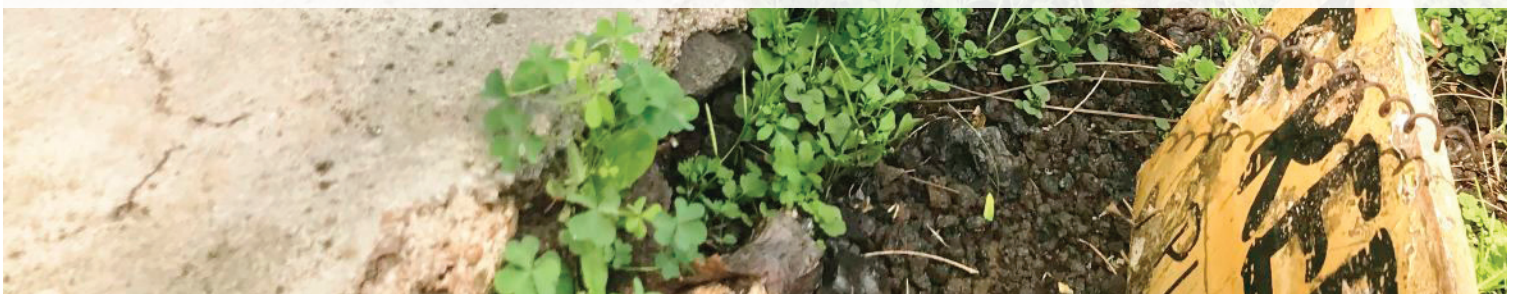




4-H MILITARY PARTNERSHIPS



2019 ANNUAL REPORT





Since its inception in 1995, the 4-H Military Partnerships Project has worked to ensure military readiness through 4-H positive youth development for youth, families, and communities. Through an agreement between the United States Department of Defense (DoD) and the United States Department of Agriculture – National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), the Project promotes the collaboration of military and land grant university partners to integrate research-based programs and resources so that communities can thrive.

4-H provides opportunities for youth to engage in intentional learning experiences. As military families navigate the difficulties surrounding deployment and reintegration, frequent relocations, and other challenges related to military life, 4-H provides predictable programming and a safe and nurturing environment. With the support of Project funding, military youth can participate in a variety of 4-H opportunities that introduce life skills needed to succeed in life and career. Knowing their children are in quality programs, service members can better focus on mission readiness.

In Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19), the Project awarded over \$1M to 42 states to provide services and opportunities for military-connected youth in the States and abroad. Through this funding:

- More than 63,000 military-connected youth participated in 4-H opportunities.
- More than 2,400 military Child and Youth Professionals increased their capacity to help youth develop life skills through 4-H positive youth development training.
- More than 10,000 volunteers contributed their time and attention to ensure the success of the Project.
- Donations to Project efforts (materials/program support, monetary elements such as membership scholarships and reduced camp fees, and in-kind support from Universities) totaled more than \$1M.

While all states work hard to provide 4-H programs to military-connected youth, this annual report contains only a few examples of the programming opportunities provided through Project efforts. Thank you to all for your commitment to our nation's military and our military-connected youth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meredith Butler'.

Meredith Butler
Project Director
Kansas State University

4-H Military Partnerships Project



Each year, the military services identify focus areas for programming efforts both on and off installations. For FY19, these focus areas included STEM/STEAM, Leadership/Civic Engagement, Healthy Living, and College/Career Preparation. Sub-awardees work to meet these focus areas in many different ways, including traditional 4-H Clubs, special 4-H projects, professional development opportunities for Child and Youth Professionals, and 4-H exposure events.

Total Youth Served (includes Active Duty, Guard and Reserve)

■ Air Force: 24,666 ■ Army: 22,294 ■ Navy: 11,053 ■ Other: 5,274

'Other' includes youth that were served from Coast Guard, Marine and civilian areas



\$1,394,250
FUNDING IN 2019
Not including Air Force Camps



63,287
YOUTH SERVED

TOTALS

2,410 Professionals reached through training events
(does not include CYFAR regional training events)

\$1,226,935 In-kind, scholarship and material donations

Total number of Volunteers

8,621 Adults

1,572 Youth

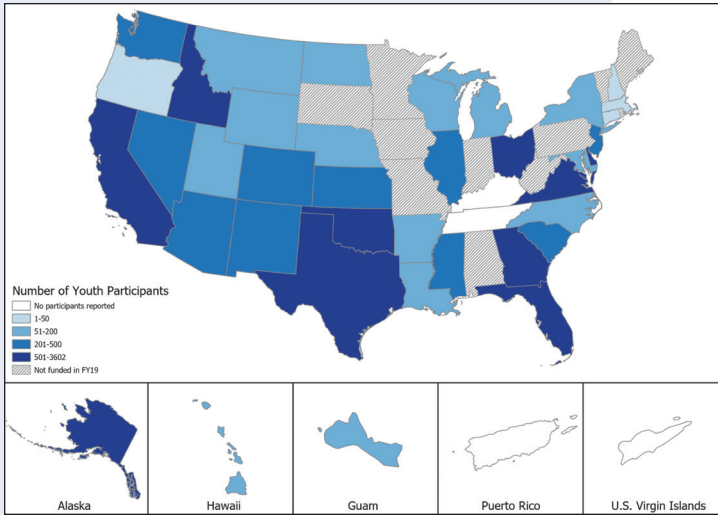
Total number of Volunteer Hours: 87,653

\$2,229,016 Estimated value of volunteer hours



Child and Youth Programs
Air Force Services

CONUS Air Force Youth Participation – 2019



The 4-H Air Force Partnership provides youth with numerous opportunities to engage in meaningful educational experiences, contribute to their community and participate in programs that develop a variety of life skills such as leadership, communication, critical thinking, and making healthy choices. Educational experiences occur through multiple hands-on delivery methods such as 4-H clubs, 4-H National Youth Science Day, special interest projects, and Air Force 4-H residential and day camp programs.

The presence of 4-H in every county throughout the United States offers easy access to critical services and resources for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve youth and families; OCONUS installations are supported through agreements with specific Land Grant Universities. The benefits of this Partnership also extend to Air Force Child and Youth Programs professionals by collaborating with experienced 4-H Extension educators who provide diverse training topics, a variety of curricula, projects, and technical support. Extension professionals provide training and development opportunities so Air Force Child and Youth Programs staff members can offer high-quality positive youth development 4-H programming on Air Force installations. Year after year, the Air Force 4-H Partnership is dedicated to the support of military families by affording life-impacting experiences and resources for Air Force youth.

FY19 Air Force 4-H Camps

In addition to camps operated through several states under Project Outreach efforts, Air Force Child and Youth Programs funded sixteen 4-H camps in fifteen states for Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve youth and families. These Air Force 4-H camps reached 551 participants, provided unique learning experiences, and encouraged continued growth and development in communication, self-efficacy, competence, relationship development, critical thinking, goal setting, and responsibility. Air Force Child and Youth Programs is proud of the long-standing partnership with 4-H and appreciates the work of dedicated Extension professionals around the country who provide 4-H camp opportunities for military youth.

4-H Youth, Malmstrom AFB, Montana

I think being a scientist is what I want to be. Using science to try to figure things out is really fun!

Colorado 4-H Extension: A FOCUS ON STEM

100 Air Force school-age youth participated in Colorado State University Extension 4-H AgFest. Fifteen extension professionals from Colorado traveled to Colorado Springs, planned, and taught a variety of hands-on agricultural topics. Youth learned the significance STEM plays in our food systems. Extension agents designed a variety of activities that made challenging science concepts easy to understand. For instance, at the farm and tractor physics station, students experimented with pulleys and levers to learn about lifting loads and multiplying force. Students were also introduced to milking a cow, good versus harmful bacteria, hatching chicks, what comes from beef bi-products, how a press can turn oilseed into fuel, plant germination, and insect life cycles. Pre- and post-survey results show that students significantly increased their understanding of scientific and Agricultural concepts. The highest knowledge gains were related to entomology, microbes, rangeland, and plants. Participants milked a cow, made butter, saw chicks hatch, learned that all parts of the cow are used, and nothing is wasted and experienced how power tools work (powered by hand). According to survey results, youth increased their knowledge and understanding of where food comes from, the science of food, and how farmland is related to production agriculture.

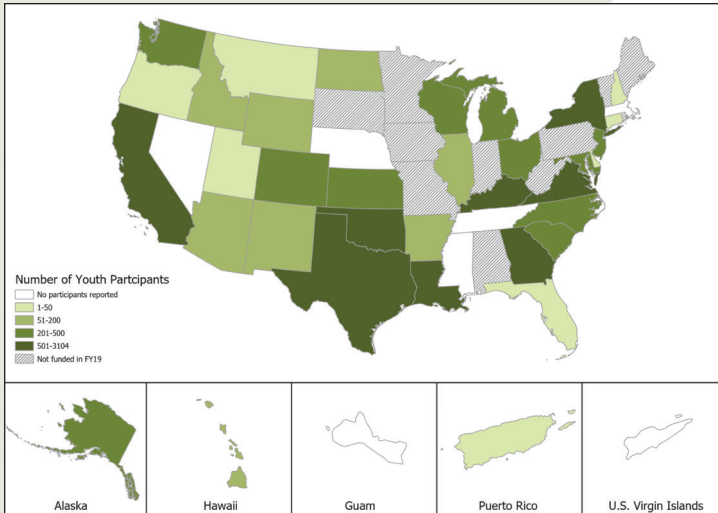
24,666 Youth Served (Active, Reserve, and Guard)





UNITED STATES ARMY CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

CONUS Army Youth Participation – 2019



There are many reasons why we offer 4-H Youth Development through Army Child and Youth Service programs. Our youth's world is expanded and enriched with the many fun, hands-on learning activities and programs offered through Cooperative Extension or by Child and Youth Services staff at their School Age and Youth Centers. Child and Youth Program Assistants have the opportunity for professional development and training by Extension staff so that they feel confident carrying out 4-H programming, which helps youth develop skills to make them more resistant to disruption in the face of change and adaptive during crises. Lastly, Army Families rely on predictable programs and services offered at garrisons Army-wide. 4-H is one of those programs that families can count on to be available no matter where in the world they may be.

Parent, Fort Bragg, North Carolina

I would like to say 4-H continued to build in our daughter the character of leadership and perseverance as she set challenging goals in her pursuit of knowledge in the equine club. In the military lifestyle, both are necessary as children must adapt and continue to thrive as there are definitely times of uncertainty. Having 4-H as an outlet to learn and grow in something you love is a gift. Thankful for you and our extension office!

South Carolina 4-H Extension: A FOCUS ON HEALTHY LIVING

South Carolina 4-H worked with Army Child & Youth Services personnel at Fort Jackson Army in Columbia to host the first-ever healthy lifestyles cooking camp for military children. 14 campers learned proper cooking hygiene, safe knife skills, accurate ingredient measurement, and much more while working in teams and celebrating unique cultures each day. Following the cooking camp, four teens from Fort Jackson participated in the statewide 4-H cooking competition with their team "Chop It Like It's Hot." They gained valuable experience in competitive cooking and making presentations. The SC 4-H Military Partnership brings positive youth development programming to military-connected youth and families throughout the state each year.

4-H Youth, Fort Drum, New York

I learn something new and get to experience something I might not have gotten a chance to experience if I didn't come to 4-H.

New York 4-H Extension

1,294 Army connected youth in New York participated in 4-H programming, activities, and events during FY19. Youth worked to increase life skills in the areas of problem-solving, decision making, communication, collaboration, and leadership. They also gained knowledge and developed competencies in Healthy Living, Science, and Citizenship, and they worked to develop skills, attitudes, and abilities that will lead to the development of the 5 C's of positive youth development – competence, confidence, connection, character and caring. Additionally, staff from five School Age or Youth Centers located on Army garrisons received training in several areas in preparation for the facilitation of 4-H programming. The trainings included the National Youth Science Day challenge, team building using minimal props, positive youth development, shooting sports, yoga for kids, robotics, and healthy living, to name a few. Military Partnerships strengthens the 4-H presence at youth facilities located on installations and provides a multitude of opportunities to include funding for training and supplies for programs that wouldn't otherwise be available.

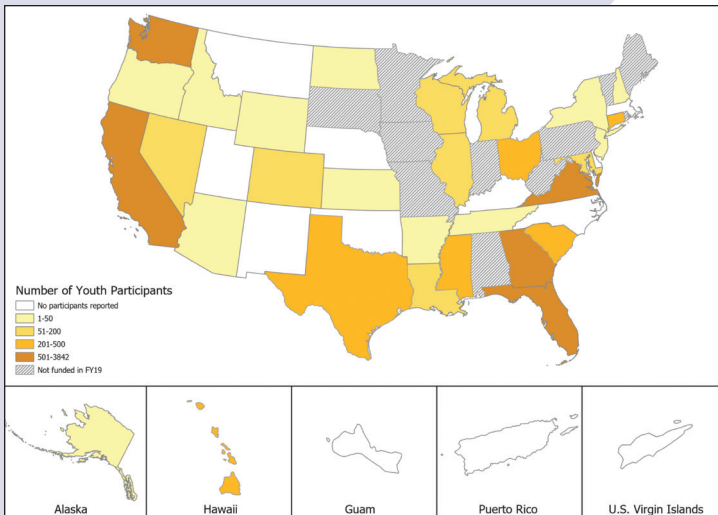
22,294 Youth Served (Active, Reserve, and Guard)



NAVY CYP

CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAMS

CONUS Navy Youth Participation – 2019



Navy Child and Youth Programs (CYP) provide high-quality educational and recreational programs for military and Department of Defense (DoD) children and youth ages 6 weeks to 17 years of age. Navy CYP's system of care serves 200,000 military children and youth each year via the network of 238 child development and youth program facilities worldwide. All 103 Navy Youth Centers offer 4-H programs throughout to ensure military and DoD families receive a consistent, first-class experience at every Navy CYP they attend. The consistency that 4-H programming brings to each Navy CYP worldwide allows military and DOD families to rest assured that their children are safe, well cared for, and thriving in high-quality child care and recreational programs. And when military and DoD families are confident that their children are safe and in good care, they can better concentrate on fulfilling their military and defense support responsibilities. Navy CYP could not achieve this standard of care without 4-H.

The Navy 4-H Military Partnership ensures Navy CYPs access to positive youth development curricula, staff training, technical assistance, grant funding, and in-kind services from the entire land-grant university Cooperative Extension system. With the availability of 4-H programs in every county throughout the United States, geo-dispersed Navy-connected families are also ensured access to the same high-quality programs and services delivered throughout Navy CYP's system.

4-H Youth, Panama City, Florida

I am excited that I will get to help teach this year since I got to compete at state last year. I learned a lot and am definitely going to compete again this summer. 4-H is a lot of fun.

Washington 4-H Extension

Navy 4-H Military Partnership programs in Kitsap and Island County supported more than 350 geographically dispersed youth in 2019. The provided experiences built social and emotional skills through healthy living activities, STEAM activities, and community engagement events. Teens practiced leadership skills in the Choose Health program. Through National Youth Science Day, The Apollo Next Giant Leap Student Challenge, and the Louise Nevelson Art project, school-agers and youth developed critical thinking skills along with an understanding of science and the arts. Community engagement and community service events for children and families included Armed Forces Day Parade, Independence Day Card Making, and the Kitsap County Fair Flag Sticker program. These events heighten community partnerships and awareness, providing a wider net of support for the areas' military community.

In serving as connectors for the community, the Kitsap and Island 4-H program provided continual outreach to military families helping families transition into the community and building connections between the Navy and 4-H Staff. As partners, the Navy and 4-H staffs co-generated plans to share events with families, as well as assess needs and plans to continue to grow and support military families in the community.

The network of 4-H activities offered continuous support to military-connected youth to help them develop a sense of belonging and skills for healthy decision making. Youth had opportunities to be around other youth and caring adults who shared in and were open to expression as members of the military community. Youth coped with and celebrated the impacts and rewards of being military children while developing a sense of safety, pride, and belonging in these groups. Additionally, service opportunities provided youth with experiences making positive impacts in their community. And while young people benefited from these projects, in providing public events, the Kitsap and Island County communities recognized and supported their local military families.

11,053 Youth Served (Active and Reserve)





State Efforts At-A-Glance

Hawaii 4-H Extension

Several states/territories have unique distinctions when considering our nation's military. Hawaii, for example, is the home of the oldest and largest unified combatant command in the world, the U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM), based at Camp H.M. Smith on Oahu. Hawaii is also home to the Pacific headquarters for the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, with combat-ready forces based at Schofield Barracks, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (Air Force and Navy) and Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The military is the second largest industry in Hawaii behind tourism with a military community totaling nearly 146,000 military members, dependents, and Department of Defense civilians. As military families move frequently and experience the difficulties surrounding lengthy and frequent deployments, 4-H provides predictable programming and a safe and nurturing environment for military youth. FY19 highlights of Hawaii's efforts include:

- 22 military Chartered 4-H clubs with 342 youth members enrolled in Hawaii
- 26 military Chartered 4-H clubs with 388 youth members enrolled on OCONUS installations
- Hosted 4-H 101 and 4-H Curricula Training for 31 military site staff
- Hosted 4-H 101 and 4-H Curricula Training for 15 military site staff at Camp Zama, Japan
- Hosted 4-H trainings for 15 military site staff for OCONUS installations via webinar
- Assessed 4-H club program
- 201 military 4-H members gave a 4-H demonstration or presentation
- 476 military 4-H members learned and are able to recite the 4 H pledge

Parent, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

My son has made the decision to attend college after high school. The Youth Center has always been there for our family, and I owe them a huge 'Thank You' for always looking out for our kids and providing them opportunities!

Virginia 4-H Extension:

A FOCUS on COLLEGE & CAREER PREPARATION

The key Citizenship project implemented in Virginia for FY19 was college /career readiness. This 4-H program helps youth to make informed decisions about their careers and college paths. 133 youth gained skills in goal setting. 228 youth sought answers to their career questions using a variety of methods to include the internet and presenters. 7 youth were mentored by professionals in the film and music industry who shared career experiences. 8 youth participated in interviews and resume workshops. A Center Staff member said, "Youth learned that each job came with responsibilities and requirements that each would have to work towards."

Adult Volunteer, Louisiana

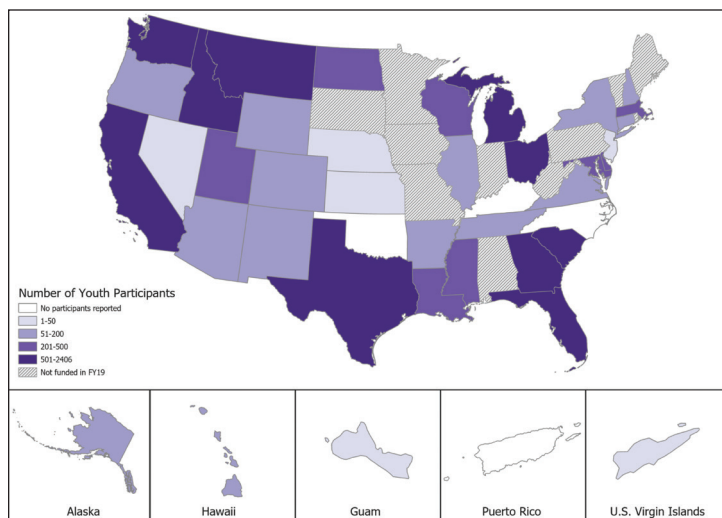
This was a great partnership which allows the 4-H State Leadership SET Board to give service to our military kids and gain leadership skills in their preparation for and presentation of their individual science workshops.

Nevada 4-H Extension:

Through 4-H and other related programming, youth develop skills in the area of decision-making, personal leadership, goal setting, problem-solving, and teamwork. They also learn to prepare for the workforce with training on filling out applications, dressing appropriately for job interviews, finding career paths that match their interests, and how their school subjects affect their career choices. More than 300 youth participated in Nevada's 4-H Military Partnership program in 2018-2019. After completing the program, participants showed significant improvement in their ability to make good decisions, their ability to solve problems effectively, their leadership skills, their ability to set and achieve goals, and their awareness of their ability to contribute when working as part of a team. In regards to career skills, participants believed that they were more likely to know how to fill out a job application, how to dress appropriately for a job interview, what types of jobs or careers fit their interests and that their school subjects had a direct effect on their future career choices and success.

Geographically-Dispersed Efforts

CONUS Geographically-Dispersed Youth Participation – 2019



¹ Includes: Army National Guard, Army Reserves, Navy Reserves, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserves, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and other (branch not identified on enrollment form)

It is crucial for children and youth to feel safe in their community/environment as they challenge themselves to learn new skills. With 4-H in every county and parish in the United States, 4-H has the ability to reach youth whose military parents may be away from home multiple times for extended periods as they serve, whether they are Active Duty, Guard, or Reserves. 4-H works to attract geographically dispersed military youth into local activities that will engage youth in developing life skills. These activities include camps, leadership opportunities, civic engagement, and service-learning. Within these events, youth have the opportunity to have a positive and sustainable relationship with caring adults; build life skills through hands-on activities, and participate in service-learning events within their communities.

During FY19, more than 28,000 geographically dispersed youth participated in 4-H experiences through innovative ways, including traditional 4-H Clubs, 4-H Camps, and 4-H Exposure events.

Montana 4-H Extension

Through National Guard Drill Weekend, 4-H Open House, and afterschool programming, Montana introduced 147 military-connected youth to 4-H. As a result, many of these youth have joined 4-H clubs in Lewis and Clark County and around Montana. The retention rate is high, as indicated by over 250 military youth and 25 military adults involved in the 4-H programming throughout the past year representing a 5% increase. Teens took on leadership positions by serving as bullying prevention instructors, camp counselors, and workshop presenters in the areas of leadership and public speaking.

Idaho 4-H Extension

In Partnership with Army Child and Youth Services, Idaho hosted two statewide military-connected camps focusing on STEM/STEAM and communicative Arts, serving 225 youth. Idaho has seen a significant increase in military youth involvement in 4-H. Geographically dispersed 4-H club enrollment, in 2019, was reported as 636 members. As our 4-H military-connected youth increase reveals, expanding support to geographically dispersed youth in eastern Idaho is a priority. University of Idaho Extension 4-H Youth Development will continue to provide awareness and connectivity to 4-H educational opportunities to geographically dispersed military youth and families.

Delaware 4-H Extension

Like most of the country, Delaware has experienced an increase in the number of high school aged students who report the use of vape products during 2017 and 2018. To help combat this epidemic, youth attending the Healthy Living Summit developed a program called “Escape the Vape.” Over the spring and summer of 2019, the program, supplemented by a mini-grant from the Delaware American Lung Foundation, reached 25 geographically-dispersed military-connected youth and adults with a lesson about e-cigarettes. Post-training surveys revealed 96% of the participants believed that young people risk harming themselves if they smoke from 1-5 cigarettes per day, and 96% agreed that young people risk harming themselves

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if they vape 1-5 times per day. 97% reported that there is not any type of cigarette, vape, or other tobacco product that is safe to use. 77% reported that they would share the information about the health risks of vaping/e-cigarettes learned today with others.

OCONUS

Four State 4-H Programs work to support military youth on overseas installations. These states provide technical assistance and training to overseas military youth program staff and charter clubs through their State 4-H Programs.

Military Youth Camps

4-HMPP sponsored camps provide military-connected youth with an opportunity to experience 4-H in a way that encourages skill development in a setting outside of the home, outside of regular programming, and with a group of peers who share similar family dynamics. These camp experiences encourage military-connected youth to grow their skills and help them to become more resilient, more independent, and better able to plan and reach their long-term goals. During FY19, several partnering states offered camping programs and experiences, including:

4-H.org

The best gift we can give our kids is to empower them with skills that will last for a lifetime, which is why parents have been sending their kids to 4-H camps for decades. 4-H was founded on the belief that when kids are empowered to pursue their passions and chart their own courses, their skills grow and take shape, helping them to become true leaders in their lives, careers and communities.

Ohio 4-H Extension

The recipe for success is simple. In 2019, campers experienced five days of camp fun on KelleysIsland, including crafts, campfires, and cabin life. The unique aspect is that all the campers are military youth. A total of 269 youth ages 9

to 15 participated; they represented all branches of service. The camp was staffed by 68 teen and young adult camp counselors and 45 adult staff members, both civilian and military. The magic of camp is that campers grow more independent and resilient in just a few short days. Many activities are designed to facilitate teamwork and cohesion, and others emphasize novelty and challenge. By placing campers in situations where they are tackling challenging activities and living and working with others, the camp experience promotes a sense of accomplishment. It fosters the development of responsibility, cooperation, adaptation to change, and self-efficacy –which develop resilience and grit! “The best week of my life”: Ohio Military Kids Camp is also a week where, in the words of more than one camper, they feel “normal” and “at home.” It’s what makes their first year a success, and makes campers return year after year.

Thank you all for this entire experience you’ve provided for our military kids and my daughter. She is so happy and inspired, having made SO MANY amazingly positive memories with the counselors and all her friends!! You guys are SO AWESOME!!
—Parent, Army Reserve

Thank you all for this entire experience you’ve provided for our military kids and my daughter. She is so happy and inspired, having made SO MANY amazingly positive memories with the counselors and all her friends!! You guys are SO AWESOME!!
—Parent, Army Reserve

New Mexico 4-H Extension

The Air Force 4-H Adventures in Leadership Camp was designed to provide fun and challenging team building and leadership activities for 42 military-connected youth and 7 adults, while increasing participants’ knowledge of the 4-H Military Partnership. The main activities of this camp

4-H Youth, Fort Knox, Kentucky

I have met amazing people, learned new things about my leadership characteristics, and tried things that I never thought I would do (i.e., hiking, kayaking, putting coke in my hair, and pudding in my toes). So all in all, thank you to the staff who served the meals, the staff who held the classes, and to the leaders of the camp who decided to stay back to coordinate the events that were held.

taught leadership through adventure while showcasing New Mexico's cultural diversity. Youth partook in a white water rafting activity, where they were randomly assigned to rafts in order to break up cliques and form new relationships. As the raft traveled down the river, it encountered many situations that can relate to challenges the team can face. During times of calm waters, participants were able to take in the scenery, while during times of turbulent rapids, youth had to buckle down and work together to make it through with success. Taking advantage of the diverse landscape, youth partook in a hiking trip, where they were able to see the landscape that was made famous by the painter Georgia O'Keeffe. After the hike, youth painted their own landscape inspired portrait. A high ropes course was also offered to encourage problem-solving and decision making. Youth were suspended by

cables and ropes and had a variety of challenges presented. When asked to describe the usefulness of the information received from attending camp, 89% of youth rated the information as very helpful to their daily life. The camp overall received high ratings from the participants, with 100% rating it an 8/10 or higher. The camp was funded by Air Force Child and Youth Programs through a grant by the 4-H Military Partnerships Project.

This has been the best camp I have ever attended! The white water rafting really pushed me out of my comfort zone and showed the importance of working together when things get tough!—Participant.



Professional Development and Technical Assistance

CYP Professional, Naval Air Station JRB New Orleans

4-H programming was not my strong suit—I appreciate getting practical and flexible activities to use. I loved the multitude of ideas presented in the training and how most were flexible and open-ended. We will use this lots in programming.

Military partners and USDA/NIFA/4-H consider professional development and technical assistance (PDTA) for staff important for creating opportunities where youth can

develop life skills as they become capable adults. Training helps staff to be creative and meaningful in the way they build programs, and it helps to expand their delivery methods. State and local 4-H staff provide hands-on and webinar training events for military Child and Youth staff so that staff may better understand and implement 4-H Essential Elements, Experiential Learning, and 4-H Club Management.

During FY19, over 2,400 Child and Youth Program/Service professionals received PDTA through hands-on and virtual events offered by participating states. Taxonomies included Communication, Organizations, 4-H Program Management, Educational Design and Delivery, Interpersonal Characteristics, and Positive Youth Development.

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Training for Child and Youth Program professionals didn't stop at the borders of the continental United States. The Association for Young Children Europe (AYCE) 2019 Conference included a 4-H Track for their participants. Professionals from the University of Florida, the University of Maryland, the Kansas State University Project Team, and the Navy 4-H Youth Development specialist all presented sessions on utilizing 4-H curriculum in Child and Youth programs for over 150 OCONUS professionals. The AYCE conference was preceded and was followed by several on-installation training efforts in Germany, Belgium, and Italy.

4-H Professional, McConnell AFB, Kansas

We have continued to create a wonderful working relationship with McConnell Staff. 4-H staff is able to work collaboratively with the installation trainer to determine the needs of the staff and create professional development opportunities that focus on goals of the program.

In an effort to determine where the Project can help to provide additional assistance to the sub-awardees through PDTA, states reported on challenges they faced during the delivery of FY19 grant objectives. Working through turnover events was overwhelmingly the number one challenge reported. In addition to turnover, several states shared that both Child and Youth professionals and 4-H staff and volunteers have reported a concern of being comfortable with utilizing the 4-H curriculum, including:

- Understanding of how to facilitate activities included in the curriculum
- Understanding how to transfer activities from curriculum to Service Youth Activity Plans
- How to identify a curriculum that meets the interest of the youth
- How to integrate 4-H curriculum with other Center mandates such as BGCA programming
- How to utilize the curriculum with specific age/target audiences.



To help address these challenges at a systematic level, the Project developed and presented nine regional training events in FY19 titled Connecting Military and 4-H Communities. This training, offered by service 4-H Specialists and Project staff from Kansas State University, was designed to enhance and support the collaborations of the 4-H Military Partnerships. Through a two-day face-to-face training, 222 Child and Youth Program/Service staff and 4-H Professionals were offered the opportunity to work, learn, and network while developing plans for continued Project efforts. Objectives of the training included:

- Differentiating between guard, reserve, & activity duty components of services
- Describing facets of military life
- Understanding unique strengths and challenges for military-connected youth
- Describing strategies for effective partnerships
- Selecting appropriate approaches for successful collaboration
- Designing the next steps to support the military community
- Planning and conducting 4-H meetings for school-age and teens
- Describing needs for different age learners
- Identifying components of experiential learning
- Exposure to 4-H curriculum and lessons

Survey responses to the Project sponsored training events included:

- 100% of respondents shared they gained new ideas from the training.
- 96.86% of respondents shared they had new goals to accomplish because of the information shared.
- 99.36% of respondents shared they would recommend the program to others.
- 98.73% of respondents shared the program was a valuable use of their time.



Comments shared on the evaluations included:

What are you looking forward to doing as a result of this training?

- "Group facilitation getting to know my military partners better."
- "Conduct a training to help staff understand & implement curriculum."
- "Using the many techniques to bring to youth together."
- "Integrating curriculum into programs, adding events to our program in partnership with 4-H."
- "Building better communication, adapting 4-H to installation needs."

What could have made this training better?

- "I wish I was able to have all my staff participate in this amazing training."
- "Requiring the directors of each military youth center to be there so they could direct workers and help guide them in implementing 4-H."

CYP Professional, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Virginia

Staff benefited from this training by gaining a better understanding of how to operate a 4-H club in a military program. Staff also benefited from the networking opportunities made available with 4-H Extension staff and other 4-H club leaders.

- "I would like to have examined specific programs 4-H and military have put on together before."
- "More time to get more information."
- "Nothing! I sincerely thought this was great (and I don't say that about most trainings)."

In a 90-120 day follow-up survey, respondents shared some of their biggest highlights since the training event:

- "Staff appear to be more energized as they enter the new 4-H program year. Many have begun the process of gathering information required for renewed club charters."
- "Establishing a training schedule at multiple bases."
- "Starting weekly 4-H Community Club meetings as opposed to trying to "squeeze meetings in" on days off and school breaks."
- "This year the NAS Oceana Teen Program will have its own charter."
- "I was excited as progress seemed to be moving forward at the beginning, but with the staff changes, we seem to be back at zero."
- "Being able to make a true connection with the military personnel in attendance. Face to face interactions help a relationship much more than just phone/email."
- "Our Associate Dean came to the training and has given us permission to apply for a 2020 Military Partnership Grant. This support of our military programs at our Universities Administrative level is very important to our 4-H Military Partnership."

A 4-H Military Liaison from one of the regional training events shared the training served as "a renewed sense of purpose and enthusiasm between 4-H and all our military partners."

2019 NAE4-HA Award



The Escambia County 4-H team collaborates with Naval Air Station Pensacola to implement 4-H programming for military youth. 4-H professionals and youth center staff work closely to facilitate positive youth development opportunities and experiences for military-connected youth at the club, county, district, and state levels. The team focuses on providing programming for each NASP center. They encourage collaborative programming between the two military youth development centers and connect military youth to 4-H

programs that focus on healthy living, food safety, and family bonding. Opportunities for youth have included classes and workshops hosted at the county 4-H center in cooking, canning, sewing, horticulture, and archery, and a residential camp opportunity for military and non-military youth in Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Okaloosa Counties. Escambia 4-H participated in several service member-focused events, including holiday donation drives, the 4-H Holiday Bake-Off, and the NW District 4-H Tailgate Contest for geographically dispersed youth who do not have access to local base programs. The Escambia County 4-H team offered professional development opportunities in the style of train the trainer events, which introduced youth center staff to new and updated curricula. The team also focused on reestablishing youth center relationships, providing quality programming, and establishing a physical presence for the Escambia County 4-H program at each youth center.

Through these efforts, the team was able to strengthen the once strained relationship between the two parties - reaching nearly 200 military-connected youth during Fiscal Year 2018. Congratulations to Brian Estevez, Aly Schortinghouse, Jereme Johnson, Paula Davis, and Janet Psikogios – job well done!

Extension 4-H Military Liaison

The Extension 4-H Military Liaison is an Extension professional, located in each state, D.C. and U.S. territory, who serves as a link between the state extension program, military service branches in their state, and with 4-H National Headquarters located within USDA-NIFA. The focus of an Extension 4-H Military Liaison is to coordinate, network, and facilitate programs and resources working with a variety of

partners at the university level, with military partners, and with partners across their states in support of military families, children, and youth programming. They are the official point of contact for all 4-H military-connected youth programs in their state. A list of current State 4-H Military Liaisons can be found at <https://4-hmilitarypartnerships.org/find-a-liaison>.

Website Development

In FY19, Kansas State University Project Team worked to rejuvenate the Project website. Utilizing undergraduate students from Kansas State University, the Project redesigned

the website to allow for a platform where interested parties can learn more about Partnership and Project efforts. Be sure to check us out at <http://4-hmilitarypartnerships.org>.



For More Information Contact:

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington DC

<https://nifa.usda.gov/program/4-h-positive-youth-development>



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