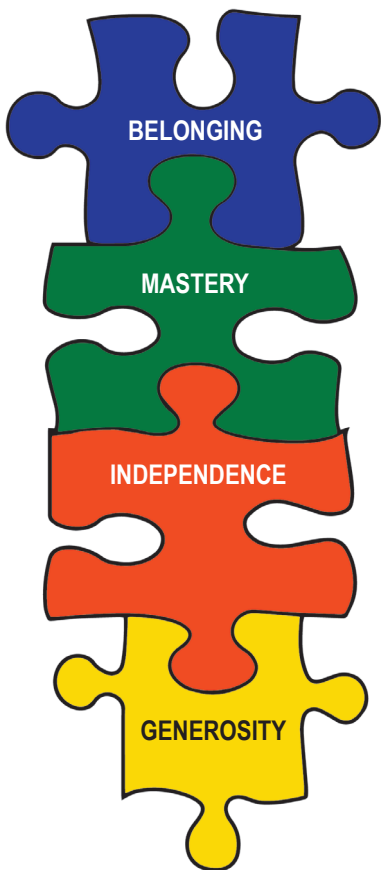


Four Essential Elements of Positive Youth Development



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BELONGING

Positive Relationships with Caring Adults who act as advisers, guides and mentors, helping to set boundaries and expectations for young people.

Inclusive Environments create a sense of belonging, encouraging and supporting members with positive, specific feedback.

Safe Environments maintained by adults, other participants and spectators help youth feel physically and emotionally secure while participating in 4-H experiences.

MASTERY

Opportunities for Mastery and the time to develop it, as well as building knowledge, skills and attitudes, and then demonstrating competent use as a proficient practitioner.

Engagement in Learning helps youth build relationships and connections to develop understanding of the subject area. Engaged learners are more self-motivated and creative.

INDEPENDENCE

Opportunities to See Oneself as an Active Participant in the Future foster young people's hope and optimism toward shaping their life choices and the world around them.

Opportunities for Self-Determination allow youth to influence their lives and realize their potential to become self-directing, autonomous adults.

GENEROSITY

Opportunities to Value and Practice Service to Others give youth experiences to find themselves by losing themselves in the service of others. Through service, members gain exposure to the larger community and the broader world.