Getting to the Thriving:
Identity Formation as Positive Youth Development

4-H PYD Learning Circle Session Two

Webinar Presentation: Tuesday November 8, 2016, 9am to 10am

Building on the premise put forth in today’s readings that identity formation is a key process of positive youth development, today’s webinar will focus on the work of James Marcia, preeminent identity formation scholar. Marcia’s model of “Identity Statuses” provides a lens through which 4-H activities can be enhanced. An introduction to the Oregon 4-H Model and “Sparks” and their connection to identity formation and youth thriving will be presented.

Learning Outcomes
In this session participants will:

- Understand the connection between identity formation, sparks, and thriving in youth and why identity formation is a critical aspect of positive youth development
- Learn Marcia’s Identity Status model, and how it can be used to facilitate identity formation in 4-H youth
- Have a basic understanding of the 4-H program model and how it describes the connection between the 4-H program and positive youth development
- Understand a thriving orientation as a mediating variable between the 4-H program and youth outcomes

Assigned Reading


Handouts

- The Oregon 4-H Program Model
**Suggested In-Depth Reading**


**Application Assignment**

For this month’s assignment, think about your county 4-H program and:

- How does the way you approach your 4-H programs match with the idea of identity formation? Give an example of a place your programs are enhancing identity formation, even if you don’t refer to it that way.

- Think about what is proposed in the 4-H program model. What parts match the way you think about your 4-H programs. What parts don’t seem to fit with your programs?

- Consider one small program that you do in your county. Would you describe it differently to fit “under” the program model? Give clear examples of what you would change and why.

**Reflection**

- Post your responses to the above questions on the Facebook page the week of October 31. Respond to each other’s postings to share with and learn from each other.

- Post questions and other reflections that you have about this month’s topic. Read and respond to these posts to learn from each other.