

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 2-8, 2016 DOUGLAS
COUNTY 4-H WEEK.

WHEREAS, The Colorado 4-H Youth Development program is founded on the notion that youth are a vital resource for ensuring a better tomorrow, and that assisting youth as they prepare for the future is the 4-H program's central mission; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado 4-H program is an integral part of Colorado State University Extension and is fundamental to the land-grant university mission; and

WHEREAS, 4-H programs across the country are recognized and celebrated during National 4-H Week which is the first full week of October each year; and

WHEREAS, More than 500 4-H club members and nearly 5000 4-H Outreach youth in Douglas County, with the guidance of more than 200 adult and youth volunteer leaders, currently contribute to Douglas County communities and gain practical experience in such subject areas as workforce preparation and career exploration, leadership and volunteerism, character and ethics, food and nutrition, agriculture and natural resources, conservation, consumer decision-making, veterinary medicine, animal sciences, and public speaking, just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Douglas County 4-H returns \$1.69 million annually to the Douglas County economy, plus \$591 thousand in added value of volunteer time contribution; and

WHEREAS, An eight year longitudinal study of positive youth development recently completed by Tufts University demonstrates that 4-H members are:

- Less likely to engage in risk behaviors, such as drinking, smoking, and drug use,
- Two times more likely to go to college,
- Three times more likely to delay sexual activity by Grade 12.
- Two times more likely to exercise and be physically active, and
- Three times more likely to contribute in their communities than their non 4-H peers.

WHEREAS, Participation in 4-H in Colorado and Douglas County is open to youth from all economic, social, and cultural backgrounds between the ages of 5 and 19; and

WHEREAS, that the Douglas County Board of Commissioners salutes the Douglas County 4-H program in its efforts to prepare Douglas County's youth for the future, providing a wealth of opportunities for young people to acquire decision-making, leadership, and communication skills, as well as a host of other life skills, in a hands-on, friendly learning environment;

WHEREAS, the Board commends Colorado State University and Douglas County Extension for its work in supporting the mission of the Colorado 4-H program;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the invaluable contribution of the adult volunteers in Douglas County whose efforts enhance the 4-H experience for Douglas County youth; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners encourages young people in Douglas County to get a head start on life by participating in 4-H activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Commissioners hereby declares the week of October 2 - 8, 2016, "Douglas County 4-H Week" in recognition of the 4-H program's efforts on behalf of Douglas County's youth.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO**

BY:



DAVID A. WEAVER, Chair

ATTEST:



MEGHAN MCCANN, Deputy Clerk

