

THE 4-H MILITARY CLUBS PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

- 4-H Project Connection newsletters were sent out to military partners across the state with fun and engaging science, nutrition, and team building exercises every month.
- 4-H Military Youth attended day and residential camps this summer. Youth participated in activities such as robotics, cooking, and outdoor games while forming valuable friendships with other military youth from across the state.
- Clubs learned about nutrition and cooking this year. The Pax River club even learned to make jellies and jams from a variety of fruits.



- The Fort Detrick photography and fine arts clubs both worked with local artist to produce and show case their work at.
- "The children are having fun learning while helping others inside and outside their communities." - Ft. Detrick, Silver Spring, Military Kids Rock 4-H Club Parent
- 4-H club members carried out community service projects including clothing drives, blanket making for wounded soldiers, and school supply drives to help their communities.
- 4-H Military Club members were hosted at the 2010 Maryland State Fair.

2010 Maryland 4-H Military Clubs Annual Report



2010: An Exciting Year for Maryland 4-H Military Clubs

It's been a great year for Maryland 4-H Military Clubs and we are excited to share this annual report with our partners! In 2010 we continued to support Army, Air Force, and Navy 4-H clubs on nine military installations in Maryland. Connections between our county 4-H programs and the 4-H military clubs were strengthened, providing opportunities for youth to exhibit in county fairs, participate in 4-H camps, attend 4-H project workshops, and to receive special grant funds to carry out special 4-H projects at their centers and in their neighborhoods. 4-H clubs on military installations really do look a lot like 4-H clubs in the surrounding local communities. In addition to 4-H clubs in

Maryland, we partner with Army Child Youth and School Services and Navy Child and Youth Programs to provide a way for school age, middle school, and teen youth to participate in 4-H while their parents serve in Europe. In 2010 more than 1500 OCONUS youth were involved in 4-H clubs and 4-H projects on 17 Army installations and five Navy bases. Maryland 4-H specialists and educators also provide staff development for military youth development professionals by offering 4-H youth development training on site and through national and international conferences. Maryland's 4-H Military Club program significantly enhances 4-H outreach and expansion and the partner-

ships that have been created with Air Force, Army, and Navy are valued. University of Maryland Extension, 4-H is proud to support the children and youth whose parents serve our nation and the child and youth staff who provide a caring, safe, enriching environment for young people to learn and grow. Please take time to read highlights of our 2010 4-H year. We invite you to contact us for additional information and to find out how you can be involved in 2011!



Kendra Wells
MD 4-H
Military Liaison

Maryland 4-H Military Clubs Programs and Goals

4-H clubs provide quality educational experiences to military youth using research based curricula in photography, arts, healthy living, technology and citizenship for military

youth ages 5-19. 4-H clubs have been established on Maryland installations statewide, while 4-H clubs in communities have opened their doors to military youth living off post as well as youth of

National Guard and Reserve families. As a parent's military role causes frequent family moves, 4-H clubs provide predictability and stability throughout the military child's life.



4-H Military Clubs: By the Numbers



4-H Military Club
Participants reciting
the 4-H pledge

- **9** 4-H Military Clubs Across the State
- **5** Army Clubs located in Frederick, Montgomery, Anne Arundel, and Harford Counties
- **3** Navy Clubs located in Anne Arundel, St. Mary's, and Charles counties
- **1** Air Force club located in Prince George's County.
- **1,066** youth participate in 4-H clubs across the state.
- **77** youth from Aberdeen Heroes with Heart 4-H Club enjoyed Military Day at the Maryland State Fair on August 27.
- The Maryland 4-H Health Rocks! team provided training for **40** teen leaders who attended the Northeast Army CYSS Youth Leadership Forum in August.
- **2** installations, Ft. Detrick, Frederick and Andrews Air Force Base were awarded 4-H Adobe Youth Voices Grants in 2010 to engage in multi-media projects. The projects will be showcased in early 2011
- **4** members of the Ft. Meade 4-H Tech club gave hands-on robotics demonstrations for visitors to the 2010 Maryland State Fair.

“When meeting and working with the youth at any of the centers, they are always interested in learning and I learn as much as they do.”

We have some very creative young minds in the 4-H programs at Ft. Meade. They are so much fun to be around.”

-Ruby Schwinn,
4-H Program Assistant,
Anne Arundel County

The Andrews Air Force Base Arts and Crafts club has fun with a craft project.



Highlights: Science, Robotics and Technology

Maryland military 4-H-ers explored their interests in science, robotics and technology this year through their local club programs. Andrews Air Force Base Youth Program 4-H club members participated in 4-H Byte Night and learned internet safety and tips on using the internet to research educational and career development projects. Andrews

AFB youth also participated in fun science activities such as Mento Soda Geysers and the science of making Ice cream in a bag. The Pax River club program conducted an SOMK robotics lock-in where they came together and shared their experiences about what its like to be part of a military family. In addition to the construction of Lego robots,

club members also combined technology with community service when they made a video about military child life to use as a public service announcement. Many other military 4-H club youth also had the opportunity to experiment with science and robotics at summer camps, county fairs, and 4-H National Youth Science Day.

Highlights: Performance and Visual Arts

The Ft. Detrick Silver Spring 4-H club participated in cartoon drawing, embroidery, pencil drawing and quilting while the Fort Detrick Frederick

fine arts club partnered with the Delaphane Visual Arts Center and worked with local artists at the center to produce work in different mediums. At the end of the partnership the club's art went on display at the center. Fort Detrick's photography club experimented with different

photography techniques and mediums culminating in a photography showcase at the main MWR building. Other clubs conducted crafts, acting and fashion activities. These opportunities to produce and showcase art have worked to give these youth a strong foundation in the arts.

Highlights: Gardening and the Great Outdoors



The Fort Detrick gardening club in action.

Many 4-Hers got involved outdoors this year by participating in gardening clubs throughout the state. The gardening clubs taught young 4-Hers valuable gardening skills and

empowered them by teaching them how to grow some of their own food. The youth also learned how to plant and grow ornamental flowers to help them improve their community spaces. Many of the 4-H Military Programs had successful gardening clubs this year. The Anne Arundel gardening club, for example, worked to make an outdoor garden plot where children worked

in groups to sow seeds and harvest vegetables to give to staff, their friends and their parents. The children in this club planned the garden themselves and took on much of the garden maintenance tasks. 4-H Military Club youth also had an opportunity to participate in gardening activities at summer camp, such as the Pax River club this summer. In addition to other great outdoor activities, 4-H Military Club Members learned how much fun gardening can really be.

“The children have taken great joy in learning gardening skills. Not only do they plant food, they harvest what they plant, and use it in their cooking classes. What a fun and healthy way to teach children how their very hands can help produce fresh vegetables and fruits that can be used to make meals at home.”

-Military Kids Rock 4-H Club Parent

Highlights: Healthy Living and Cooking

To learn the importance of good nutrition and healthy cooking, military youth across the state took part in nutrition and cooking clubs. The Anne Arundel club, for example, made food for Friday night activities such as tacos, quesadillas, and homemade salsa. The Indian Head Navy Youth learned to make healthy granola treats and attended 4-H Nutrition Mini Sessions to learn healthy nutrition facts that

they brought home to their families. These mini sessions had a positive impact on the lifestyles of these youth, whose parents reported less consumption of sugar foods and energy drinks after attending the lessons. Andrews Air Force Clubs learned to make healthy snacks and learned to read and follow recipes. Some 4-Hers also learned good nutrition and healthy lifestyles during summer camp pro-

grams this year. The Silver Spring club participated in the 4-H annual extension camp in Derwood Maryland where they participated in Food Science workshops, bread making, exercise, and discussions on the importance of good nutrition. The Pax River club combined nutrition, cooking, and fun this year when they learned to make jams and jellies from the paw-paw fruit and other equally messy fruits.

Highlights: Community Service

Kids in 4-H Military Clubs took part in many community service projects. The Service Club at Silver Spring participated in a neighborhood beautification project by potting flowers for residents of an apartment complex. The club also collected clothing and coats for people in need, conducted a school supplies drive, a food drive, and a cell phone and calling card drive for

troops deployed overseas. Other 4-H clubs took part in service projects to better the 4-H organization itself through the clean up of buildings and exhibit areas for the annual Montgomery County fair. The Anne Arundel community service club combined art with service when they contributed to their communities by making no sew pillows for

families at Sarah's House. Participation in these types of service projects have helped to reinforce the importance of service for youth and facilitated important community participation and engagement in daily life.



4-H Military Club Partners



Military 4-H Partnerships are supported by 4-H National Headquarters/NIFA/USDA; Army Child, Youth and School Services; Air Force Airman and Family Services; Navy Child and Youth Programs; and the University of Maryland Extension 4-H Program through grant funding at Kansas State University.

For More Information:

About the National 4-H Military Partnership visit:

<http://www.4-Hmilitarypartnerships.org>

About the Maryland 4-H Military Partnership visit:

<http://www.maryland4-H.org/4-H%20Military/index.cfm>

About the Maryland Military 4-H Club Program contact:

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