

WHAT IS MOTIVATING YOU TO RUN FOR A STATE OFFICER POSITION?



Candidates for President

Timmy Hawes - Broward

Before I joined the Florida 4-H program, I was unable to speak in front of a crowd, lead a team, or set goals. However, 4-H changed my life indefinitely. I strive to make a lasting impact on the organization by introducing the "National Event Exchange Program," which will offer youth the opportunity to travel to 4-H events outside of their resident state. I recently had the chance to travel to Arkansas for their Teen Leader Conference as a Florida 4-H State Council Officer. I firmly believe that the Florida 4-H program and our youth would gain invaluable knowledge and life experiences by attending such out-of-state events, which I plan to make available to everyone through an application process.

Additionally, as a lifelong 4-H'er, there has been one fallacy that has troubled me, which is the rivalry between 4-H and FFA. To combat this, I have met with the FFA State Officers, and during our meetings, we discussed various routes to improving collaboration between our programs. I am a firm believer that connections are the route to achieving goals, and growing alongside each other increases our opportunities to find success exponentially. Both the 4-H and FFA programs have valuable knowledge to share, and many similarities exist between the organizations.

In conclusion, I plan to leave a lasting impact on the Florida 4-H program by introducing unique opportunities to our members that have never been available before. I aim to follow in my older brother Hayden's footsteps and serve as the Florida 4-H State Council President.

Giorgio Semprevivo - Indian River

If you don't know me, you will know me. But, let me introduce myself anyway...I'm Giorgio.

I'm an extremely extroverted person who will meet anyone, anywhere, with a smile from ear to ear. And I'm motivated for this because I know and love people so dearly that I'd like to take action in their needs. And what would be a better method than running for PRESIDENT! (You can probably feel my energy through the screen)

I'd listen intently to those with opinions and would take action toward the next generation of 4-Hers. Here's a quote I've heard and live by.

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Sincerely,
Giorgio Semprevivo

Summer Wayne - St. Lucie

It was around five years ago. An SUV was rolling up to a small and quaint building with a big green clover painted on the front. The little girl inside the car was so nervous that she asked her mother if she really had to go. As she made her way, step by step, up the concrete path to the door, her breathing became heavier and heavier, and as she opened the door, all she could see was a variety of smiling faces greeting her with open arms.

That girl was me, nearly six years ago, going to my first 4-H meeting as a member of the Heavenlee Hooves 4-H Club. While I was incredibly nervous then, I can happily say that 4-H has given me a place where I can grow and be myself! Once I joined our county council, I met incredible young leaders like Lily Crawford and

Brooke Adams, who showed me what it means to be in 4-H—to have passion, resilience, and dedication to something bigger than yourself. I truly idolized them and aspired to be just like them. Since then, I have dedicated my time to this program and fostered connections I didn't know I needed. I have grown so much through this state program, and my motivation for being your Florida 4-H State Council President comes directly from that journey.

Being on State Council and serving as President is a unique opportunity to truly impact a wider spectrum of members than you can anywhere else and through any other opportunity. This feeling is something I've grown into through my time on the executive board and as a State Council officer leading new statewide initiatives. Representing this beautiful state that has given me so much is something that has truly been an honor, and something I hope to keep doing.

This year at 4-H University, I hope to be elected as the next Florida 4-H State Council President because it will allow me to help shape the direction of Florida 4-H and, more importantly, help other youth find their spark and journey through new initiatives and youth-driven innovation. When I first joined, I had older peers to look up to. Now, I want to be that person for others. Being the State Council President will allow me to create new opportunities for younger members and hopefully not only ignite their spark in 4-H but also give them the skills they need to grow and succeed. I believe fostering young minds into their brightest potential is a skill I bring to the table, one that fits this role and supports the future of our state program.

Because one day, I won't be the one sitting in the SUV—I'll be the one driving it. One day, I won't be nine years old and nervous to go to my first club meeting—I'll be a senior and devastated to leave the program behind. And one day, in the not-too-far future, I'll drive away from that quaint little building with the clover painted on the front for the last time as a youth member. And knowing that day will inevitably come, I want to make as big of an impact as I can while I'm still here. I want to inspire as many youth as I can to keep growing by expanding opportunities, sharing our voice, and making sure our next generation of 4-H'ers has even more to learn from and lead with.