

Happy December NAE4-HYDP members! Do you know that professional development doesn't need to happen just at our annual conference each fall? The Professional Development and Education team's goal is to promote, enhance, and present year-round professional development and educational opportunities for the NAE4-HYDP membership. This includes, but is not limited to, the NAE4-HYDP Annual Conference, regional workshops, electronic communications, virtual webinars, and social media as possible formats.

Your Professional Development and Education team has been hard at work since the conference in Boise. The Virtual Professional Development working group has been revitalized! Chair Jenny Murray from West Virginia and her team are putting together a slate of sessions for 2025. One of the best ways to initially get involved at the national level is by joining a working group. A request has been made for a Working Groups 101 document, providing a short description of each working group. This will help members make an informed decision about what working group fits their expertise and passion area. Look for this document in the new year!

We are already looking ahead to the 2025 conference in Atlanta. Along with our counterparts on the Conferences and Events team, we have begun looking at the conference schedule, to maximize our time together. Our team is working on the session and poster proposal submission process, to ensure workshop tracks are provided that meet the needs of all our members, in their different positions within 4-H. We also want to ensure that sessions and posters highlight a strong foundation in positive youth development practices. Look for the proposal submission process to open soon! We also will be looking for proposal reviewers. This is a great way to see firsthand how proposals are reviewed, as well to provide input in the sessions that will be provided at the conference.

Look for more news from our working groups throughout the year!