

# GREAT STORIES

GEORGIA

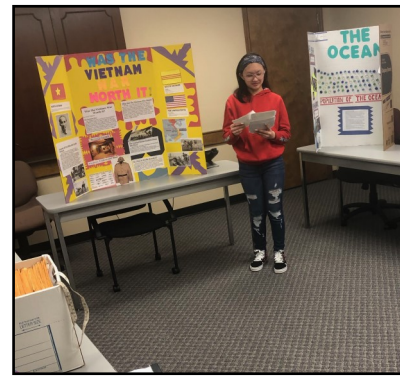
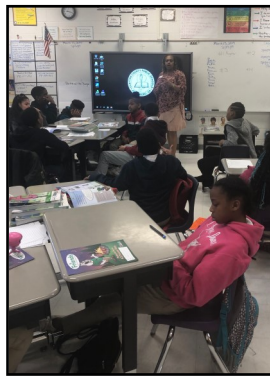
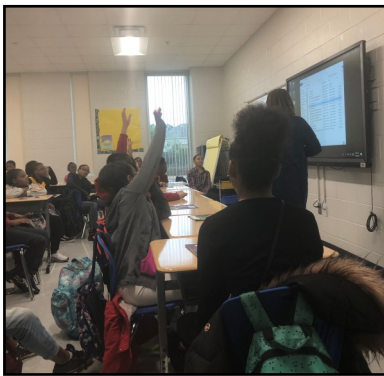
4-H



## Growing with Clayton County 4-H

Joyce Hyndman

March 2019



Clayton County 4-H has been buzzing with activity! As a new VISTA, Joyce Hyndman spent time navigating the "settling in" phase, but she has taken every opportunity to not only learn about the program and community stakeholders, but also to shadow 4-H agents and 4-H assistants as they work within the community!

Preparing 4-H'ers for Project Achievement has been one of the most fulfilling activities Joyce says she has participated in. Joyce was impressed to watch 4-H'ers create poster boards and speeches that encapsulated their ideas completely on their own! She also feels it has been gratifying to watch youth confidently present these projects. The 4-H'ers even received feedback well and were ready to incorporate the changes into their projects to make them better.

Joyce has also spent time in the classroom observing and assisting 4-H assistants. Joyce summarized this experience saying, "Witnessing how involved and engaged the children are in the discussions makes it all worthwhile. Every school and sometimes each classroom needs a different type of guidance. The 4-H assistant was able to be present, provide the support the classroom needed, and provide a fun, but educational experience for the children. As I learn more and grow with Clayton 4-H, there will be even more great stories to share!"

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4-H



## Cloverleaf Camp Marketing

Malik Freeman

March 2019



On February 5, 2019 the Evans County 4-H program opened up Cloverleaf Camp registration. In previous years, many Cloverleaf 4-H'ers registered for camp, but not anything that compares to this year. Malik's role as an AmeriCorps VISTA in Evans County was to build capacity and create various methods of marketing for the 4-H programs. In an effort to increase the camp registration numbers, he suggested the county create a Cloverleaf Camp promotional video.

Malik first began tackling this project by recruiting youth that previously attended camp. In the video, two students gave their side about how it was to attend camp, and all their experiences that they had while there. Incorporating youth in the marketing for camp definitely motivated their peers watching. The youth that were chosen to star in the video had such big smiles and were so excited to be able to be involved in this project!

Once the video was complete, it was viewed by 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth at monthly school meetings. When the students saw the video, they instantly were smiling ear to ear and excited from head to toe when they saw that their friends were in the video. The video was also shared on the Evans County 4-H social media pages and website. It has been viewed by hundreds of people in the community and received great feedback! This year, the county's camp registration numbers increased by 19 new campers. There was also a record-breaking amount of 6<sup>th</sup> graders that returned to camp this year. The video was a huge success in the recruitment of youth, and provided a unique opportunity for many 4-H'ers to be involved!

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## Evans County 4-H Honors Night

Malik Freeman



On April 30th, the Evans County 4-H program hosted the annual “4-H Honors Night.” This event is to recognize involved 4-H youth for their accomplishments and achievements within the program year. At the event, there were over 200 attendees. Many aspects of this event could not have been accomplished without the help of Malik Freeman, the Evans County 4-H AmeriCorps VISTA.

Malik assisted with planning, preparing, and managing various aspects of this event. He took part in helping prepare decorations and the awards for youth to receive that night. Additionally, he helped to direct and manage volunteers on how to help with clean-up efforts after the event. Malik managed other components of this night by keeping attendance, directing photography, and by assisting with meal preparation. While directing the photos taken of award recipients, Malik was able to share the joy of winning with youth by witnessing the large smiles on their faces from receiving their awards. Malik also networked with guests while preparing and serving the meals to the attendees.

Malik felt it was an honor to hear the many stories that the proud students shared about receiving their awards. It was especially meaningful to witness the students receiving an award and recognition for the first time in their life. The laughter amongst family members, and attendees enjoying their time with their children made the night even more memorable.

Malik played a huge part to the event running turning out to be a successful night. He felt it was particularly special because he was able to spend time with the future of this program. It’s in the details of an event like this, that you truly can gain the benefits of meeting new people and be a part of a monumental moment for the youth of 4-H.