Adult Perceptions of Youth’s First-Year Experience in 4-H
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Why did you enroll your child in 4-H?
• 53%: try new things
• 40%: have fun
• 34%: show at fair

How did you hear about 4-H?
• 35%: from another parent
• 19%: family history
• 16%: a friend of my child’s

What we did
Surveyed (online)
• 255 adults from California and Idaho
• With a child that just completed first year in 4-H

What were some challenges you had?
Difficulty navigating resources
Communication

Results
Overall, parents reported having positive experiences

Changes we are making
New family handbook
Resources to help leaders guide new families
Recruiting more states

What was the best part of 4-H for your child?
Learning experiences
Meeting new people
Showing or competition

Why?
How do parents/guardians perceive their first-year in 4-H?

Only 50% of youth return to 4-H after their first year

Re-enroll their child
More positive experiences

3-5x greater odds

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