Instructor/Extension Specialist
4-H Youth Development
Southwest Area Extension Office
Garden City, Kansas

4-H is the largest youth development organization in the United States with more than 6 million youth who live in urban and suburban areas as well as rural America. The mission of 4-H is to empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. The Department of 4-H Youth Development, Kansas State University and in partnership with local K-State Research and Extension units across the state, involves more than 61,000 Kansas youth and 7,000 youth and adult volunteers in educational programs and life skill development related primarily to science, healthy living, leadership and civic engagement. Families with children and youth participate in positive development experiences through long term and short term club experiences; in-school and after-school programming; camping experiences; and regional, state, national and international opportunities. 4-H relies on research-based programs that prepare young people to make a positive difference in their life, work and communities.

Position Description:

The Department of 4-H Youth Development seeks a dynamic and innovative professional to provide leadership and programmatic direction for 4-H Youth Development in the Southwest region of Kansas. The successful candidate will also provide statewide leadership for the strategic priority related to developing and delivering education programs and workforce readiness initiatives related to agriculture, health, food systems and STEM-related careers. The Extension Specialist will be a leading resource to Extension professionals, strengthen external partnerships and seek additional funding for the purpose of building program capacity in areas of workforce readiness and career preparation. The Extension Specialist will have responsibility for program evaluation related to their program area and for communicating the impact of 4-H youth development and the contribution youth are making towards becoming prepared for the workplace.

The Extension Specialist will carry out the mission of the 4-H Youth Development Program and KSRE under the direction of the Area Director, Southwest Kansas and the Assistant Director, 4-H Youth Development. This position is located in Garden City, KS.

The successful candidate will be expected to integrate responsibilities with departmental programs and activities and serve as a valuable and effective resource to Extension professionals. The faculty member will be expected to contribute to the broader mission of Research and Extension and integrate responsibilities, where appropriate, to address the grand challenges, including water, global food systems, health, vital communities and leadership for tomorrow.
Required Qualifications:

- Master’s degree in youth development, human development, non-profit and leadership studies, education, human ecology or a closely related discipline.
- Demonstrated leadership in understanding and working with diverse populations, and/or strong evidence of cultural sensitivity.
- Demonstrated competence in building relationships and working effectively with individuals, groups, colleagues and the ability to develop and lead partnerships and collaborations.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively (oral, written, and understanding skills).

Preferred Qualifications:

- Ability to speak and communicate bilingually (Spanish preferred) and evidence of cultural sensitivity
- Understanding of Cooperative Extension and/or 4-H youth development experience
- Solid experience or coursework in developing and delivering education programs in an non-formal setting
- Experience with workforce readiness initiatives particularly related to agriculture, health, food systems and STEM-related careers.
- Demonstrated record of competitive grant writing, fund development and marketing
- Experience in working with and supervising volunteers
- Teaching experience in community settings
- Demonstrated use of computer and technology in managing and/or delivering educational programs.

How to Apply: Applicants are required to submit the following:
1) letter of application highlighting how the candidate fits the position,
2) curriculum vitae,
3) copies of transcripts for all university degrees, and
4) statement of their youth development philosophy and interest in workforce readiness initiatives and career preparation.

Applicants must provide the names, e-mails, and phone numbers of three professional references that could explicitly address the qualifications of the applicant for the position. All application materials should be sent via e-mail in PDF format to Keli Yungeberg at kely@ksu.edu. For questions regarding application materials, please call Keli at 785-532-0751. Please refer to position Extension Specialist in the subject line when applying.

Contact Information: For more information about the position, please contact Aliah Mestrovich-Seay - Search Committee Chair - at 785-532-5800 or aliah@ksu.edu.

To see the full position description: Instructor/Extension Specialist Position Announcement

Review of Applications: Screening of applicants will begin October 15, 2015 and continue until a suitable candidate is found.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Kansas State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans. Background check required. Kansas State University encourages diversity among its employees. KSRE EEO Coordinator: Stacey M. Warner, 121 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. KSRE EEO Counselor: Daryl D. Buchholz, 123 Umberger Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506.

09/03/2015