The Jackson County 4-H Outreach project provides programming to Latino youth through 4-H clubs, camps, and special events. All efforts reinforce themes of cultural pride and leadership. A deliberate effort was made to recruit Latino youth as participants in 4-H programs that largely attract traditional 4-H members, such as the 4-H Summer Conference. Partnerships with other organizations strengthen the program’s sustainability.

Kids and Bugs
New Latino residents got closer to the ecology of the Rogue Valley by learning about local fish, ecology and recreational activities. A High School Youth Leadership team created a radio PSA to promote the program and acted as group leaders at the event, which drew 65 children.

WorldQuest
Four Latino 4-H members from Jackson County were among 150 participants in the 2007 WorldQuest Knowledge Competition at Lewis and Clark College.

Video Production
The 4-H Video Club was held at White City Middle School in conjunction with the School Retention Program of Catholic Charities and the Drug Prevention Program through the Educational Service District-Jackson County (ESD). The Video Club produced two 30-second public service announcements (PSAs) titled “Don’t Use Meth: Not Even Once.” At a Spring 2007 legislative hearing, three female members presented about the goals of their club and producing the PSAs.

4-H Clubs at Housing Units
4-H Latin American Folk Art club members developed skills in traditional arts. The 4-H International Cooking club students learned about international cuisine, acquired cooking and nutrition skills and entered the 4-H Foods contest. A partner organization, the ESD Migrant Education Program, provided homework help for the 4-H members from kindergarten through 3rd grade twice a week in Winter/Spring.

Attendance at the Summer Day Camp jumped 40% over 2006; parent volunteer involvement also increased.

Summer Day Camp
Twenty-seven youth in grades 4-7 attended the Summer Day Camp, about 40% more than last year’s total. The program featured workshops on natural science, cultural heritage, nutrition, and arts and crafts. The camp’s instructional staff included two teachers from the Teacher Exchange Program offered through the Mexican Consulate; collaborators were Unete (Farmworker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy) and ESD Migrant Education. Parent volunteer involvement at this year’s camp significantly increased over 2006.

Twenty-one 1st through 3rd grade children participated in ScienceWorks Summer Camp, a joint program between the ScienceWorks Museum, ESD Migrant Education and 4-H Outreach. Children learned hand-on about fibers, dying fibers, and weaving.

Day of the Dead Celebration:
Unete and 4-H Outreach hosted a Day of the Dead Celebration at the Methodist Church in West Medford. Ballet Folklorico’s young dancers performed; about 100 people attended.