

4-H After-school programs receive grant from JC Penney

Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development has a chance to develop or expand after-school programs in 11 counties around the state, thanks to a \$13,000 grant from the JC Penney Round Up for Afterschool program. The grant will be distributed to 4-H afterschool programs in Buffalo, Crawford, Fond du Lac, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Menominee, Sheboygan, Trempealeau, Washburn and Winnebago Counties.

"Grants will be given to programs to help youth build important life skills through learning about nutrition, healthy live choices, science and technology," says Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Afterschool Specialist JulieAnn Stawicki. "Each of the programs promotes quality youth development by offering positive supportive relationships with adults and opportunities for youth to contribute to their communities." The afterschool programs will mostly serve children in grades K-5.

Programs in Iron, Lincoln and Menominee Counties will address nutrition and food security with afterschool education that focuses on community gardening; educators in Crawford and Trempealeau Counties will include nutrition and healthy living lessons in their afterschool settings. Buffalo, Crawford, Langlade and Trempealeau Counties will also offer opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programming like rocketry and robotics.

Some programs will begin in the summer of 2013, and the rest will continue through the following school year.

Dawn Webster, KinsKlub Coordinator with Kinship of Tomahawk says, "Kinship of Tomahawk is excited to receive the JC Penney After School grant to provide nutrition education, hands-on healthy snack preparation as well as personal wellness education to our KinsKlub After School program. The grant will assist us in expanding our Af-

ter School program to meet the needs of Tomahawk."

Lincoln County 4-H will be utilizing funds to support their five 4-H After School Clubs located at Jefferson Elementary School, Kate Goodrich Elementary School, Prairie River Middle School "After the Bell", KinsKlub in Tomahawk and Washington Elementary School. Becky Kludy, Lincoln County 4-H After School Club Coordinator, will be providing projects on container gardening, nutrition, health, first aid, sewing, and woodworking during 4-H after school club meetings over the summer and next school year.

To learn more about the JC Penney Round Up for Afterschool program, visit <http://jcpennyafterschool.org/>. More information about Lincoln County afterschool opportunities is available at <http://lincoln.uwex.edu/after-school-network/> or Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development afterschool opportunities is available at <http://4h.uwex.edu/afterschool/index.cfm>.