



College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Cooperative Extension Service
Northern District Office
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12/20/23

Dear Bernalillo County 4-H Volunteers,

My name is Christina Turner, and I am the Northern District Department Head for Cooperative Extension Service. I have the privilege of working with the Bernalillo County 4-H Agents. I would like to take a moment to communicate some changes that you will see in our 4-H staffing responsibilities.

As the new year gets underway, it has become necessary for us to revisit roles and responsibilities for each of our 4-H Agents. Bernalillo County is very fortunate to have three full time faculty dedicated to 4-H Youth Development. These three positions have different job descriptions and responsibilities attached to them. To help our Agents manage those responsibilities and allow them to grow professionally, the 4-H program will be managed in the following manner:

Brittany Sonntag's position as an Urban 4-H Agent is unique and is the only one in New Mexico. Brittany's role encompasses working with the non-traditional 4-H audiences introducing them to our school enrichment and special interest curriculum. Brittany's work throughout her time has been impressive, earning her national recognition. Her projects include the 4-H Fridays in the School and her work with the Military Youth. Brittany comes to us with many talents, and we have utilized those talents throughout our traditional club program. She has been especially helpful in times when we were short-staffed. But now, it's time to let Brittany focus on her program. As such, she will be stepping back from some of the activities that you might be used to seeing her at. There may be occasions in which we will continue to use Brittany's expertise, but these events will be at the special request of the District Department Head.

Brittany Johnson and Phillip Alden are both responsible for managing and implementing the traditional club program. Together they will facilitate the general activities that the county participates in including county council, fair board, leadership activities, volunteer management, enrollment, club support, contests, statewide opportunities. As the 4-H Ag Agent, Brittant Johnson will be responsible for overseeing project areas including Horse, Livestock, Rodeo, Small Animals, Shooting Sports, and Horse Council (in transition). As the 4-H Family and Consumer Sciences Agent (FCS), Phillip Alden will be responsible for overseeing projects areas including Food and Nutrition, Health, Creative Arts, and Consumer Sciences.

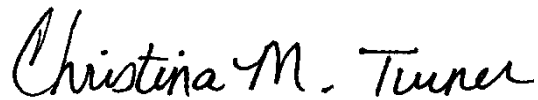
Of course, 4-H can be a monster and there are endless projects and activities that might not fit into the categories that I mentioned above. Together, the 4-H Agents will determine who will take the lead on events and activities.

I'd like to extend my thanks to Brittany Sonntag for always stepping in when we needed her! She has been a tremendous asset to us, and we are glad to have the ability to allow her to shine in her program area. I'd like to ask all our volunteers to please utilize Brittany Johnson and Phillip Alden when in need of assistance. I realize it might be difficult to not include Brittany Sonntag in those conversations as she is the most senior Agent. But Brittany Johnson and Phillip Alden are both tremendous talents and are dedicated to the 4-H program in Bernalillo.

Transition can be difficult, and I want to thank you in advance for your understanding as we work toward our new roles. I also want to thank our volunteers for your service, dedication, and commitment to our 4-H program and the youth of our community. Without our volunteers, nothing is possible!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of our 4-H staff in Bernalillo or myself at the Northern District Office. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christina M. Turner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christina Turner
Northern District Department Head
New Mexico State University
Cooperative Extension Service

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