

# 2017 VIRGINIA 4-H MILITARY PARTNERSHIP Annual Corporate Report



Military 4-H Partnerships are supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, 4-H Headquarters; U.S. Army Child, Youth and School Services; U.S. Air Force Child and Youth Programs; U.S. Navy Child and Youth Programs; and Virginia Cooperative Extension 4-H Program (Virginia Tech and Virginia State University) through grant funding at Kansas State University.





## THE VIRGINIA 4-H MILITARY PARTNERSHIP GRANT

The 4-H Military Partnership is a collaboration between U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture, 4-H National Headquarters; Army Child and Youth Services, Navy Child and Youth Programs, and Air Force Child and Youth Programs.



Virginia is proud to be one of the 40 states and one U.S. territory to work with military installations and geographically dispersed military youth and their families. In Virginia, 4-H clubs are established on Army, Navy, and Air Force installations which represents 11 military installations with 14 sites. Youth of military families also have accessibility to 4-H programs in all counties and most cities.

4-H club projects and activities are implemented to strengthen resiliency in youth enabling them to adapt to life's changes. Life skills youth gain can be used throughout their lives. Please continue to review this report to get a glimpse of programs and outcomes supported by the 4-H Military Partnership Grant.

### 2017 VIRGINIA GOALS

- Provide professional development training and technical assistance to military youth staff enabling them to implement intentional programming to reach desired outcomes
- Provide 4-H military clubs resources and connections to county/city, state, and national 4-H opportunities
- Increase 4-H participation by National Guard, Reserves, and other geographically dispersed military-connected youth in communities where they live

### 2017 VIRGINIA FACTS AT A GLANCE

- ⇒ 11 installations with 14 sites have 4-H military clubs.
- ⇒ 2,081 military youth are enrolled in 4-H installation military clubs.
  - ⇒ Army—757 Youth
  - ⇒ Air Force—503 Youth
  - ⇒ Navy—821 Youth
- ⇒ 19 chartered clubs have been established or renewed.
- ⇒ 122 military staff participated in face-to-face or hands-on professional development opportunities. Ninety of the military staff also participated in virtual training which is an increase of 76% since 2016.



## 2017 VIRGINIA TARGETED OUTCOMES

### Developing Mastery

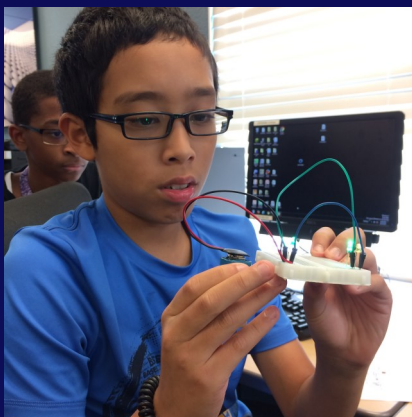
Youth participate in hands-on learning, develop confidence in themselves, demonstrate leadership skills, learn from their mistakes, and demonstrate their mastery to others.

### Growing Connections

Youth gain skills in working with other youth.

### Gaining Life Skills to Become a Contributing Member of Society

Opportunities are provided to help youth to demonstrate responsibility, critical thinking, problem solving skills, interpersonal communication skills, and effective teamwork.



## 4-H FOCUS AREAS: Citizenship, Healthy Living, and Science

Highlighted 4-H projects implemented and related survey results are as follows:

### ⇒ **Citizenship: Career Readiness - Navy**

4-H prepares youth to make informed decisions about their careers and college path. Two hundred forty youth of seven Navy sites participated in the 4-H career program. One hundred fifty-one youth sought answers to their own questions by researching or exploring careers using the internet, magazines, discussions with peers, field trips, and projects. One hundred one youth demonstrated interpersonal communication skills as they described the experience and knowledge gained. One hundred thirty-four youth gained skills in goal setting.

*"It was enjoyable to see the youth research and brainstorm potential careers. This activity allowed them to dream of the future. It was great to witness that." Center Staff*

### ⇒ **Healthy Living: Nutrition - Army**

4-H nutrition helps participants to gain nutrition knowledge, practice food safety, prepare healthy meals and make better food choices. One hundred thirty-three youth demonstrated teamwork as they practiced food sanitation and safety. Fifteen youth engaged family members by preparing a recipe at home and reported back. One hundred four youth gained knowledge on how to use MyPlate to eat a daily balanced diet. A survey of 59 Army youth revealed that as a result of participation in 4-H Healthy Living projects 81% or 48 youth Strongly Agree or Agree, "I eat more fruits and vegetables."

### ⇒ **Science, Technology, Engineering & Math—Air Force**

#### **National Youth Science Day Experiment— Drone Discovery**

Multiple sessions were conducted throughout the club year to allow additional youth to participate in the Drone Discovery experiment. One hundred six youth demonstrated effective teamwork and interpersonal communication skills as they participated in designing, building, and testing a drone. A survey of 38 Air Force youth revealed that as a result of participation in the 4-H drone project 97% or 37 youth Strongly Agree or Agree, "I like experimenting and testing ideas. "

## EXAMPLES OF BRANCH FOCUSED 4-H PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED BY 4-H MILITARY CLUBS

- Careers
- Filmmaking
- Gardening
- Health, Nutrition & Fitness
- National Youth Day Science Experiment
- Photography
- Project Butterfly
- Robotics

*Additional projects were selected based on interest of youth.*



## MILITARY PARTNERSHIP GRANT SUPPORTS GUARD, RESERVE, AND OTHER GEOGRAPHICALLY DISPERSED MILITARY YOUTH

- ⇒ Fourteen event scholarships were awarded to geographically dispersed military youth to participate in 4-H Junior Camp. Four of the scholarship recipients served as teen counselors. As a result of their experience at Junior 4-H Camp, a follow-up survey with seven respondents revealed: 100% or seven youth Agree, "I take responsibility for my actions." 100% or seven youth Agree or Usually Agree, "I consider the consequences of my choices ." One youth said, "4-H camp is a great place to learn about getting along with others and doing the right thing."
- ⇒ The Spotsylvania off-installation 4-H Military teen club reaching geographically dispersed club members maintained its club charter. Service learning was one of the main projects implemented. Club members prepared and sold baked goods to assist their teacher with fundraising for cancer prevention. This project enabled youth to increase skills in teamwork, independence, decision-making, respecting differences, food buying, food preparation, and food safety.

### Virginia Installations with 4-H Military Clubs Supported by 4-H Military Partnership Grant:

Fort Belvoir, Fort Lee, Joint Base Langley—Eustis, Joint Base Myer - Henderson Hall, Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek—Fort Story, Naval Air Station Oceana- Midway Manor, Naval Station Norfolk, Naval Support Activity Northwest Annex, Naval Support Activity South Potomac—Dahlgren , Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, and Norfolk Naval Shipyard Portsmouth

### Virginia 4-H Programs with an Off-Installation

#### 4-H Military Club:

Prince George and Spotsylvania Counties

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### Website for Additional Virginia 4-H Military Club Stories:

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

### National Website to Learn About 4-H Military Partnerships: [www.4-hmilitarypartnerships.org](http://www.4-hmilitarypartnerships.org)

