# Hawaii 4-H Recommendations for Clubs Operating Under COVID Guidelines

With the likelihood of the COVID-19 pandemic continuing into the new 4-H year, which starts on October 1, 2020, the Hawai'i State 4-H Program is recommending clubs and programs follow a hybrid format for the foreseeable future. Updates will be provided by county agents as new information and guidelines are developed.

In order to deliver the same quality programs under a hybrid approach, we are providing the following recommendations to help leaders and volunteers to succeed. When adapting projects it's important to keep in mind the elements of Positive Youth Development, the accessibility to technology of 4-H members, and
the content that will work best in person and online.

PYD	Tech	Content
Essential Elements	Google Classroom	Virtual projects
ESPGA	Zoom	Hybrid
Engaging	Email	Online
Youth lead	Google Meet	Offline

Positive Youth Development

- Choose a 4-H project that can be delivered virtually
- Keep It Clear and Simple
- Remember Essential Elements and ESPGA
- Include time for socialization and fun
- Guide youth to lead meetings and encourage participation
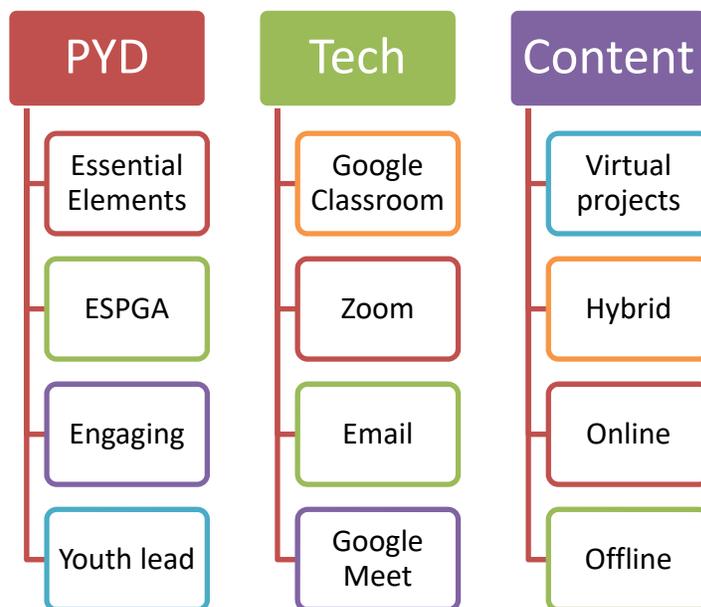
Essential Elements The "critical elements in a 4-H experience" are based on the research of basic needs and 4-H programming and were grouped into four main concepts of what youth need to thrive.

Independence	Belonging	Generosity	Mastery
Provide youth leadership and decision-making responsibilities.	**Help youth feel like they belong in 4-H.**	**Help to foster a sense of generosity among members.**	**Teach mastery and the process of completing a 4-H project**
• Include youth in planning discussions/encourage input • Ask youth instead of telling them to do something • Give youth responsibility with minimum reminders • Let youth take responsibility for meeting obligations • Commend youth who seek counsel • Never deprive youth of the thrill of overcoming an obstacle; don't jump in too quickly to help	• Encourage peer-group cohesion (ice breakers, games, social time) • Encourage ties with family and community • Encourage collaborative and cooperative learning • Show respect for the value of diverse cultures • Provide opportunities for youth to develop relationships with adults • Encourage supportive peer relationships	• Offer programs for cross-age linkages, service projects and community service • Encourage youth to imagine the feelings of others • Highlight the effect of a young person's behavior on others (both positive and negative) • Reinforce gestures of caring and concern	• Mix hands-on activities with paper and pencil exercises to build skills • Supplement competition with cooperative activities • Focus on the long-term goals of learning • Provide prompt feedback • Model and teach that failure and frustration are learning experiences • Include communication and basic content skills