

2016 VIRGINIA 4-H MILITARY PARTNERSHIP Annual Corporate Report



4-H Military Partners



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

Reaching Military Youth on Virginia Military Installations and in Communities Where They Live

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 46 states along with two U.S. territories that are a part of the 4-H Military Partnership working with installations and Guard and Reserve 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.

Through the use of 4-H projects and activities, the goal is to strengthen resiliency in youth enabling them to adapt to life's changes.

2016 GOALS

- Improve collection of 4-H enrollment data
- Establish new chartered 4-H military clubs
- Provide professional development training and technical assistance to military youth staff enabling them to implement intentional programming to reach the desired outcomes
- Provide 4-H military clubs resources and connections to county/city, state, and national 4-H opportunities
- Provide grant funding to support geographically dispersed military connected youth to participate in a Virginia 4-H event

FACTS AT A GLANCE

- ⇒ 11 installations with 14 sites have 4-H Military Clubs.
- ⇒ 1,784 military youth are enrolled in 4-H installation military clubs.
 - ⇒ Army—715 Youth
 - ⇒ Air Force—411 Youth
 - ⇒ Navy—658 Youth
- ⇒ 22 installation 4-H Military Clubs received new or renewed club charters. (An increase of 19% since 2015)
- ⇒ 157 military staff participated in face-to-face or hands-on professional development opportunities. Thirty-two percent or 51 of the staff also participated in virtual training.
- ⇒ 31 geographically dispersed military connected youth each received a partial scholarship to participate in a Virginia 4-H event.

2016 VIRGINIA TARGETED OUTCOMES

Developing Mastery

Youth ask others for solutions to problems and gain skills in researching a problem. Youth are also given many opportunities to practice life skills.

Growing Connections

Youth gain skills in working with other youth.

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.



YOUTH LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES CENTERED ON CITIZENSHIP, HEALTHY LIVING, AND SCIENCE

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

⇒ **Citizenship:** *CHARACTER COUNTS!, Club Officer Training, Photography, Service Learning, and Theater Arts*

Highlighted citizenship project—Service Learning: 403 youth participated in service learning projects. Projects ranged from food/clothing drives, to mentoring, to creating public service videos to facilitating activities for residents at a memory center. A survey of 120 youth revealed that 94% either agree or strongly agree, “I can make a difference in my community through community service.”

⇒ **Healthy Living:** *4-H Cooking, Be SAFE, Dashboard Dining, Financial Literacy, First Aid, Steps to a Healthy Teen, Reading Makes Cents, Take A Stand, Teen Cuisine, and What’s on Your Plate?*

Highlighted healthy living (nutrition & cooking) projects: 85 youth participated in the *4-H Cooking* project. 126 youth participated in *Dashboard Dining*. 98 youth participated in *Teen Cuisine*. A survey of 121 youth revealed that 96% agree or strongly agree, “I learned how to make healthy food choices.”

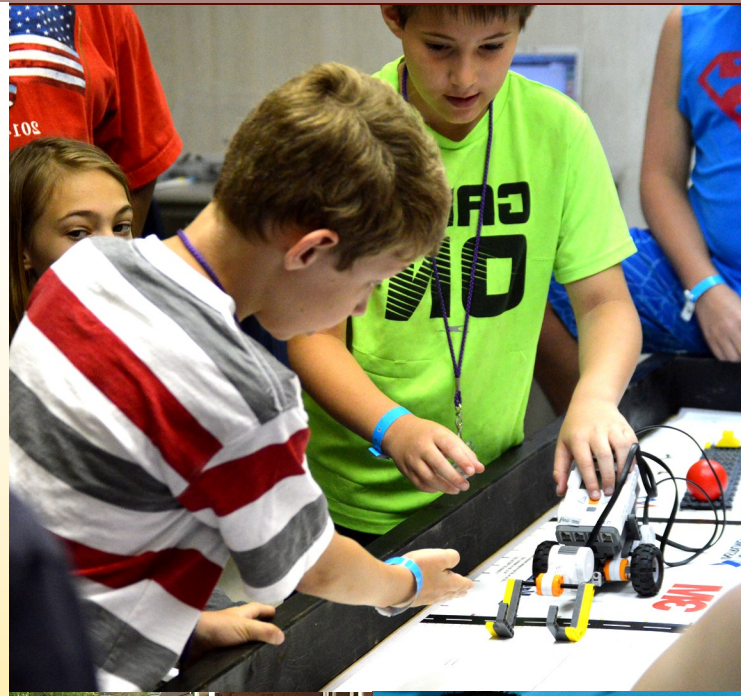
⇒ **Science (STEM):** *4-H Junk Drawer Robotics, Jr. Master Gardener, National Youth Science Day (NYSD) Experiment—Motion Commotion, Science Discovery, and Power of the Wind.*

Highlighted science projects: 189 youth participated in the *Jr. Master Gardener* project. 292 youth participated in the NYSD *Motion Commotion* science experiment. A survey of 121 youth revealed that 96% either agree or strongly agree, “I like experimenting and testing ideas.”



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

- ⇒ Thirty-one event scholarships were awarded to geographically dispersed military youth to participate in a 4-H event. Thirty of these youth attended 4-H camp. 4-H camp is designed to build life skills like making connections and self-confidence. Based on follow-up responses provided by five camp participants, they each grew connections and developed positive relationships. One youth wrote, “While at camp, others comforted me when I got a little homesick. “ A parent said, “ My favorite thing about 4-H camp was having my son experience all of the fun of outdoors and friends, and being unplugged.” One youth attended 4-H Congress and was inducted into the 4-H All Stars.
- ⇒ The Off-installation 4-H Military teen club with eight geographically dispersed club members maintained its club charter. The club focus was gardening, leadership, and service learning. Club members learned how to identify a need in the community, and how to grow a garden. They also contributed to the community through service and civic responsibility. Vegetables grown were given to the local food bank to distribute to approximately 40 families.



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

National Website to Learn About 4-H Military Partnerships: www.4-hmilitarypartnerships.org



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