

Spokane County 4-H Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

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 the “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 for 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. (For example, a 2007-08 TAG member won a state level position as one of the Northeast District “Student Ambassadors.”)

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 in High School

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Application Process and Due Date

Each applicant must respond to a series of questions (below) 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 standing TAG members and 4-H Extension staff and faculty.

The search for qualified applicants remains open continually until all 12 positions are filled in any given 4-H year. Applications may be filed electronically by sending them to Dr. Varrella at gvarrella@spokanecounty.org or by mailing the application to:

Gary Varrella
222 N. Havana St.
Spokane, WA 99202

TAG Application Checklist

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

➔ SAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS ARE POSTED ON THE WEB SITE ➔

For samples go to: http://www.spokanekids.wsu.edu/Teen_Advisory/teen_advisory_comm.html