



## Kathy Murarik Morris County 4-H Program Associate



*Volunteer management of Morris County 4-H volunteer leaders, members and adult volunteers, program planning, recruitment and outreach, and manager of the annual 4-H Fair*

### **How long have you been a program associate for Morris County 4-H?**

38 years - recently retired

### **Where do you currently work?**

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Morris County 4-H Youth Development – I recently retired and am now serving as a volunteer leader.

### **How do you spend most of your time at work?**

I plan and administer 4-H programs for our members and leaders, train volunteer leaders, respond to phone inquiries, and do outreach programs.

### **Why did you choose this career?**

I enjoy working for a youth organization and with volunteers. I am in the health field and 4-H looked like a great organization to work with people and also do things with animals.



### **KATHY'S FUN FACT**

*I love all TV shows having to do with nature and animals.*

### **What did you do to prepare for this career?**

I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Education and have taken many courses in communication skills.

### **What do you enjoy most about your job?**

I enjoy seeing the benefits that young people and adults receive once they become involved in the 4-H program and also watching the young members grow up in the program and seeing how they become caring, productive young citizens. The most fun that I have had in my career was to bring my hobby of Dog Training into my outreach programs. 4-H and animals go hand in hand, and being able to enjoy my dog as part of my work has been most memorable.

### **What do you find most challenging about your job?**

It is always difficult to recruit volunteers to become leaders and run clubs. I also find keeping them motivated to continue year after year a challenge. Some people get involved for only a short time, but the ones who stick with it for years really benefit from the program

### **What is one piece of advice you would give to a young person who is interested in your profession?**

You really must enjoy working with people and have patience to understand that every volunteer is a different person and has different skills to offer.



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Posted April 2020