

## Spokane County 4-H Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

(To be review by TAG at their regularly scheduled meeting in April)

### What is TAG?

**TAG** is a “standing committee” within the Spokane County 4-H Organization. A standing committee is one that is a permanent part of an organization. The other standing committees in our 4-H organization include Budget and Fund Raising, Horse Projects, General Projects, Small Animal Projects, and Large Animal Projects.

What makes TAG unique, as a standing committee is that it is the only 100% youth-led standing committee in the Spokane County 4-H Organization. The committee has its own checking account and leadership structure. TAG collaborates with other standing committees in Spokane county, as well as with other groups and teens from “Northeast Washington 4-H District.” TAG has represented 4-H at events such as the 2008 Ag Show and the Interstate Fair. TAG was the central organizing committee for the highly successful 2007 Northeast District Teen Rally, hosted by Spokane County.

### Goals

1. TAG invests in our high school-aged youth as leaders, advisers, and collaborators providing a high-quality opportunity local leadership.
2. The teen members of TAG will have direct access to and collaborate with the 4-H professional staff and faculty of Spokane County, who serve as committee mentors and advisors along with TAG parents.
3. TAG will participate in the promotion of the Spokane County 4-H among local agencies, philanthropic organizations, and WSU Extension.
4. TAG is charged with establishing priorities and agendas that are important to them as 4-H youth. Each year TAG will have the option of “taking on a task” or setting a “yearly team priority”.
5. The leadership experience at the local level is designed to provide a “jumping off point” for regional/state leadership within 4-H and other youth-related organizations.

### Who may participate?

Participation is a personal choice. TAG meetings are open to all; however, appointments to standing committee membership are made through application each spring. Applicants are evaluated on the merits of the application and indication of their commitment to the ideal and goals of TAG. To participate in the Spokane County 4-H TAG, youth must be enrolled in Spokane County 4-H and be at least 13 years of age and not a graduating senior—i.e. **graduating in 2008**—at the time of application.

### Membership

Voting members of TAG will include no more than 12 members. Ideally there will be a balance of members representing the various project areas within the 4-H project committees (General Projects, Small Animals, Large Animal, and Horse), but specific positions on the committee are not set aside for this purpose.

### **Meetings and Leadership**

Ten or more meetings will be held each year, depending on the events and activities of the TAG group. Those selected, who will serve during their senior year in high school, will have a one year appointment. All others shall be expected to serve a two-year term. New terms for appointments will begin in June of each calendar year.

Each year the committee will elect a chair, a treasurer, and a secretary who will serve for one year.

Special projects and events may be addressed by the entire TAG or by ad hoc committees as necessary.

Meeting minutes will be posted on the web site.

### **Application Process and Due Date**

Each applicant must respond to a series of questions (on reverse) regarding their interest in serving on TAG and their ambitions for TAG (*only typed/word processed applications will be accepted*). Application screening will be completed by non-4-H Extension professionals and faculty who will provide recommendations to the 4-H Youth Development Educator, Gary Varrella.

All applications are due on or before April 16, 2007. Application screening will be completed the week of April 23. The search for qualified applicants will continue until all 12 positions are filled. Applications may be filed electronically by sending them to Dr. Varrella at [gvarrella@spokanecounty.org](mailto:gvarrella@spokanecounty.org) or by mailing the application to:

Gary Varrella  
222 N. Havana  
Spokane, WA 99202

## **SC4-H TAG 2007 Application Checklist**

*Please read application process on reverse side*

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Name of 4-H Club
- List your 4-H Project Areas
- Current Grade in School
- School You Currently Attend Name of Your 4-H Club
- Questions:

1. How has your 4-H experience impacted and influenced your life?
2. What is the value of having youth assist 4-H staff with the 4-H Program in Spokane County?
3. Describe the first step(s) that you would suggest we take to strengthen our Spokane County 4-H Program overall?
4. What should Spokane County 4-H do to improve opportunities for 4-H teens?