

SUCCESS STORY

4-H Photography Club

Mike Meyer, 4-H Youth Development Agent
Harrison County Cooperative Extension Service



Photography skills capture special memories or even tell a unique story. Youth tell stories and contribute to positive change utilizing their technology skills learned through 4-H programming.

The Harrison County 4-H Photography Club consists of over 25 youth and leaders with a shared interest in skill development. Through volunteer guidance and direction, club members wanted to do more within the community. The Club collaborated with the local Flora Shropshire Animal Shelter in an effort to help raise animal adoption. Participants visited the shelter to set up photo sessions for the animals. Pictures taken of the animals were used in marketing items, including social media, to encourage the community to adopt cats and dogs from the facility. Results of their efforts were instantaneous, as indicated through an increase in shelter traffic and animal interest as noted by the facility director. In addition, one pet was even adopted by the next day due to their stories and photographs.

The 4-H Photography Club plans to continue their efforts by displaying pictures of the animals and stories during community events and activities, such as the local Artoberfest and Homemaker Day at the Courthouse. This community partnership shows how 4-H programming provides unique and meaningful opportunities for youth to develop a specific skillset, while becoming active members of our local community.



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service