

Nick Gonzales

Making a Difference

Brown County 4-H & Youth Development

Participation

- 2017 – 2018 4-H year we enrolled **397** members.
- We have reached over **1,500** youth this past year with programs ranging from Hatching in the Classroom to 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 **770** youth participate in this each year.

Reaching New Audiences with Programs

- 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. There were **8 teams (28 youth)** that are participating in this project.
- A Day in the Brown County Ring livestock show: This show will showcase differently-able students from across the county, and their 4-H/FFA member buddy, as they exhibit lambs at the Brown County Youth Fair.
 - Partnered with local Farm Bureau Insurance and FFA Chapters
 - 30 special needs youth participated
 - 360 hours contributed to this service project.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

December 10, 2018
(Exhibit # 8)

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 & Nutrition Project** – 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, functions of nutrients in our body.
 - 3rd to 12th grade
 - 28 participants
- **Kids & Kows & More** – 3rd grade Ag Day allows over **200** students to become educated on where their food, clothing, and hygiene projects originate from. 4-H members are used to help with sessions and 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. **313** 5th grade youth participated in the water program this year.

Scholarships

- This year alone senior 4-H members have received over **\$122,600** in scholarships. These range from Texas 4-H Foundation scholarships, Major Texas Livestock Shows, and various agriculture and community scholarships.

Goals for 2018 – 2019

- Increase membership (numbers as of today **304**)
- Increase our volunteer numbers
- Continue to reach new audiences in Brown County to insure growth of our program.