

Governors' Urban/Rural Exchange Program

Bringing urban and rural counties together to help youth increase their the awareness and understanding of agriculture and both urban and rural lifestyles, issues and economic opportunities.

Objectives

- Increase the awareness of urban lifestyles, issues and economic opportunities in rural youth.
- Increase the awareness of rural lifestyles, issues and agriculture in urban youth.
- Provide a forum and incentive for rural and urban youth to exchange ideas and resources
- Involve families in an exchange experience that increases the cooperation and networking between Georgia's urban and rural population
- Provide cultural experiences that expand young people's vision
- Provide educational experiences that involve youth in discussing Georgia's natural resources and environment.
- Provide opportunities for rural and urban leaders to showcase their communities to young people

Program Guidelines

- At least one set and possibly two sets of two counties will be chosen to participate.
- Each county group should consist of at least 4 youth and one adult. Maximum group size may be decided upon by partner counties.
- Counties will be expected to host visiting counties for a minimum of two nights.
- The visits should be completed within by the fall of 2009.
- Counties must plan a variety of both educational and recreational activities that allow them to experience urban or rural life in Georgia so they may have a better understanding of agriculture, natural resources and lifestyles, issues and economic areas in both urban and rural areas.
- Each county will be provided with \$500 for expenses incurred while hosting the visiting county. (Counties will be expected to submit receipts for the expenses they incur in order to be reimbursed.)
- Once selected, counties will be expected to provide a preliminary agenda and budget to the state 4-H office.
- Counties will be expected to pay for their own transportation to and from the partner county.
- Counties will be expected to work directly with their partner county in the scheduling of the visits, housing arrangements, and travel details.
- The state 4-H coordinator, should be informed of scheduling plans, and will be available to assist as needed.

Program Models

- **Host Family Housing** – 4-Hers from each county will visit the other county and be housed with families of participants. All adults in a household where 4-H'ers are staying as part of the exchange program must meet University of Georgia Screen requirements and be Overnight Certified Trained. 4-H'ers must be housed with 4-H'ers of same gender.
- **Camp / Group Housing** - Exchange participants are housed at a local 4-H or community Camp Facility.

G.U.R.E.P. Timeline

March 15
County Applications
Due

April 15
Selected Counties
Notified

June 1
Agenda / Budget Due

Summer/Fall
Counties host
program

October 1
Program Report &
Payment Request
Due