

2019 VIRGINIA

4-H MILITARY PARTNERSHIP

AIR FORCE CORPORATE REPORT

DEVELOPING MASTERY

GROWING CONNECTIONS

APPLYING LIFESKILLS

**Goal:** *Military readiness through 4-H positive youth development for youth, families, and communities*



Visit: [virginia4-hmilitaryclubs.org](http://virginia4-hmilitaryclubs.org)

[4-hmilitarypartnerships.org](http://4-hmilitarypartnerships.org)

The 4-H Air Force Partnership is a collaboration between U.S. Air Force Child and Youth Programs and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, 4-H Headquarters; and Virginia Cooperative Extension 4-H Program (Virginia Tech and Virginia State University) through grant funding at Kansas State University under special project number 2018-48661-28954.

## Why 4-H?

As military families continue to move frequently and experience difficulties surrounding deployment and reintegration, the Virginia 4-H Military Partnership provides a 4-H support network across the state that has predictable programming and a safe and nurturing environment. 4-H programming also aids in strengthening the resiliency of military –connected youth.



### 2019 VIRGINIA 4-H Military Partnership Air Force Highlights

**26** Virginia Counties & Cities with Air Force Military—Connected Youth Enrolled in 4-H

**579** Air Force Military—Connected Youth Enrolled In Virginia 4-H Clubs

This includes Active Duty, Reserve, and Guard youth who identified themselves as being a part of an Air Force military-connected family. Additional local 4-H programs may have Air Force military-connected youth participants who were not identified on a group enrollment form.



(Photo Taken Prior to COVID-19 Pandemic)

**38** Joint Base Langley—Eustis CYP Professionals Participated in Virtual and/or Face to Face Training

Professional development opportunities enabled Air Force Child and Youth Program (CYP) professionals to increase their ability to help youth develop life skills. As a result of training, a Langley CYP Professional said, “*Staff better understand how to use 4-H curriculum and ensure it is being captured on our Air Force lesson plans.*”

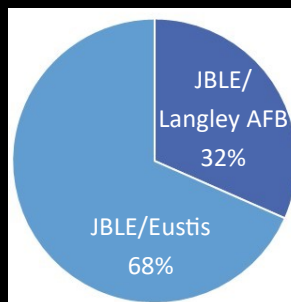
**4** Air Force Military-Connected Youth Out of **26** Geographically Dispersed Military-Connected Youth Participated in Residential 4-H Experiences

The 4-H Military Partnership provided an opportunity for geographically dispersed military-connected youth to participate in State 4-H Congress or 4-H camping. These experiences offered many opportunities for youth to increase life skills such as communication, leadership, goal setting, and community service. One Air National Guard participant served as a 4-H camp teen counselor. This youth received a minimum of 24 hours of camp counselor training prior to camp.

# Air Force Installation with Virginia 4-H Military Clubs

## Joint Base Langley –Eustis (JBLE)

Total Youth—538                      3 Chartered Clubs  
- JBLE/Langley AFB Youth Center —170 Youth  
- JBLE/Eustis School Age Care & Youth Programs—368 Youth



### Air Force Focus Areas:

Citizenship and Civic Engagement, Health and Fitness Initiatives, Youth /Teen Leadership Opportunities, Science and Technology Initiatives, and College/Post-Secondary Readiness Initiatives to Include Financial Readiness

### Life Skills Targeted:

Contributing to community through service and civic responsibility • Demonstrating effective teamwork • Demonstrating interpersonal communication skills • Demonstrating responsibility, critical thinking, and problem solving skills • Engaging peers, family members, and others • Respecting differences • Seeking active answers to their own questions, issues & concerns

### Impacts: 4-H Program Areas Address Air Force Focus

**Civic Engagement:** *“4-H Citizenship: Government is Us? A Civic Engagement Curriculum for Youth Groups,”* explains that leadership development and civic engagement not only empowers youth but improves their motivation for positive changes such as academic performances and career development. Program areas for Civic Engagement include leadership and personal development, community action, and communications & expressive arts.

**Projects and Activities Implemented:** 4-H Day at the Capitol, Character Education, Service-Learning, *Build Your Future, Leap Into Careers, Business & Career Expo, My Financial Future, Reading Makes Cents, and 4-H Photography*

**25** youth who participated in 4-H Day at the Capitol demonstrated respecting differences. A CYP Professional said, *“Although the children did not agree with the bill being passed, they were able to respect why it was passed.”* **15** of these youth practiced communication skills as they shared their 4-H story with State legislators. —JBLE/Langley Youth; JBLE/ Eustis SAC & Youth

**65** youth contributed to the community through service and civic responsibility. **20** of these youth set goals and determined steps to reach them. Service-learning projects implemented ranged from collecting toys for children to cleaning the bay to making cards and pillows for veterans. —JBLE /Langley Youth; JBLE/ Eustis SAC

**12** youth participated in financial management programming. **8** of these youth set goals and determined steps to reach them. **6** youth each demonstrated responsibility by opening a bank account with their parent as joint owner. Youth learned how to write checks and manage their accounts. According to a CYP Professional, *“Youth made certain to account for every penny.”* —JBLE/Langley Youth

**5** youth participated in a business & career expo to seek answers to their questions and concerns. Careers explored included culinary arts, engineering, and military service. —JBLE/Langley Youth





## Survey Results

As a result of participation in 4-H, a survey of 22 Air Force youth revealed:

- ⇒ 90% or 20 youth indicated Always or Usually, “I set goals for myself.”
- ⇒ 86% or 19 youth indicated Strongly Agree or Agree, “I eat more fruits and vegetables.”
- ⇒ 95% or 21 youth indicated I Agree, “Being active is good for me.”
- ⇒ 90% or 20 youth indicated Strongly Agree or Agree, “I like experimenting and testing ideas.”

**Healthy Living & Fitness** programs help youth understand the importance of eating right and being active within a safe environment.

**Projects Implemented:** *4-H Cooking, Dashboard Dining, Teen Cuisine, Keeping Fit & Healthy, and Choose Health: Food, Fun, and Fitness*

**105** youth participated in Healthy Living nutrition programming and gained knowledge on how to use MYPlate to eat a daily balanced diet. **85** youth practiced food sanitation and safety while preparing simple recipes. **68** youth participated in active games and experienced fun ways to be more active.

- JBLE/Langley Youth; JBLE/Eustis SAC and Youth



**4-H STEM** projects provide hands-on opportunities for youth to learn about science, technology, engineering, & math.

**Projects Implemented:** *Junior Master Gardener, Robotics, What's On My Plate?, and Weather & Climate*

**44** youth demonstrated responsibility, critical thinking, and interpersonal communication skills as they worked on STEM projects in their respective 4-H programs. - JBLE/Langley Youth; JBLE/Eustis SAC and Youth



**Special STEM Project:** *Code Your World*—National Youth Science Day Experiment

**68** youth participated in the *Code Your World* challenge which helped them gain computer science skills through digital animation using scratch, games, and dance. **20** Eustis school age youth took turns helping others and used trial and error as they conducted problem solving. One youth said, “*I can use coding to make my own games.*” **48** Langley youth worked in teams to accomplish a task using scratch.

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