

COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
SERVICE



When you support
4-H Youth
Development,
young people
identify local
needs and apply
communication
and leadership
skills to improve
the health of their
community.



Contact info:

Kentucky 4-H Youth Development
212 Scovell Hall
Lexington, KY 40546-0064
Phone: 859-257-5961
Fax: 859-257-7180

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE *Changing Lives*



From top left, Brooklyn Yonts, Hannah Myers, Conner Cooper, and Paige Hart

Kentucky 4-H Members Earn National Honors for Achievement, Leadership Skills and Civic Engagement

The 2013 Emerald Award recipients for Kentucky have taught youth, engaged in service projects, acquiring funding to reduce child hunger, and developing a media campaign to reduce bullying and use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.



The **4-H Achievement Program**, for members from sixth grade through high school, recognizes youth for participation in activities and events, proving themselves as leaders and improving their communities with the **Emerald Award** being the highest honor for 4-H members.

Connor Cooper, Muhlenberg County, recognized that 59% of the public school students in the county participated in free and reduced priced school lunch. Many of those students rely on school meals as their only source of food. Connor assisted in writing a grant and organizing a Polar Plunge fund raising event that was used for the backpack program, providing food to **490 children each week**.

Brooklyn Yonts organized an anti-bullying and anti-drug campaign in western Kentucky. Over the past two years, she and **Muhlenberg County 4-H members** performed **anti-bullying superhero programs** to area elementary schools. Youth are encourage to consider their choice of words in emotional situations since the hurt and pain of verbal abuse can take far longer to heal than other injuries.

In addition, Brooklyn, Connor, and Muhlenberg County 4-H members created advertisements encouraging youth to be **drug, alcohol, and tobacco free**. The advertisements were seen in local movie theaters.

Paige Hart, Caldwell County, organized and coordinated a group of teens to conduct **anti-smoking/tobacco program to 4th and 5th graders**. The students learned about the toxic chemicals contained in tobacco products, participated in simulations of how smoking can diminish lung capacity and ability to participate in sports, as well as, life-long health risks. In addition to classroom programs, Paige has spoken out against tobacco use in the local newspaper and radio spots.

Hannah Myers, Campbell County, has served in leadership roles at the county level. While participating in 4-H Teen Issues Conference, Hannah used her critical thinking skills to identify a challenge facing her community and volunteering at the Henry Hosea House Soup Kitchen, Care Mission Food Pantry, and Action Ministries; conducted environmental beautifications projects, assisted with area agritourism events, and performed at local nursing homes.

4-H leadership development provides youth with the confidence and character to inspire others to make positive life choices and contributing to the health of the community.

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.



The Polar Plunge was organized to fund the Back Pack Program, feeding 490 children each week. It has become an annual event in Muhlenberg County.

4-H prepares community leaders by:

- Fostering sense of responsibility
- Developing character and values
- Introducing new things
- Connecting nature and animals
- Developing practical life skills
- Being a good citizen
- Creating confidence
- Developing friendships



The 4-H Super Heroes provide an anti-bullying message to elementary youth and encourage them to stay drug, alcohol, and tobacco free.