



Who We Are: Big Stone County 4-H

In 4-H — and specifically in **Big Stone County 4-H** — "we" refers to young people, their families, and volunteer mentors who engage in hands-on projects and leadership development across various fields like agriculture, STEAM, and citizenship. All activities are guided by the core values of Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. 4-H aims to empower youth to become capable, engaged citizens and future leaders through experiential learning, mentorship, and meaningful community involvement, supported by the University of Minnesota Extension.

Who Are the Members?

Big Stone County 4-H serves youth from kindergarten through one year after high school, helping them explore their interests and develop skills through hands-on, research-based programs. Families play an essential role, creating a supportive environment that strengthens learning and growth.

Volunteers:

A dedicated network of 62 volunteers — part of the over 500,000 across the nation — provide guidance and encouragement in Big Stone County, sharing their knowledge and passion to support youth development and success.

The National 4-H Initiative: Beyond Ready

The new national 4-H initiative aims to prepare 10 million youth for work and life by 2030. But it's more than just preparation for the future—it's about helping youth thrive today and equipping them with the skills and confidence to succeed throughout their lives.

As part of this bold effort, Big Stone County 4-H is committed to empowering youth to be Beyond Ready—ready not just for college and careers, but for life in a rapidly changing world. Through hands-on learning, civic engagement, and real-world problem solving, youth in Big Stone County are developing the leadership, resilience, and capabilities they need to thrive now and into the future.

To learn more about 4-H in Big Stone County—or how you can help our youth become Beyond Ready—contact the Big Stone County Extension office at **320-839-6380**.

2024–2025 4-H Program Year Highlights:

- **266 youth** participated in the 4-H program.
- **39% of school-aged youth** engaged in at least one 4-H-sponsored activity or event.
- Youth had access to **over 150 diverse programs** throughout the year for learning, growth, and engagement.

120 years ago, we were ready.

Ready to get our hands dirty,
Ready to learn by doing,
Ready to push the power of youth forward.
And as our inspiration grew, so did we.

When we expanded into every corner of America,

We were ready.

Ready to ask questions about the world,
To show up for our community,
To become the leaders we were always meant to be.
And when we evolved into the unstoppable force we are today,

We were ready.

Ready to open our arms to every opportunity,
Every path,
And every child—
Generation after generation.

Over six million of us have been inspired by 4-H.

It's time to inspire six million more.

We were ready then. We're beyond ready now.

After all, it's always been in our DNA.

Beyond ready for school.

Beyond ready for work.

Beyond ready for life—

And everything that comes with it.



Beyond Ready

