

GREAT STORIES

GEORGIA

4-H



AmeriCorps

Strengthening Partnerships

McKenzie Tankersley

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During January, McKenzie Tankersley, a VISTA service member serving with the Georgia 4-H State Office and UGA Extension, has helped to strengthen an existing partnership. McKenzie has strengthened the partnership between Columbia County UGA Extension and the GA State 4-H Office to create a volunteer guide. The goal of this educational guide is to be a tool for agents across Georgia for volunteer recruitment, training, and implementation into in-classroom club meetings in hopes to bridge the gap from elementary to middle school student engagement. Columbia County has cultivated partnerships with 18 schools and several local volunteers to give in-classroom 5th-grade lessons every month during the school year. McKenzie is working with Columbia County and the GA 4-H State staff to replicate the work this county is doing into a volunteer in-school club meeting guide.

In addition to the partnership, McKenzie has supported other aspects of 4-H this month, including volunteer and resource development. Concerning volunteer development, McKenzie has helped to recruit two volunteers who served approximately five hours of service judging the Kelvin Bailey Memorial scholarship. Coupled with recruiting volunteers, McKenzie has begun creating a scholarship application process for volunteers to attend the National 4-H Volunteer Conference of Southern States. Equally important to the scholarship application, McKenzie has also started to assist Laura Goss in developing and reviewing military resources such as a Babysitting curriculum.

