2016 STATE 4-H OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS
Ohio 4-H Youth Development
Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center
2201 Fred Taylor Drive, Columbus, OH 43210
www.ohio4h.org

4-H is the nation’s largest youth development program with more than 183,000 Ohio youth benefiting from a 4-H experience. The State 4-H Office, located on the campus of The Ohio State University, is home to specialists, program and support staff who conduct research, offer professional development opportunities and design experiential activities focused on positive youth development.

OHIO 4-H GROWS

Cloverbuds
The 4-H Cloverbud Design team created *The Big Book of 4-H Cloverbud Activities* with new and revised curriculum for volunteer leaders to use with the youngest 4-H members.

Opportunities
The Ohio 4-H Foundation solicits and receives contributions to enhance 4-H throughout the state. An Evening of Ohio Wine and Food, the Foundation’s premiere fund-raising event, garnered more than $162,000 to benefit 4-H programming and operations.

Leaders
At State 4-H Leadership Camp, 94 campers from 42 counties spent five days at Camp Ohio developing peer leadership skills to implement in their 4-H club, county, community and school. The newly-formed Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Council was formed by the merger of the Teen Advisory Council and Ambassador Program. The group is comprised of 63 members and two junior advisors.

Livestock Knowledge
“Skillathons,” hands-on learning activities that test knowledge of animal husbandry, animal products and quality assurance, involved 1,350 youth at the 2016 Ohio State Fair. Skillathons in dairy, beef, sheep, poultry, goat, horse, swine, dog and rabbit gave participants the opportunity to showcase their expertise.

Projects
Over a dozen new or revised print project and resource books debuted in 2016. Topics included animal sciences, clothing, creative arts, food and nutrition, healthy living, leadership, natural resources, robotics and more. Most publications passed a National 4-H peer review process, demonstrating adherence to the highest educational standard within 4-H.

Curiosity
The 4-H Monsanto Honey Bee Challenge focused on pollinators and taught youth about habitats, behaviors, the role of bees in agriculture, and challenges faced by bees and beekeepers. The Challenge was created by Ohio 4-H professionals and was delivered by teen facilitators to 13,210 youth nationally, including 2,135 from Ohio.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
**Extreme Counselors**
The nationally-award winning Making eXtreme Counselors (MXC) workshop brought 107 youth together at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center for an overnight of educational sessions and activities designed to hone their skills as effective camp counselors.

**International Opportunities**
Six Ohio youth traveled to Costa Rica, Norway and Japan to live with host families for one-two months for a cross-cultural experience. And in Ohio last summer, 73 families opened their homes to youth and adults from Japan for a three-week visit.

**Volunteers**
More than 16,500 adult volunteers invested their time and talents to help support positive youth development programming. Using the estimated value of volunteer time for Ohio of $22.06 per hour* and an average minimum annual commitment of at least 100 hours, the approximate dollar value of Ohio 4-H volunteers’ donated time is well over $36.5 million.

*SOURCE: Independent Sector, a national nonpartisan coalition of nonprofits, foundations and corporations

**Healthy Lifestyles**
Health Heroes planned and implemented a statewide healthy living summit. These teen health advocates created 18 action plans for community projects and reached out to others through camps, health fairs, county fairs and club presentations.

**STEM Skills**
Four summer camps at the Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau Center provided youth with a variety of activities focused on increasing STEM knowledge. Camp Tech, AstroCamp, Engaging with Insects and STEM Day Camp included interactions with OSU scientists and experts.

**Ohio Military Kids**
Camps for youth with parents in the military provided support and connections with others experiencing the challenges of life in a military family. More than 1,000 youth and 400 adults participated in camps and club programs.

**Professional Development**
The Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center was the site of professional development activities that ranged from OSU Extension meetings to inservices to 4-H design team meetings. In addition, more than 1,400 groups and 120,000 individuals utilized the building for meeting space.

“The love this project. I think it is the best one I have done yet out of all my years in 4-H.”

**Canine Competency**
The Dog Achievement Program (DAP) is a 4-H project for youth who do not have access to a dog club and who are not interested in competing in the show ring. Since 2015, 396 youth enrolled in this project learning basic training, exercise, health and safety.