

# Making a Difference

## Brown County 4-H & Youth Development

### Participation

- 2020 – 2021 4-H year we enrolled **242** members.
- We have reached over **804** youth this past year with programs ranging from Hatching in the Classroom, Walk Across Texas, Food Handlers, Color Me Healthy and other youth engagement activities.

### Volunteers Hours

- Brown County 4-H volunteers (**49**) have contributed over **4,000 hours** of their time this past year. This comes out to **\$101,720** 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 K to 9<sup>th</sup>. We had over **657** youth participate in this each year.

### Reaching New Audiences with Programs

- 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.
  - Victory Life Academy
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade
  - 16 participants

### In-Depth Program

- **LIFE 101** - This is a program that focuses on filling in the missing pieces and assisting with the strategies to successfully launch into adulthood. Sessions/topics will be taught by local banks, Farm Bureau, car dealerships, and community leaders.

*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 13, 2021  
(Exhibit #8)

Topics: Managing Money, Banking, Budgeting – and what the heck that all means, Credit Card interest rates and how it all works, how to avoid credit card debt, What is a credit score is and how to manage it? The true cost of transportation and how to control costs, How to avoid financial traps, Financial aid and student loans, Interviewing skills and how to land a job, Etiquette and Dressing for Success

- 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- 4 participants

- **Brown County Walk Across Texas!** - During the 8-week challenge, each team's goal was to walk 832 miles, the distance across Texas. Each person reports their mileage to a team captain weekly who then uploads the teams total into the WAT! online portal. The agents sent weekly newsletters with health tips and the current team rankings.

Topics: Tracking Your Miles, Hydration, Health Benefits of Physical Activity, Health Related Illnesses, Do you get enough sleep?, Healthy Eating, Staying Motivated.

- Youth 31
- Adults 122

- **Livestock Judging** – Youth are exposed to teamwork, 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.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- 6 participants

- **Ag Literacy (Hatching in the Classroom)** - Provided curriculum and education to teachers about the program (methods electronic and hard copy of curriculum). Volunteers taught sessions (2) using virtual classroom and live demonstrations to 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> grade audience. Implemented teacher feedback form to improve the program in the coming year.

Sessions: Life Cycle of a Chicken, Incubation, Development of the Chick, Record Keeping, Candling Eggs, Hatching Stage.

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade Brownwood ISD
- 41 participants

## Scholarships

- In 2020 we had **four** 4-H members awarded **\$324,600.00** in scholarships.

## Goals for 2021 – 2021

- Increase membership
- Increase our volunteer numbers
- Continue to reach new audiences in Brown County to insure growth of our program.
- Program will address the following identified issues.
  - 4-H Retention & Participation
  - College & Career Prep
  - Engaging Youth Through Diversified Projects
  - Educating Youth on Basic Life Skills

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE  
*Providing Solutions*