Volunteer Appreciation Week
McKenzie Tankersley
April 2023

During April, McKenzie Tankersley, an AmeriCorps VISTA service member serving with the Georgia 4-H State Office and UGA Extension, successfully promoted and participated in the Volunteer Appreciation Week (VAW) via the state volunteer social media pages in addition to supporting the military partnership.

Throughout April, McKenzie prepared social media posts and a VAW guide for counties to use during Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 16-22. Despite challenges in gathering resources to showcase state-level volunteers, McKenzie successfully reached between 20-1000 people from 11 posts shared across four 4-H group pages.

In addition to the successful social media campaign, McKenzie's volunteer scholarship application has yielded 11 more responses from 8 last month in March. McKenzie is eager and keen to begin looking for judges and to award two recipients the scholarships coming up in late June!

While McKenzie has made successful strides in supporting 4-H's volunteerism, she has continued to support the 4-H Military Liaison, Laura Goss, and the military partnership this month. McKenzie helped develop an Excel contact list for the military partnership to utilize for this year and future use in building and maintaining partnerships across Georgia. The resource currently includes school and administrative contact information for 50 high schools near the 13 military installations across Georgia. McKenzie utilized this list to send 50 emails to the high school admins to promote upcoming military camps like the Joint Extreme Summit, which is available to students and volunteers. While this did not yield high response levels, the partnership received two direct responses! McKenzie is hopeful these emails may lead to more partnerships in the future and the use of a tool to better maintain current partnerships as well!