

Strengthening Partnerships

McKenzie Tankersley
January 2023



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.



Resource Development

McKenzie Tankersley
February 2023



During February, McKenzie Tankersley, a VISTA service member serving with the Georgia 4-H State Office and UGA Extension, has continued partnering with Columbia County to create a guide while also working to develop and support more volunteer resources and events.

McKenzie has been developing marketing and distribution resources such as FB posts and respective captions, county-wide email letters, promotional flyers, and applications to support 4-H's Volunteer Appreciation Week (VAW) and two 2023 4-H Volunteer Conference of Southern States Scholarship opportunities. This month, she created two marketing materials; a Qualtrics scholarship application, a social media post, and a themed county promotional guide for use during VAW. McKenzie hopes to have these materials, among others, finalized and distributed across the state at the beginning of March for use in the coming months.

In addition to marketing materials, McKenzie has continued to assist Laura Goss with military resource development. She has continued to review and now edit the military Babysitting curriculum lessons, while also assisting Laura with reviewing award application packages, Month of the Military Child (MOMC) press release materials, and the military volunteer activity guides.

McKenzie and Keri Hobbs met with the AmeriCorps VISTA Grant Portfolio Manger and Southeast Region Senior Portfolio Manger this month. The meeting proved fruitful and gave the VISTA service member insight into the long history of the program and partnership to better serve her community.