**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA │PARENT INFORMATION LETTER**

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**Project Title: 4-H Youth Development Project**

**Principal Investigator:**

Kendra Lewis, 4-H Evaluation Coordinator

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**What is the purpose of this study?**

Your child is invited to take part in a research study because of their involvement in a 4-H program. We want know more about their experience in 4-H what they learn in 4-H. This will help us make the program better. Other youth ages 5-19 who are involved in 4-H programs in California are asked to participate in this study.

**What will happen during this study and how long will it take?**

Your child will be asked to complete a survey at your 4-H program. They will automatically be given in the survey project unless you contact the site staff to notify them that you do not want your child to take the survey. The survey will take about 20-30 minutes. The survey is optional. No child is required to participate. Only the research team will have access to your child’s answers. Your child will be asked to also agree to let their answers be used. If your child does not agree, their answers will not be used. The survey will ask your child:

* Information about themselves like gender, age, and ethnicity
* Participation level such as how long they have participated in the program and in 4-H
* Outcomes that are expected to be influenced as a result of participation in 4-H such as positive youth development, well-being, and academic performance
* Experience in the 4-H program

**What are the risks & benefits of this study?**

There are no known risks or dangers associated with this research. Any unintended or unidentified risks are not deemed likely or serious. There is no direct benefit to your child from being in this study. The information gained in this study will help make the 4-H program better.

**Who will see the information I give?**

The information your child provides during this research study will be kept confidential to the extent permitted by law. No information obtained in this study will identify an individual child. The data will be stored in a database housed on a secure server will only be seen by the research team. If the results of this study are published, your child’s identity will not be made public.

**Does your child have a choice to be in this study?**

If your child decides to participate in the study, it should be because your child really wants to volunteer. Neither you nor your child will lose any benefits or rights to which you are entitled. Your child can stop at any time during the study without penalty. Your child is free to skip any question he/she does not wish to answer. You are free to not allow your child to participate in this study without adversely affecting your or your child’s participation in the 4-H program. Your child will not be treated differently if your or they decide not to participate. If your child chooses to stop from the study before it ends, the researchers may keep information collected about your child and this information may be included in study reports.

**What if I have questions?**

If you have questions about the study, you can contact the Program Coordinator:

Program Coordinator

Lupita Fabregas, Assistant Director for 4-H Diversity and Expansion

(530) 750-1334, lfabregas@ucanr.edu