



## 2017 Participant Information

The New Mexico 4-H Home Economics Schools are designed for 4-H members ages 9-12 who are interested in learning skills related to Home Ec Projects and finding out about project opportunities in New Mexico. 4-Hers choose one track per year. All participants will be engaged in a service learning project and fun evening activities.

### Directions

This event will be held at the Belen High School located 1619 W Delgado Ave, Belen, NM 87002. A map with directions is available on the *4-H website* > *State Events* > *Home Economics Schools* or from your County Extension Office.

### Arrival Time

Check-in time for participants is 5:30-6:00 p.m. on Friday, March 10, 2017. Junior Instructors and Rec Team will need to check-in at 3:00 p.m. Activities will begin at 6:30 pm. We will have refreshments that evening, but not a meal. Please have dinner before arriving at the facility. **DO NOT** plan to arrive early. We cannot check youth in or be responsible for them until 5:30.

### Departure Time

Do not plan to leave prior to 11:30 am on Sunday, March 12. Lunch will **not** be provided.

### Policies

- The New Mexico 4-H Home Economics Schools are a unique experience where each participant, chaperone, Rec Team member and Junior Instructor demonstrates the personal character that 4-H is respected for. Please sign a **Combined Liability Form\*** which is policy for all state 4-H events. Each youth and adult participant must have a signed **Combined Liability Form\*** on file before they will be allowed to participate in the event. Activities during Home Economics School are often videotaped or photographed for promotional purposes. \*These forms are available online or from your County Extension Office – youth will not be allowed to participate without all required signatures and forms. All youth, junior instructors, rec team members and chaperones must register through their county extension office.
- All clothing (including pajamas and bed clothes) must meet the Event Clothing Guidelines. We will be participating in fitness activities throughout the weekend so youth are encouraged to wear loose fitting, workout attire to allow full participation. Due to safety concerns, all participants must wear closed toed shoes during activities and tracks.
- Youth and chaperones are expected to attend the event in its entirety, DO NOT to arrive late or leave early.

### Insurance

All participants are covered by American Income Life Insurance for accidents and illnesses from the time they leave home with a designated chaperone until their return.

Please report any accidents or illnesses to Mindy Turner. If you have medications that you take regularly, please bring them to the school and declare them at registration. Ms. Turner will be in charge of medication and first aid throughout the event.

### Junior Instructors and Rec Team

Senior 4-H members who are at least 14 years old (at the time of the event) may apply to serve as junior instructors or rec team members. Applicants must be enrolled in an appropriate project area to be considered and will not be considered registered until they are accepted to serve. Junior instructors and rec team will be under the direct supervision of the School Instructors and do not require a separate chaperone. Though they are not being paid, this should be considered as a job – junior instructors and rec team are expected to participate fully as directed by instructors and abide by all policies of the NM 4-H Program and this event. There is no registration fee if a youth is selected to serve as a junior instructor or rec team member; however they are responsible for travel to and from the event.

## Chaperones

Each county must designate a chaperone (or make arrangements with another county for their youth to be chaperoned). Chaperones must be screened, enrolled 4-H leaders or Extension Staff meeting the guidelines in the NM 4-H Policy & Procedures Manual 200.A-3 (R-14). Chaperones will not be allowed to participate in youth tracks due to limited space. Chaperones must register and pay a fee to cover cost of meals during the event. Our ratio for chaperones is 1 adult for every 8 youth – that means one adult male for every 8 male youth and one adult female for every 8 female youth. If enough appropriate chaperones are not registered, it will be the responsibility of the county to recruit additional chaperones.

New Mexico 4-H statewide events are designed to be age appropriate activities conducted in a safe environment. In order for these events to meet their goals and be successful, the 4-H program relies heavily on chaperones. Chaperones are responsible for and must participate with the delegation, providing support and direction for the delegation at all times. Due to limitations in facilities and financial resources, and the liability involved, we cannot accommodate children who are not registered participants for the event and we cannot register youth who do not meet the age guidelines established for any given event. A chaperone's (Extension Personnel or Adult Volunteer) non-participating child(ren) may not travel or lodge with the chaperone until the conclusion of chaperone responsibilities to the delegation.

## Phone Messages

Youth cell phones will only be permitted during breaks or in the evening when no scheduled activities are being conducted. Mindy's cell number is (575) 491-4191. In the event of an emergency, contact Mindy and she will locate your child.

## What to Bring

This event will be a lock-in—that is to say that members and chaperones will spend the night in the gymnasium and utilize the locker room facilities. Participants will need to bring bedding, towels and toiletries. As it is a gym, temperature is hard to regulate. Please plan ahead with layers for bedding and clothing.

### **Some things to Remember:**

- Pajamas
- Bedding/Pillow/Sleeping Bag/Air Mattress
- Soap/Shampoo/Toothbrush/Toothpaste
- Comb & Brush
- Towel & Washcloth
- Shower Shoes
- Hairdryer
- Closed-toed shoes – for safety flip flops and sandals are not allowed in tracks of other organized activities.

Please be sure all personal belongings are marked with your name. We are not responsible for clothing or articles left behind. Music players and other electronics will not be allowed during any scheduled activity. We are not responsible for lost or damaged electronics that you choose to bring to this event. A lawn chair may also be brought for use in the gym. Due to space limitations, we will assign counties sections in the gym based on registration. If you bring an air mattress/cot to sleep on that is larger than twin size, please plan to have two people sleep on it.

## Food

The following meals are provided: Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner; Sunday breakfast. If you have special food needs you did not declare on your medical form, please notify Mindy asap. Some refreshments will be available in the evenings and throughout the day. Each county is asked to bring snack items to contribute to the snack table. **DO NOT** bring extra food or snacks – there are no snacks allowed in the gym area or during scheduled sessions. Remember – you will **need money** for dinner on Friday (travelling) and lunch on Sunday (travelling).

## Registration and Refunds

Registration for each track is first come first served – we are limited in each track. If you miss the cutoff, you will be placed on the waiting list. If you cancel, refunds will only be made after the event is completed and only if the vacated spot can be filled from the waiting list.