



SDSU Extension 4 H is a community that provides experiences where young people learn by doing. Kids complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and citizenship, in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles. Kids experience 4 H through in-school and after-school programs, school and community clubs and 4 H camps. We recognize that the youth of today are our future leaders and what they learn and experience in 4-H will help them develop into contributing citizens who will give back to their communities in the future.

# 2018 4-H Participation

2018 marks the 8th straight year that there has been an increase in the number of youth enrolled in the South Dakota 4-H program. There has also been incremental growth in the number of adult and youth volunteers who play a critical role as caring mentors to the 4H members.







# 4-H Educational Programs

## Science of Agriculture

The 4-H Science of Agriculture experience engages youth in exploring and developing science-based solutions to agricultural problems they have identified in their communities. 4-Hers, 6th grade – 12th grade, will work on teams of 3 – 4 youth. Participants attend a statewide event to present their 4-H Science of Agriculture projects, which are then evaluated by a panel of industry and university personnel.

2018 was the inaugural year of the 4-H Science of Agriculture experience. The intent of the experience is to help 4-H members:

- Get excited about and interested in agriculture and STEM.
- Have a greater understanding and knowledge of food production and its importance in our economy and world.
- Gain 21st century skills, including technology, health, business and economic literacy, critical thinking, problem solving, initiative and self-direction.
- Consider and connect with agricultural-related studies at the university level while being exposed to and exploring future careers in agriculture.

In 2018, 11 middle and high school teams from across South Dakota enrolled in the 4-H Science of Agriculture experience. Two teams successfully completed their projects and presented them at the Campus event in May.



#### Character All Stars

Character All Stars is an SDSU Extension 4-H train-the-trainer program which selects teens from numerous high schools across the state and then provides these teens with character development training. Once trained, the teens return to their local school districts and provide a version of the training to their peers.

12 teens were selected as a Character All Star in 2018. Collectively, they reached 1,295 youth with a positive leadership and character education message using an extension curriculum titled iRespect.

#### 4-H Camping

South Dakota 4-H camps provide youth an opportunity to learn new skills, build lifelong friendships, and develop their character through educational and experiential programming offered in a safe, inclusive environment.

South Dakota 4-H offers 3 different camping experiences: 4-H Camp at Camp Poinsett, 4-H Camp at Camp Bob Marshall and 4-H Teen Camp at Camp Bob Marshall. Seven camp sessions were held between the 3 camp experiences.

440 youth attended a 4-H camp session in 2018.

4-H camp sessions were facilitated by SDSU Extension 4-H staff with assistance from 5 youth volunteers and 59 adult volunteers. These volunteers contributed 4,075 hours of service, which represents a value of \$86,797 in support of South Dakota 4-H and its camping education program.

## Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM)

In South Dakota 4-H, Robotics is about much more than the competition. It is about the development of youth through experiential learning. During the program youth are introduced to a variety of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts, but also develop a variety of life skills including, but not limited to: problem solving, communication, and teamwork. The 4-H Robotics program engages both youth and adults through the development of local 4-H Robotics clubs. 4-H professionals assist volunteers and members with developing a robotics program that fits their individual needs.

#### In 2018:

- 838 4-H members were enrolled in the Robotics 4-H project.
- 1,650 youth in grades kindergarten 12th grade participated in a Robotics based learning experience.
- 25 volunteers contributed 2,506 hours of service to 4-H STEM and Robotics learning opportunities, which represents a value of \$53,378 in support of South Dakota 4-H and its STEM education program.



### Teen Leadership

Teen Leadership Conference (TLC) is a weeklong leadership development conference for youth ages 13 – 18, held on the campus of South Dakota State University. Participants were exposed to career exploration workshops and seminars exploring the four South Dakota 4-H Program priority areas of; agriculture, health and wellness, leadership, and science.

#### In 2018:

- 103 youth attended TLC.
- 36% of participants perceived growth in their personal leadership skills
- 47% of attendees reported a positive change in communication further allowing them to cultivate their life skills.

The State 4-H Ambassador program was launched in 2018 as a new and innovative leadership opportunity for South Dakota 4-H teens. The 4-H Ambassador program will prepare youth to serve as leaders, mentors and problem solvers with younger 4-H members and in their communities. The experience will enhance life skills in communication, public speaking, and critical thinking. With a focus on foundational life skills, the program will engage youth in skill specific career exploration activities while providing them with opportunities for positive youth-adult partnerships.

19 teens were welcomed into the program in September.

## Youth Safety Programs

Teaching safety skills is an important aspect of 4-H outreach. In 2018, South Dakota 4-H conducted:

- Hazardous Occupations Safety Training for Youth in Agriculture (HOSTA) training: 6 youth certified
- Babysitting clinics: 223 youth trained
- Farm and Rural Safety Training: 751 youth trained
- Health and home safety: 249 youth trained
- · First aid, CPR, Distracted Driving: 279 youth trained
- Food safety: 50 youth trained

## **Shooting Sports:**

4-H Shooting Sports is the largest programmatic effort in the South Dakota 4-H program.

#### In 2018:

- 4,465 youth are enrolled in the Shooting Sports project.
- 500 volunteers serve as active certified instructors.
- 131 volunteers were certified through 9 workshops conducted in 2018.
- 96,290 instruction hours were given certified volunteer instructors to the program in 2018, which represents a value of \$2,051,000 in support of the South Dakota 4-H program!



### STEM Skills for 4-Her's enrolled in the Beef Project

In 2018, SDSU Extension and the South Dakota 4-H program hosted its first Artificial Insemination (AI) camp for 31 4-H members involved in the 4-H beef project. The camp occurred at the SDSU Cow-Calf Education and Research Facility on the campus of SDSU, engaging the 4-H members in learning knowledge and hands-on techniques of AI.

In 2019, the camp will be held in Sturgis and will focus not only on bovine Al but also equine Al.

#### iLead:

In its third year, the iLead program pairs a 4-H member with a youth peer who has a disability. As show buddies, the iLead program engages the youth in a livestock show experience, empowering the 4-H member to demonstrate leadership to an experiential learning opportunity. More importantly, the iLead experience builds a mentorship connection between the participants.

In 2018, 61 youth participated in the program reaching 11 youth with disabilities.

## Disaster Preparedness Training – MyPI:

My Preparedness Initiative, MyPI, is a two-time national award-winning youth development disaster preparedness/youth leadership program developed by Mississippi State University Extension and adopted by SDSU Extension.

The hands-on training program is designed for teens to take ownership of their preparedness plans in the case of an emergency until help arrives.

Through MyPI, students complete a technology track, career track and disaster simulation with the option to receive CPR and AED certification. MyPI also gives youth the option to gain additional training in specific types of natural disaster response which may be common in their region of the country.

In 2018, 45 youth were trained in Clay, Harding and Pennington Counties.



# National Event & Conference Participation

- Citizenship Washington Focus: 41 youth participants
- National 4-H Conference: 5 youth participants
- Western National Roundup: 21 youth participants
- National 4-H Dairy Judging: 2 youth participants
- National 4-H Shooting Sports: 44 youth participants, 9 disciplinary teams

# State Event Participation

#### State Fair:

- Approximately 28% of the 4-H membership participated in the 2018 State Fair.
- 2,740 4-H members
- 13,256 exhibits judged
- 8,825 static exhibits
- 3,403 livestock exhibits
- 1,028 youth in action entries
- 741 youth interacted with the 4-H educational booth in Nordby Exhibit Hall.

#### State 4-H Horse Show:

- 300 youth participants
- 801 entries
- 222 youth in action entries

#### 4-H Rodeo:

- 1,236 youth participated in 35 regional rodeos
- 565 youth qualified to participate at the state finals
- 1,891 entries at state finals

## State Livestock Judging:

- 140 youth participants
- 40 Beginner participants
- 52 Junior participants
- 48 Senior participants

#### State 4-H Skill-A-Thon:

- 61 youth participants
- 19 Beginner participants
- 25 Junior participants
- 17 Senior participants

### State 4-H Dog Show:

- 59 youth participants
- 176 entries judged

## 4-H Performing Arts:

• 10 youth participants

## State Spring Shoot (Shooting Sports):

- 1579 youth participants
- 2,799 entries

## State Fall Shoot (Shooting Sports):

- 205 youth participants
- 417 entries