

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2013

Washington State



Janet Hiller

Washington State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist

Home: Pullman, WA Nominated by: Washington State 4-H

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Iowa 4-H member 8 years, State 4-H Officer, delegate to National 4-H Club Congress and National 4-H Conference. ISU Collegiate 4-H member, president 1961-62. Co. Extension Home Economist 2 years. WSU 4-H Youth Development Specialist: developed Washington State 4-H Council, State 4-H Forum, State 4-H Advisory Board, comprehensive volunteer screening systems and online volunteer training courses for University credit.

Honors: NAE4-HA Excellence in Teamwork, Distinguished & Meritorious Service, Communicator awards. USDA 4-H Centennial Program of Excellence and Meritorious Service. WSU Extension Hall of Champions Excellence Award, and WSU Faculty Award for Excellence in Extension.

Biography:

Jan Hiller joined Iowa 4-H at age of 10. During 8 years as a member, she was a State 4-H Officer, a delegate to 1958 National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago and to 1959 National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. She was active in Iowa State University Collegiate 4-H Club, serving as president in 1961-62. After graduating from Iowa State she was Extension Home Economist in Madison and Boone Counties for 1 year each. In 1979 Jan joined the WSU Extension 4-H Youth Development staff to lead the Foods and Nutrition and Clothing and Textiles projects and statewide volunteer development. Under Jan's leadership, Washington implemented an extensive volunteer management system that thrives today.

Dr. Hiller's accomplishments include the development of the Washington State 4-H Council, the State 4-H Forum for youth and adult volunteers, and the State 4-H Advisory Board composed of adult and youth elected representatives. Through her leadership, Washington developed and implemented one of the nation's first comprehensive volunteer screening systems. The focus of her work has been to create an empowered volunteer base to enhance and expand 4-H's outreach to all young people. Her expertise and interest in volunteer management led Jan to form a team of volunteer management experts both within and outside academia that developed one of the first online volunteer training courses to provide University credit.

Quote:

The leadership and life skills that I learned from my parents, from 4-H experiences, and from the 3 universities that I attended have inspired me to share my talents with youth and adults in living the 4-H motto "To Make the Best Better!" I have tried in my career and since retirement to give something back to 4-H.



Jan with the Washington State Food Safety Education program "Get a Jump on Germs" display.