**4-H Youth Development Team**

February 2016 Highlights

**4-H Outreach:**

* **4-H Membership Policy** – The Parents & Leaders Association leadership are working through some big questions about membership in Jackson County. The questions are related to safe and inclusive membership through a variety of 4-H delivery models. Discussions focus around creating a welcoming atmosphere for First Generation youth/families while retaining the important elements of the current/traditional model.
* **Sci-Girls Training –** Alex attended a regional training to learn more about effective ways to deliver STEM programming to female youth audiences. The training was offered free to the region through a grant from Minnesota, and we’ll be hosting a number of events and activities through the curriculum that he received with the training – including 4-H afterschool and Summer of Science 5.0.

**Volunteer Development:**

* **Club Officer Training** – I provided training to nearly 30 youth in 2 settings – a county-wide Club Officer Training and a similar training for the Mound View Happy Workers 4-H Club. Youth leaders learned about their roles within the club structure, how to run a meeting and how to work together to move their club forward.
* **Adult Volunteer Orientation** –I trained 3 adult men as new 4-H volunteers. They plan to work with their clubs, the Small Animal Project and in other capacities around 4-H.
* **Club Work with Northfield Go Getters** – The Northfield Go Getters 4-H Club has been working through some challenges related to having a young, growing club. Communication has been a key element in the changes they’ve enacted, and they’ve made great strides in developing club guidelines that work for everyone. I’ve been providing support as needed through this process.

**Strengthening Families:**

* **HWPP Partnership Council & Social Marketing Campaign** – The January Partnership Council meeting engaged a couple of new partners, including the social work department of the Hospital. I facilitated development of a shared vision for the group as well as a discussion of how existing referral processes work, where the gaps/barriers are, and how systems are currently aligned. Based on this baseline work, we plan to help the group develop common language and referral tools around mental health needs in the county.

Lisa, Alex and I also met with Beth Mastin, a Social Marketing Consultant, about how we can develop messaging that reduces stigma around mental health issues, encourages people to talk about and seek help for mental health challenges they may be experiencing, and supports healthy coping skills.

**Key Meetings:**

1/6 – STEM Afterschool kits to programs (Alex)

1/11 – TFJCK Leadership Team mtg

1/13 – Youth/Technology webinar (Alex)

1/13 – Small Animal Project mtg

1/14 – SOS 5.0 planning mtg

1/15 – Mindfulness Programs mtg at Lincoln Elem.

1/18 – Staff mtg

1/19 – SQUAD mtg (La Crosse)

1/20-21 – Foundational Topics mtg (Green Lake)

1/28 – Phone conference with WI Public Television re: TABO; SFP planning mtg

2/1 – Staff mtg; HWPP planning mtg

2/2 – Pace & Pedal planning mtg

2/3 – Dept. of Youth Development mtg

2/4 – CPAG mtg

**Trainings/Workshops Facilitated/Led:**

1/10 – Club Officer Training at Mound View Happy Workers club meeting

1/14 – 4-H Volunteer Orientation Training

1/17 – Northfield Go Getters Club Meeting

1/18 – 4-H Exec. Board mtg (Vol Dev. Training about listening to and involving youth)

1/25 – 4-H Membership Policy mtg

1/26 – HWPP Partnership Council mtg; HWPP Social Marketing mtg

1/28 – Northfield Go Getters Parent Meeting

2/4 – QPR for community adults

Bi-weekly TABO meetings with teens at BRF & Lincoln High Schools (Alex)