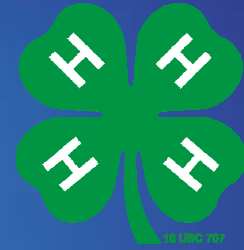


2011 VIRGINIA



Military 4-H Partnership Annual Corporate Report

"There's a buzz going around the center; it's a new 4-H year! The kids can't wait to get those special packets that allow them access to that club... the one they've heard about from their friends who were in it last year. They ask what days will be club days? When can they get a shirt? How can they be an officer? I'm stopped at least four times a day by a new face asking the same questions. I don't mind. I feel a strong rush of joy and pride, that kids are interested in 4-H!"

**Shannon Gray — Joint Expeditionary Base
Little Creek 4-H Clubs**



Military 4-H Partnerships are supported by 4-H Headquarters/NIFA/USDA; Army Child, Youth and School Services; Air Force Airman and Family Services; Navy Child and Youth Programs; and the Virginia Cooperative Extension 4-H Program (Virginia Tech and Virginia State University) through grant funding at Kansas State University.



Reaching Military Youth On and Off Installations

The Commonwealth of Virginia has 22 installations, 17 of which were eligible to maintain or establish new 4-H Military Clubs in 2011. Although providing consistent local 4-H support to installation clubs was a challenge, due to a large number of restricted 4-H Agent positions in strategic military localities, three new clubs were established and several were maintained effectively. When there were no 4-H professionals to provide training for installation staff in cities or counties affected by hiring restrictions, existing Extension staff assisted with training needs as possible.



Efforts to integrate installation clubs into local 4-H programs were continued. Military youth participated in 4-H summer camps, special interest clubs, community clubs, and school enrichment programs. New 4-H enrollment software, designed to capture the number of military youth participating in local 4-H programs, will be in place for 2012 to enable more consistent capturing of data. One military youth, a member of an off-installation 4-H club in Prince George County, was selected to serve as the 4-H State Military Liaison to the Virginia 4-H State Cabinet. The 4-H State Cabinet is the premier, peer-elected teen leadership group that represents youth voice and serves as a strategic teen representation of 4-H across the Commonwealth.

Dr. Kathleen Jamison, 4-H Military Liaison, announced that after careful review and input from a variety of installations, the 2012 Virginia 4-H Military Club program will have a brand new structure! This structure will include a 4-H Military Club Program Manager and six Installation Club Coordinators. The Program Manager will be responsible for reporting and disseminating information coming from the State. The Installation Club Coordinators will be, under the direction of 4-H Agents, responsible for monthly reporting, ensuring that the chartering process is complete, and providing information on and gathering training needs of installation staff.

“Our best practice was the development of the relationship between our club and the Virginia Beach 4-H Extension Office. This relationship afforded us the tools and understanding necessary to get our club up and running. The Agents at the Extension office really helped us gain a better understanding of 4-H and all that it has to offer. By improving our communication with them, our 4-H staff was able to better serve/teach our children.”

Naval Activity Station Oceana



2011 Goals for Military 4-H Club Partnership

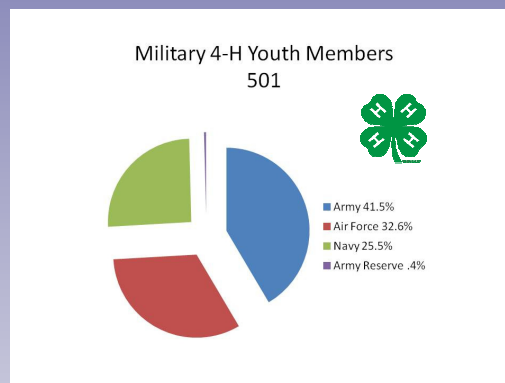
For Virginia 4-H to:

- Become the program of choice for many military families who move frequently, both nationally and internationally, or experience frequent deployments while providing their youth with consistency in their lives.
- Provide a safe nurturing environment for military kids.
- Utilize the resources of Virginia’s two land-grant universities, 4-H researched based curriculum, and quality training provided by Virginia Cooperative Extension staff.
- Provide military youth learning opportunities centered on the three National 4-H Initiatives: **S**cience, **H**ealthy Living, and **C**itizenship.
- Reach those children whose parents are serving in the National Guard and Reserve and live in communities with little or no military presence.
- Increase the number of organized 4-H military clubs on and off military installations.



Facts at a Glance

| Number of Installations | Number of Off-Installation Clubs | Number of Chartered Clubs | Installations with Non-Chartered Clubs | Number of Military 4-H Youth Members | Number of Staff Trainings | Number of Military Staff Trained |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 11 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 501 | 18 | 153 |



Impacts

- 24 youth built simple robotic structures and simple machines.
- 9 youth participated in robotics competition and demonstrated teamwork, the ability to conduct research, and to improve presentation skills.
- 50 military youth participated in digital media learning experiences and gained knowledge and skills in using a digital or video camera.
- 15 military youth explored future career choices and interviewed people from different fields to gain knowledge and insight on a variety of careers.
- 136 military youth displayed ability to choose healthy foods by reading product labels.
- 122 military youth gained a better understanding about the influences and health consequences of using tobacco, drugs, and alcohol.
- 59 military youth demonstrated leadership skills through a variety of programs , including serving as club leaders, serving as mentors to younger youth, hosting bicycle safety demo, leading youth during a run event, and /or serving as youth camp counselors at Operation Military Kids camps.
- 24 youth increased knowledge about the benefits of having good behavior ,identified characteristics of good behavior, and practiced good character traits through experiential learning opportunities.
- 17 military youth gained knowledge about insects.

Number of Chartered Clubs Increased 38%

"I love helping the younger kids at camps. They are so appreciative of even the little things I do as a counselor."

Chantae, Age 18



What They Say About 4-H

"I like the 4-H meetings. I like it because we plan our own activities and do the things we really love."

Jewell Age 11

"4-H gives us a chance to learn new things."

Canyan, Age 11

"The material was easy to follow and the kids really learned something."

Teacher

"The Club at JEB Little Creek has been a tremendous guiding factor in my sons' lives. It has shown them how to honor and respect all people and the environment. I appreciate all the time and effort Mrs. Shannon has placed in this program."

LaDonna C., Parent

"This club is the best! It means so much to be around other kids who are going through the same things that I am going through . . . That support is a big one too!"

Ragine, Age 16

"4-H gives us a chance to explore and learn about different subjects that aren't offered in school."

Padeja, Age 12

4-H Military Club Partners



Virginia On-Installation 4-H Military Programs Included In Corporate Report

Fort Belvoir
Fort Lee
Joint Base Langley—Eustis
Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek—Fort Story
Naval Air Station Oceana
Naval Air Station Oceana Midway Manor
Naval Support Activity Dahlgren
Naval Support Activity Norfolk
Naval Support Activity Northwest Annex
Naval Weapons Station Yorktown
Norfolk Naval Shipyard Portsmouth

Virginia 4-H Program With Off-Installation Military 4-H Club

Prince George County

Virginia Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Programs Providing Support To 4-H Military Partnership

Chesapeake
Fairfax
Hampton/Newport News
Prince George
King George
Virginia Beach

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