be recognized each year for excellence in leadership of curriculum delivery through 4-H school enrichment programs for the past *one year period*. The plaques will be presented at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference. Criteria for selection will include utilization of innovative instructional strategies and community resources, and contributions beyond classroom delivery.

# State 4-H After School Volunteer Recognition

One after school volunteer per district may be recognized for excellence in leadership of 4-H after school programs for the past *one year period*. Nominees may be child care providers having an indirect role with 4-H programming or those who work directly with youth. The award will be presented at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference. Criteria for selection include involvement of community resources, incorporating traditional 4-H methods such as projects and presentations into the curriculum and quality of program delivered.

# 4-H Donor Recognition

This award recognizes up to one individual, group or company per district who is not receiving recognition at a higher level for their contributions, either monetary or in-kind goods and/or services, to 4-H programs at the club, county, district or state levels. The nominee may support a single county or may provide support for a group or cluster of counties in a similar way. Plaques will be presented to recipients of these awards at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference.

# Extension Staff Volunteer Support Recognition

Up to four individuals who are paid staff of North Carolina Cooperative Extension will be recognized for their extraordinary support of volunteers in club, county, district, state, regional and/or national participation. Nominees may be county, state, federal or grant-funded and must have been employed with Extension for at least two years as of the date of nomination. Nominees may be 4-H Agents, Program Assistants, Program Associates, County Directors, or may use any of numerous working titles. The distinction will be that this award is for paid staff support of volunteers in their work with youth rather than for paid staff work directly with youth. Awards will be presented at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference. You may only receive this award once during your professional career.

# Achievement Hall in 4-H Leadership

Two North Carolina 4-H volunteers may be recognized each year for leadership excellence to 4-H. Induction into the Achievement Hall of 4-H Leadership requires participation for *a minimum of 10 years* as a 4-H volunteer with outstanding and continuous service. Service may be at the club, county, district, state, regional and/or national levels in any of the following areas: programs for

4-H youth, services to other 4-H volunteers, indirect services, advocacy, administration, or policy. The awards are sponsored by the North Carolina 4-H Honor Club and are presented at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference. A permanent display honoring Achievement Hall members is housed at Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center. In order to qualify to receive the Achievement Hall in 4-H Leadership Award, you must have previously received the District 4-H Adult Volunteer Recognition Award and the State Individual 4-H Volunteer Recognition Award.

# Dr. Thearon McKinney Outstanding Volunteer of the Year

This award is presented annually to a volunteer who has excelled as a 4-H volunteer in North Carolina *over a period of 10 years or more*. It is among the highest awards presented by the Association and recognizes growth and service to the organization at the local, county, and district levels and beyond. Service may be directly with 4-H members or may involve service to other volunteers or in advisory and or fund development capacities. Award will be presented at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference. In order to qualify to receive the Dr.

Thearon McKinney Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award, you must have previously received the District 4-H Adult Volunteer Recognition Award and the State Individual 4-H Volunteer Recognition Award.

# Anna Williams Volunteer Conference of Southern States Scholarship

Anna Williams was a 4-H Volunteer leader for more than 30 years in Caldwell County, NC. One of her fondest memories as a 4-H Volunteer leader was the annual Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Forum. This scholarship is dedicated to her memory and will be given to a 4-H volunteer leader annually in North Carolina. This award scholarship has been established to provide financial support for a 4-H Volunteer Leader to attend the Volunteer Conference of Southern States (formerly known as the Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Forum). This award will be presented annually at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference, for participation in the conference in the fall of that year. Note: This is a monetary award ($100) with funds specifically designated for participation in the Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Forum. Awards are non- transferrable and must be utilized in the prescribed time frame.

# NC 4-H VLA’s Volunteer Conference of Southern States Scholarships

Recognizing the unique training opportunities available at the Volunteer Conference of Southern States and to provide support to that conference, the NC 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Association has established these scholarships.

These scholarships are to provide financial support for up to five (5) 4-H Volunteers to attend the Volunteer Conference of Southern States which is held at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, George. These scholarships will be awarded annually at North Carolina 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference for participation in the fall of that year.

Note: These are monetary awards ($100 each) with funds specifically designated for participation in the Volunteer Conference of Southern States. Awards are non-transferrable and must be utilized in the prescribed timeframe. This award is contingent upon funding at the time of the award and can only be awarded once per person.

# North Carolina 4-H Adult Volunteer Award Nominations Transmittal Form

**Guidelines**

* Limit information to the space provided.
* Nominations should be based only on the past one year of service.
* Nominations are incomplete and will not be accepted if the online submission process is not followed.
* Nominees may be nominated for recognition in multiple categories, but in order to be considered in more than one category, nomination packages must be submitted for each category in which the individual or team is to be considered by the Recognition Committee.
* In order to award the maximum number of annual awards, the Awards Committee may, at its discretion, move nominees to additional award categories that may better reflect their qualifications.

# Nominee Information

Name 4-H County

Address

4-H District

Number of Years in 4-H Volunteer Work

Nominator Name

Award for which nominee is to be considered (check all that apply and enclose a copy for each):

 District Individual 4-H Adult Recognition

 State Individual 4-H Volunteer Recognition

( Year District Individual 4-H Adult Recognition Award was received)

 State 4-H Volunteer Leadership Team Recognition

 State 4-H School Enrichment Volunteer Recognition

 State 4-H After School Volunteer Recognition

# Describe in 75 words or less the nominee’s volunteer activity in a statement suitable for publicity and for the program.

**Nomination Form for Volunteer Recognition List Individual Names of Leadership Team Members (if applicable):**

1. List up to three key activities or events conducted during this past year in this category of volunteer service.
2. What specific outcomes of these activities have led to improvement of life skills among participants? (For example, 5 youth participated in county activity day with presentations for the first time.)
3. How does the nominee improve the community’s resources for youth development? (For example, service on nonprofit boards, advisory roles, school or church involvement, etc.)
4. In what other ways has the nominee contributed to the total 4-H program? (For example, officer in county, district, state leader associations, mentoring new volunteers, etc.)
5. List the training and preparation in which the nominee has participated to be more effective in his/her youth development roles.
6. List other awards or commendations received for youth work by nominee.

Supporting statements may go on separate pages and should include both of the following:

* 1. Agent or other 4-H volunteer’s statement of evidence of nominee’s personal growth.
	2. Letter of reference from a community leader, 4-H’er or other volunteer.

# North Carolina 4-H Adult Volunteer Award Nominations 4 -H Donor Recognition

**Transmittal Form**

**Guidelines**

* Limit information to the space provided.
* Nominations may be based multiple years of service.
* Nominations are incomplete and will not be accepted if the online submission process is not followed.

# Nominee Information

Name of company or organization

4-H County

Address

4-H District

Number of Years in 4-H/Cooperative Extension Work

Nominator Name

# Describe in 75 words or less the nominee’s role in supporting volunteer development for use in publicity statements and for the program.

**Nomination Form for 4-H Donor Recognition**

1. List up to three specific actions, events or interventions undertaken by this nominee that have supported 4-H member and/or volunteers in their work with young people through Cooperative Extension in an extraordinary way.
2. What specific outcomes have led to improvement and/or growth of the volunteers and/or the program because of contributions by the nominee?
3. How has the county program been enhanced by the nominee’s support? (For example, more youth scholarships for camp, program supplies provided to insure program’s success, etc.)
4. Please share any additional, relevant information that might be helpful to those evaluating the nominations.

Supporting statements may go on separate pages and should include up to three items from any combination of the following individuals:

* 1. Another Extension staff member providing evidence of the nominee’s support of volunteers in the county program.
	2. Letter of reference from a community leader or 4-H’er.
	3. Letter of support from a volunteer.

# North Carolina 4-H Adult Volunteer Award Nominations

**Guidelines**

**EExtension Staff Recognition Transmittal Form**

* Limit information to the space provided.
* Nominations may be based multiple years of service.
* Nominations are incomplete and will not be accepted if the online submission process is not followed.

# Nominee Information

Name 4-H County

Address

4-H District

Number of Years in 4-H/Cooperative Extension Work

Nominator Name

# Describe in 75 words or less the nominee’s role in supporting volunteer development for use in publicity statements and for the program.

**Nomination Form for Extension Staff Recognition**

1. List up to three specific actions, events or interventions undertaken by this nominee that have supported volunteers in their work with young people through Cooperative Extension in an extraordinary way.
2. What specific outcomes have led to improvement and/or growth of the volunteers and the volunteer program supervised by the nominee?
3. How has the county program been enhanced by the nominee’s support? (For example, more volunteers participating in district or state training, more volunteers involvement in teaching or training other volunteers, etc.)
4. Please share any additional, relevant information that might be helpful to those evaluating the nominations.

Supporting statements may go on separate pages and should include up to three items from any combination of the following individuals:

* 1. Another Extension staff member providing evidence of the nominee’s support of volunteers in the county program.
	2. Letter of reference from a community leader or 4-H’er.
	3. Letter of support from a volunteer.

# North Carolina 4-H Adult Volunteer Award Nominations Achievement Hall in 4-H Leadership &

**Dr. Thearon McKinney Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Transmittal Form**

**Guidelines**

* Limit information to space provided.
* *Nominations should be based on at least ten years of service*.
* In order to qualify to receive the Achievement Hall in 4-H Leadership Award or the Dr Thearon McKinney Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award, you must have previously received the District 4-H Adult Volunteer Recognition Award and the State Individual 4-H Volunteer Recognition Award.
* Nominations are incomplete and will not be accepted if the online submission process is not followed.
* **Nominations for the Achievement Hall in 4-H Leadership Award** **must mail an 8X10 portrait, professional quality photograph to the State Association Advisor with a received by deadline of March 1, 2022. By submitting this application, you agree to mail an 8X10 portrait, professional quality photograph to the State Association Advisor with a received by deadline of March 1, 2022. The award recipient’s photograph will be on temporary display at the McKimmon Center, to be moved to Penn 4-H Center’s Wagner Center for permanent display.**

**Nominee Information**

Name 4-H County

Address

4-H District

Number of Years in 4-H Volunteer Work

Nominator Name

Award for which nominee is to be considered

Achievement Hall of 4-H Leadership

 Dr. Thearon McKinney Outstanding Volunteer of the Year

 Year District 4-H Adult Recognition Award was received.

 Year State Individual 4-H Adult Recognition Award was received.

# Describe, in 200 words or less the nominee’s volunteer activity in a statement suitable for publicity and for the program.

**Nomination Form for Achievement Hall in 4-H Leadership & Dr. Thearon McKinney Outstanding Volunteer of the Year**

1. List key activities or events conducted during the past 10 years of 4-H volunteer service.
2. What specific outcomes of these activities have led to improvement of life skills among participants?
3. How does the nominee improve the community’s resources for youth development? (For example, service on a nonprofit board, advisory roles, etc.)
4. In what other ways has the nominee contributed to the total 4-H program? (For example, officer in county, district, state leader associations, mentoring new volunteers, etc.)
5. List the training and preparation in which the nominee has participated to be more effective in his/her youth development roles.
6. List other awards or commendations received for youth work by this nominee.

Supporting statements may go on separate pages and should include each of the following:

* 1. Agent or other 4-H volunteer’s statement of evidence of nominee’s personal growth.
	2. Letter of reference from a community leader, 4-H’er or other volunteer.

# Anna Williams Volunteer Conference of Southern States Scholarship Transmittal Form

*Anna Williams was a 4-H Volunteer leader for more than 30 years in Caldwell County, NC. One of her fondest memories as a 4-H Volunteer leader was the annual Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Forum. This scholarship is dedicated to her memory and will be given to a 4-H volunteer leader annually in North Carolina.*

This award scholarship has been established to provide financial support for a 4-H Volunteer Leader to attend the Volunteer Conference of Southern States. This award will be presented annually at the NC 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference, for participation in the conference in the fall of that year. This is a monetary award ($100) which is specifically designated for participation in the Volunteer Conference of Southern States. Awards are non-transferrable and must be utilized in the prescribed timeframe.

# Guidelines

* Limit information to the space provided.
* Nominations may be based multiple years of service.
* Nominations are incomplete and will not be accepted if the online submission process is not followed.

**N ominee Information:**

Name 4-H County

Address

4-H District Years served as 4-H Volunteer

# Provide a 200-word summary of the nominee’s volunteer activity and interest in participating in the Volunteer Conference of Southern States that is suitable for use in publicity and in the conference program.

# Anna Williams Volunteer Conference of Southern States Scholarship Application

1. Have you attended the Volunteer Conference of Southern States (formerly known as the Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Leader Conference) previously?

 No Yes, If so, what year(s)?

1. Have you received a scholarship to attend any 4-H volunteer leader conferences or trainings previously? No Yes

If so, what conference/ training and what was the scholarship amount?

1. Do you receive assistance from your county 4-H program to participate in the Volunteer Conference of Southern States? No Yes
2. What are you hoping to gain from attending the Conference and how will this scholarship support you?
3. What contributions do you see yourself making to your county 4-H program as a result of attending the Forum?
4. Provide a brief description of your most important or most memorable experience as a 4-H volunteer.

# NC 4-H VLA’s Volunteer Conference of Southern States Scholarships Transmittal Form

Recognizing the unique training opportunities available at the Volunteer Conference of Southern States and to provide support to that conference, the NC 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Association has established these scholarships.

These scholarships are to provide financial support for up to five (5) 4-H Volunteers to attend the Volunteer Conference of Southern States which is held at Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, George. These scholarships will be awarded annually at the NC 4-H Volunteer Leaders’ Conference for participation in the fall of that year.

Note: These are monetary awards ($100 each) with funds specifically designated for participation in the Volunteer Conference of Southern States. Awards are non-transferrable and must be utilized in the prescribed timeframe.

# Guidelines

* Limit information to the space provided.
* Nominations may be based multiple years of service.
* Nominations are incomplete and will not be accepted if the online submission process is not followed.

**N ominee Information:**

Name 4-H County

Address

4-H District Years served as 4-H Volunteer

# Provide a 75-word summary of the nominee’s volunteer activity and interest in participating in the Volunteer Conference of Southern States that is suitable for use in publicity and in the conference program.

# NC 4-H VLA’s Volunteer Conference of Southern States Scholarships

* 1. Have you attended the Volunteer Conference of Southern States (formerly known as the Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Leader Conference) previously?

 No Yes, If so, what year(s)?

* 1. Have you received a scholarship to attend any 4-H volunteer leader conferences or trainings previously? No Yes

If so, what conference/ training and what was the scholarship amount?

* 1. Do you receive assistance from your county 4-H program to participate in the Volunteer Conference of Southern States? No Yes
	2. What are you hoping to gain from attending the Conference and how will this scholarship support you?
	3. What contributions do you see yourself making to your county 4-H program as a result of attending the Forum?
	4. Provide a brief description of your most important or most memorable experience as a 4-H volunteer.