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TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

Making a Difference

Brown County 4-H & Youth Development

Participation

- 2015 – 2016 4-H year we enrolled **325** members, which was a **73-member** increase from the year before.
- We have reached over **1,500** youth this past year with programs ranging from Early ISD ACE, Hatching in the Classroom, and Kids Kows & More.

Volunteers Hours

- Brown County 4-H volunteers have contributed over **7,000 hours** of their time this past year. This comes out to **\$157,850** donation to the program.

Outreach Programs

- Hatching in the Classroom: The Goal is to increase knowledge of elementary students and teachers; therefore they will show increased awareness about an agriculture product. Schools from: Bangs ISD, Early ISD, Brownwood ISD, Brookesmith ISD, Blanket ISD, May ISD and Victory Life Academy participate in this growing program. Grades range from 2nd to 7th. We had over **880** youth participate in this each year.

Reaching New Audiences with New Curriculums

- Robotics: Robots are all around us. From the food we eat to the cars we drive, robots help make our lives easier and more efficient. The field of robotics is expanding at a rapid pace, and Brown County 4-H is poised to help lead young people into this exciting field. In the 4-H robotics project, youth will learn about the interconnections of science, engineering, and technology. This past year we placed 3rd overall at Texas 4-H State Roundup. There were **5** that participated in this project.
- Central Texas 4-H Club: This 4-H club provides leadership, life skills, and mentoring to youth in the Ron Jackson SJCC (state school). Partnering with Barbara Arteaga, community relations coordinator, and Edda Ratliff, volunteer, we decided that a 4-H club would benefit the youth at the facilities. We will first incorporate various programs that will educate them on basic life skills. There are **60 members** enrolled in this program.

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(Exhibit #5)

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- **Early ISD ACE Program:** Partnered with Early ISD after school program to educate youth on healthy lifestyle and life skills. Agents implement 4-H projects like Food Challenge. This also gives agents the opportunity to recruit new members to 4-H. Participants range from 3rd to 8th grade. **66** youth participate in this program.
- **Duds to Dazzle:** Being the second year of this qualifying project we wanted to reach new youth that were interested in clothing and textiles. This project helped us engage youth that wanted to participate in a team setting. Therefore, we recruited volunteers to help educate participants on different clothing designs, stitching techniques, and fashion principles. We had **14** 4-H members participate. Our senior team advanced to state and placed **1st** in their category and were State Champions.

In-Depth Program

- **Livestock Judging** – Youth are exposed to team work, effective communication skills, analytical thinking and judging aides them in gaining the confidence to defend their decisions. Developing these skills will benefit youth in almost every other area of life, both now and in the future. In addition, they will have the opportunity to meet and interact with the industry leaders of today and those preparing for tomorrow.
 - 3rd to 12th grade
 - 15 participants
- **Food Challenge** – Participants understanding of the following will have increased: MyPlate, knowledge of food nutrients and their functions, the importance of food safety, understanding of kitchen safety, knowledge of the purpose of different cooking methods, understanding of how to plan and prepare a recipe, knowledge level of how to alter a recipe according to dietary needs.
 - 3rd to 12th grade
 - 32 participants
- **Kids & Kows & More** – 3rd grade Ag Day allows over **178** students to become educated on where their food, clothing, and hygiene projects originate from. 4-H members are used to help with sessions and also educate participants about the Brown County 4-H program.
- **Youth Water Program** - Water quality and conservation have emerged as predominant issues across Texas as indicated through local input, elected officials/legislative actions, and numerous other indicators. Water for domestic and agricultural use is becoming increasingly limited in Texas. The steady influx of new people presents challenges to continued water availability. The goal of this program is to implement activities designed to educate youth on water conservation and factors contributing to quality; therefore, it will heighten their awareness, increase knowledge and result in adoption of best management practices. **78** 5th grade youth participated in the water program this year.

Goals for 2016 – 2017

- Increase membership to 350 youth (numbers as of today **255**)
- Increase our volunteer numbers to 75
- Continue to reach new audiences in Brown County to insure growth of our program.