**Purpose:** Recognize clubs who have contributed to the betterment of the citizens while providing meaningful opportunities for members to develop life skills through community service projects.

**Objective:**
- Encourage clubs to use the “Service-Learning” model when choosing, planning, conducting and evaluating a youth led community service project.
- Provide a means to collect, record, and recognize the community service projects of Oklahoma 4-H Clubs.
- Develop a database of community service as a resource to assist other clubs in planning and conducting service projects that make a significant difference to our communities and the lives of our citizens.
- Recognize clubs (members and volunteers) who excel in ingenuity – creativity, resourcefulness, and life skill development.

**How to Get Involved:**

1. **Preparation** - Club leader(s), Project Leader(s), Activity Leader(s) or Teen Leader review materials - 4H.VOL.119 Service-Learning and information on committee work found in 4H.VOL.304 Leadership Development - prior to presenting the opportunity to a club.

   It is okay in your leadership role to have “project ideas” or to “explore possible” opportunities, but do not choose the project. Have the ideas ready to place on the table as a catalyst. The youth may like one of the ideas, they may not like any of them, they may piggyback on an idea, or in their exploration process they may find a project that stems from one of your initial ideas. All of these are okay and mean you have been successful in your role as a guide/educator/leader/coach. Your goal is accomplished; they are “processing.” In the 4-H Ritual: For what is the head trained? “To think, to plan and to reason”

2. **Youth Led Projects/Programming** - Share the idea with the Club Officers by briefly presenting what the project would involve (Service-Learning Model) and possible project “examples.”

   With the interest and support of the leadership team, have them present the idea and concept before the club. Form a committee or subcommittees if the club’s membership is in support and committed to identifying and conducting a project.

**SERVICE-LEARNING IS MORE THAN VOLUNTEERISM.** It is the blending of both service and learning in such a way that both occur and are enriched by each other. Service-learning projects emphasize the process of learning and planning, as well as the actual service itself.

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**Preparation**

**Before getting started, review the following materials:**
- 4H.VOL.304 4-H Leadership Guide
- 4H.VOL.119 Service Learning
- 4H.VOL.117 Youth-Adult Partnerships
- 4H.VOL.114 Youth Development

The National Service-Learning Cooperative/Clearinghouse provides information and referrals through its toll-free information number, 1-800-808-SERVE and an e-mail address: serve@maroon.tc.umn.edu.

The Clearinghouse has established a national database of programs and resources, a materials library, and an electronic bulletin board.

**Related 4-H Project Areas:** Health, Safety, Recreation, Woodworking, Arts and Hobbies, Environmental Awareness - any project area can be a source for developing knowledge and skills for serving others.
OKLAHOMA 4-H CENTENNIAL PROJECT: 100 PROJECTS FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

3. **Leadership and Citizenship Development** – Using a committee(s) of youth and adults (adults being guide/educator/leader/coach, not the “doers’) follow Service Learning Action Plan Guide (S.L.A.P. guide)

4. **Reporting and Recognition** – Send an electronic copy of the completed SLAP guide and a video of the project to your district office no later than June 1, 2009. The district officer team will
   a. provide a method for making projects/materials available for clubs/county to access and use as a resource and
   b. select the top 25 projects to forward to the state committee.

Our team goal is to have video of all 100 projects available for viewing through the State 4-H Website – possibly an OK 4-H Youtube type link.

If quality and time permits, the top 10 project ideas will be shown at Round Up.

**This project has been selected, planned and is supported by the State Leadership Team in collaboration with the state 4-H Centennial committee.**