

NCR 4-H Volunteer Specialists present:

Achieving the Extension Mission Through Volunteers



An Online Course for Extension Professionals working with Volunteers

January 26 – March 13, 2026

Description

Achieving the Extension Mission through Volunteers is designed to build staff and organizational capacity around volunteer development and management in all Extension program areas with a cohort of peers.

Participants will:

- Build staff and organizational capacity around volunteer development and management
- Increase volunteer management competencies
- Build knowledge and skills to identify, recruit, select, and support volunteers
- Learn current volunteer trends and how they may impact programming
- Understand the organization's philosophy related to volunteerism and develop your own philosophy

"It was so practical, easy to understand, and very worthwhile. It will help you feel more confident when working with volunteers."

Course Structure

Participants engage in a facilitated online learning community with a cohort of Extension peers. The 7-week course includes a combination of self-directed and same-time learning opportunities, including pre-recorded presentations, readings/resources, activities, 3 webinars and 3 video conference calls. It takes 4-6 hours each week to complete the course.



Volunteers are fundamental to many Extension programs, yet research indicates that nearly 1/3 of volunteers quit because of poor management practices.

Guest Contributors

Learn from Extension leaders in volunteer development:

- Dr. Jim Rutledge shares his work on the professional development stages of an Extension professional and how it influences capacity to reach audiences.
- Dr. Nancy Franz discusses personal, organizational, and public value related to volunteers in Extension.

Registration Opens in September

Space is limited! Registration closes Dec. 26.

COST: \$250

- North Central Region Colleagues receive a special rate of **\$100**; contact your state's volunteer specialist for Discount Code.

Register Here:

<https://z.umn.edu/AEMTVreg>

Detailed course information:

z.umn.edu/AEMTVcourseinfo

Registration questions? ext-reg@umn.edu