

GREAT STORIES

GEORGIA

4-H



AmeriCorps

The Start of Something New

Michelle Williams-Ford, Clayton County 4-H VISTA

August 2021



Based on 4-H parent feedback and personal observation Michelle, Clayton County VISTA presented an idea of starting a 4-H Cloverbuds to Rebecca Hardeman the County Extension Coordinator (CEC). The CEC approved the plans. Clayton County 4-H under the direction of Michelle is starting a Cloverbuds charter, which will be a volunteer-led initiative. Michelle reached out to several parents that inquired about the program previously to recruit new 4-H Volunteers. There was a positive response and Michelle is looking forward to pulling together supplies to empower the future volunteer-led initiative.

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Tech Change Makers

Emily Jarrell, Emanuel County 4-H VISTA

August 2021

Emily has been working closely with volunteers and Swainsboro city officials to develop a series of video and graphic design contests. These contests will be an opportunity for the Tech Change Makers team to show off their skills with technology while also highlighting the GOOD in Emanuel County. These competitions will also be an opportunity to recruit new students and volunteers to 4-H as well as help residents of Emanuel County learn new things about their community. She hopes these competitions and new partnerships will highlight the work of local non-profits, community leaders, and those involved in charitable work as well as inspire residents to become more involved in serving their community.

4-H TECH CHANGEMAKERS

Empowering young people to close the digital divide in their communities.

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Recruit, Recruit, and Recruit!

Michelle Williams-Ford, Clayton County 4-H VISTA

August 2021



The Clayton County 4-H Open House "The Journey Through 4-H" was held on August 5th. The event was developed by the CEC and executed by the CEC and UGA extension staff. The role of the Vista volunteer, Michelle Williams-Ford, at the event was to educate individuals from the community and to recruit 4-H Volunteers. The lead volunteer for the book club attended and introduced herself to the youth while promoting the book club. Additionally, a representative from the library who Michelle recruited to volunteer came to the event. The library system will provide space and led STEM clubs for the Clayton County 4-H youth. Once the librarian's volunteer paperwork is approved additional plans will be made. Michelle also met with a school teacher who is interested in mentoring youth and starting a Toastmasters club. Michelle has been busy recruiting 4-H Volunteers and reaching out to families to create more opportunities for educational engagement .

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Job and Health Fair

Amy Ahonen, Jackson County 4-H VISTA
August 2021

On August 25, 2021, Amy, Jackson County 4-H VISTA, was a part of the job/info fair at the Jackson County Ag Center. She was also a part of advertising for the event, which was a huge success. Staff and the VISTA member reached over 50 people. The achieved in sharing information about 4-H and healthy living. Amy helped with a raffle for a healthy living cookbook that all the participants loved. Through the event, Amy learned more about the county and community members. She plans to take the information she learned about the community and apply it to her program to engage with them better.



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Simply the Best

Toni Hunlen, State 4-H Office 4-H VISTA

August 2021



Every other year the Georgia 4-H Foundation hosts a Gala to raise funds for continued programming support for Georgia 4-H. The Gala was at the Georgia Aquarium in downtown Atlanta. A major fundraiser for the evening was a live and silent auction. Toni Hunlen assisted the fundraising team by checking in donors and guests to the event. Guest included the Governor of Georgia, many loyal donors, and other members of the Georgia 4-H family. He also supported the fundraising team by breaking down the event and ensuring supplies returned to the state 4-H office. The Georgia 4-H Foundation raised over \$500,000. This amount raised surpassed the goal of the Georgia 4-H Foundation and was a night to remember, which is why Georgia 4-H is "Simply The Best". It was a great way for Toni to support a large fundraiser that directly supports statewide 4-H programming.

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Training

Georgia 4-H VISTA

August 2021

To fulfill the AmeriCorps VISTA role to their full capacity members are encouraged to participate in professional development through the UGA Extension training system, LinkedIn, AmeriCorps, and other quality resources. Training is one of the many benefits of service as members can strengthen their professional skills while putting their new skills into action. VISTAs completed 37 hours of training in August. 22 of the hours are a result of Amy Ahonen who started her service in August. To prepare for her role Amy devoted time to learning her community and completing training. She participated in several types of training. Training included onsite orientation, project development, project management, grant writing workshops, information technology training, tracking system, and more. The time spent learning in August for Amy will provide her with the tools to succeed in Jackson. Additionally, the other VISTAs highlighted participating in the 4-H Enrollment training, an animation workshop, 4-H Program Preview, and PowerPoint training.



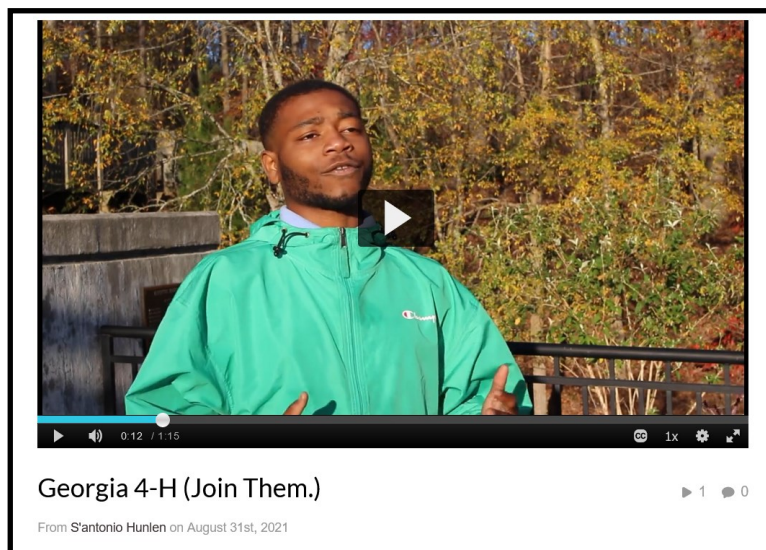
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DPA Spotlight Video

Toni Hunlen, State 4-H Office 4-H VISTA

August 2021



Toni Hunlen, State 4-H VISTA, continues to create outstanding marketing resources to support the overall 4-H programmatic reach. Toni created a member spotlight video that can be used with 4-H members, donor meetings, and mass media releases. Watch the spotlight video by clicking on the link https://kaltura.uga.edu/media/t/1_d656mu6a