

2009 ELS Enhancement Grant Recipients Project Summaries

Fulton County A&NR Program Development Team – (Lead Agent: Louise Estabrook)

The Fulton County A&NR PDT will conduct a one day training class aimed at recruiting and preparing Farmers Market managers to help set-up and run new Fulton County markets. The workshop will require advertising and publicity, a facility to hold the event indoors, speaker fees, luncheon and refreshment costs (funded from other sources), copying and printing fees, door prizes and certificates.

The team feels that this training can be offered on an annual basis, and can be written up and shared with other agents in Georgia. Georgia Organics is also interested in assisting, particularly with information and publicity. The team is also interested in continuing education for trained market managers in the form of yearly seminars that will address local topics and concerns.

Since the team plans to begin the market season over Memorial Day weekend, the proposed training would be targeted for March. ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used on printing, certificates, speaker honorariums, and CD's, for an audience of an estimated 40-50 trainees.

Houston County 4-H Program Development Team – (Lead Agent: Stacey Ellison)

The Houston County 4-H PDT will use ELS Enhancement Grant funds as 'seed money' to sponsor and conduct a Mini-Grant program for Houston County 4-H volunteer leaders. The PDT will develop a mini grant application to be distributed to Houston County 4-H Volunteers interested in starting a 4-H special interest group in Houston County (S.A.F.E. team, judging team, quiz bowl, etc...). Program Development Team members will exercise leadership as they evaluate and award applicants. ELS Enhancement Grant funds are intended to kick off the Mini Grant program and PDT members will be responsible for finding additional future funding to make this an annual opportunity for Houston County 4-H volunteers.

In addition, ELS Grant funds will be used for partial scholarships for 3-4 Program Development Team members to attend a professional development opportunity. Possible opportunities may include 2009 Southern Region Leader Forum, Volunteer Leader Association Meeting at Fall Forum, study tours of other Volunteer Leader groups, etc. To help encourage further leadership development, all participants using grant funds must be actively engaged in a leadership role during their professional development opportunity (i.e. teaching a workshop, organizing the study tour, etc.)

DeKalb County 4-H Program Development Team – (Lead Agents: Marie Trice and Pat Heggs)

Members of the DeKalb County 4-H PDT will be trained in the national curriculum, Essentials of Youth Development, a 6-8 hour training session. ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used for supplies and curriculum materials. Funds for lunch will be provided by another funding resource.

Two PDT members will receive 'mini-grant' funding to attend GA 4-H Volunteer Leader Association meeting. Upon their return, delegates will share information learned during a subsequent PDT meeting.

Finally, some of the ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used to cover travel expenses for a new initiative. PDT members will participate in the "Be a Judge for a Day". Members will be trained to serve as 4-H Project Achievement judges and will volunteer to serve in this role at a district or area competition in which DeKalb County 4-H is not involved.

Bibb County (ALL) Program Development Teams – (Lead Agent: Karol Kelly)

The Bibb County Cooperative Extension will sponsor a one-day Team Building workshop for all members of their four PDT's (EFNEP, FACS, 4-H, A&NR). They will contract with a leadership development professional to guide PDT members through personality assessments and skill identification exercises.

ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used to: secure the services of the professional; help offset the cost of renting a facility for the training; and to purchase equipment and supplies.

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Pulaski County 4-H Program Development Team – (Lead Agent: Sonya Jones)

The Pulaski County 4-H PDT will sponsor a team-building retreat at Little Ocmulgee State Park in Helena, GA. The newly elected officers of the Pulaski County 4-H PDT would benefit from learning to work together in varying situations. It would be a time of bonding and a time to get away from Pulaski County to reflect on the county's needs as a group. The retreat would take place in February/March 2009.

ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used for rental of the lodge space, paying a team-building professional to teach, and transportation costs.

Toombs County 4-H Program Development Team – (Lead Agent: Cheryl Poppell)

The Pulaski County 4-H PDT will sponsor a Real Colors® Training Session for members of the Team. The Real Colors® program offers members the opportunity to learn more about themselves, their strengths and weaknesses. The program would help members learn to work more effectively within the PDT.

According to the Real Colors website, "the Real Colors Personality Instrument is a leading edge tool that bridges temperament theory and real life applications in a way that is easy to understand, fun to learn and that offers unprecedented levels of retention. Using Real Colors®, people learn to recognize, accept and value the differences in others while improving understanding, empathy and communication."

ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used to offset the cost of training and materials for team members. The program would be held in Spring 2009. Members would then be asked to take what they have learned and share with 4-H youth in the Fall of 2009.

Oconee County 4-H Program Development Team – (Lead Agent: Lauren Mosher)

The Oconee County 4-H PDT, as one of its main goals, desires to reach out to the rather extensive 4-H/Extension Alumni population in the County. The 4-H PDT would like to develop and mail a quarterly 4-H/Extension newsletter to the group, with a goal of using the newsletter as a venue to promote upcoming 4-H and Extension events and seek support (both financial and in-kind) from these past 4-H/Extension participants. By the end of 2009, and following three issues of the newsletter, it is the PDT's hope that they will have raised money to not only support current 4-H programming but also to keep the newsletter in circulation.

ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used to support costs related to production and distribution of quarterly newsletters in 2009.

Bacon County 4-H Program Development Team – (Lead Agent: Ann Wildes)

The Bacon County 4-H PDT will sponsor two of its members to attend the Southern Region Leader Forum. Members of the PDT recognize the Forum as a great opportunity to network with volunteer leaders throughout the Southern Region of the United States. This valuable resource is available the first week of October each year. With numerous classes on a variety of topics, it would be expected that the members attending would return and offer a class to 4-H'ers on what they had learned.

ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used to offset costs associated with registration and transportation for two delegates to the Forum in October 2009.

Cobb County 4-H Program Development Team – (Lead Agent: Kimberly McDonald Taylor)

The Cobb County 4-H PDT wants to focus on increased marketing of the local 4-H program. Team members want to create an ongoing "Information Booth" that would inform the public about the Cobb Extension Office and the many resources it provides on a day-to-day basis. This would be a volunteer-led booth that would be set up multiple times each year at our local Cobb County malls. The exhibit would also be available for use in other locations and upon request.

The "Information Booth" will be designed to "get the word out" about projects and programs through Cobb 4-H and other departments with Cobb Extension.

ELS Enhancement Grant funds will be used to purchase booths to assemble and for production of brochures and flyers for volunteers to distribute.