

# Aim High

4-H/AIR FORCE PARTNERSHIP

2 0 1 0   A N N U A L   R E P O R T



**MASTERY**



**GENEROSITY**



**BELONGING**



**INDEPENDENCE**



**Airman and Family Services  
Putting in Practice the Essential Elements  
4-H Youth Development**



## 2010 Air Force 4-H Partnership By the Numbers

- ★ 41 States received 4-H Military Club Grants
- ★ 75 bases impacted by these 4-H Military Club grants
- ★ More than 400 4-H Clubs established on Air Force bases
- ★ More than 12,343 Air Force Youth involved in 4-H on base
- ★ 2,589 Air Force Youth Enrolled Off Installations
- ★ 14,932 Air Force 4-H youth

In 2010, both Airman and Family Services and 4-H National Headquarters completed several organizational changes. 4-H National Headquarters named a new Director of Youth Development and found itself in the Sub-Institute of Youth, Families and Community within the National Institute of Food and Agriculture at USDA. Airman and Family Services completed consolidation of its flight, bringing readiness and family member programs under one organization from the Headquarters level to the installation.

These changes will assist each of our organizations in better serving individuals, families and communities. Our changes are similar to what 4-H has done for over one-hundred years—bettering both individuals through 4-H work and changing communities through the lasting impact of individual 4-H'ers.

This year, we had a record number of Air Force youth participate in high quality 4-H programming. Numerous Air Force staff members received training from youth development professionals in providing high impact, positive youth development programming. And Air Force 4-H'ers participated in countless installation, county, state and national events.

In early 2011, the President of the United States recognized the 4-H/Military Partnership as a stellar example of interagency collaboration and we are excited to enhance our partnership. Beyond 2011, Air Force young people will continue to serve their clubs, communities and world to make the best better. We stand in steadfast partnership to equip our staff members to be a positive, caring adult figure in the lives of young people who will assist youth in becoming contributing citizens.

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Headquarters, U.S. Air Force

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In January 2010, Texas AgriLife Extension presented the 4-H/Military Partnership the Texas Partnership Award in recognition of program support and dedication to enhance the lives of the citizens of Texas. Joye Tolley, Air Force Services Agency, accepted the award on behalf of Air Force Airman and Family Services.



Representatives from each Air Force installation descended on Washington DC in June 2010, staying at the National 4-H Center for the Air Force Youth of the Year Program. After the recognition ceremony in the Pentagon Auditorium with host Lt Gen Richard Newton, teens participated in a Forum to outline issues and plans facing Air Force teens worldwide.

## 2010 4-H/Air Force Aim High Award Winner Rhonda Martell



In October 2010, Candace Bird, Deputy Chief – Child and Youth Programs, presented the 2010 4-H/Air Force Aim High Award to Rhonda Martell, 4-H Military Liaison in Delaware. The award presentation took place at the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents annual conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Through her untiring efforts and desire to serve Air Force Families, Rhonda collaborated with Dover Air Force Base to serve almost 300 youths on and off the installation. She established sixteen different project clubs and conducted summer programming for military youth. Due to her efforts, 188 youth shared 799 exhibits at the Delaware State Fair.

In addition to serving young people, Rhonda provides training for Air Force staff members so they can be knowledgeable and successful in offering 4-H Programs and activities to Air Force youth.



**Air Combat Command's mission is to fly, fight, and win . . . integrating capabilities across air, space, and cyberspace to deliver precise, coercive effects in defense of our nation and its global interests.**



**The Air Force District of Washington is the single voice for planning and implementing Air Force and joint solutions within the National Capital Region.**

**Dyess AFB, Texas** – 4-H youth worked with the Abilene Habitat for Humanity to construct key chain holders and bird houses for new homeowners in the area. Members learned how to cut and sand the wood, paint and seal the items and construct their final products. At the conclusion, Dyess AFB 4-H'ers presented the items to Habitat for Humanity to include in 12 new homes.

**Holloman AFB, New Mexico** – The local extension office and State 4-H Military Liaison has assisted the Holloman 4-H Club to increase in size by 50 new members. Youth experienced a variety of 4-H projects including healthy meal preparation, fashion design and sewing. 4-H camps such as robotics, fitness and sewing that build upon the youth's interests are offered each summer.

*"Thank you so much for all your support during these past 4 years. 4-H has really made a difference for the better in the lives of our kids"*  
*– Seymour Johnson AFB Parent*

**Moody AFB, Georgia** – A dedicated Moody Air Force Base youth competed in the Southwest District Cloverleaf District Project Achievement. Katelynn B. was extremely focused while working on her presentation about ocean ecology. She researched all the information pertaining to the oil spill and presented an excellent speech about her research. After practicing daily and making her display look perfect, Katelyn's hard work and dedication was rewarded with a first place ribbon!



*Nellis AFB 4-H'ers learn proper food handling techniques in order to create nutritious snacks and meals safely.*

**Nellis AFB, Nevada** – Nellis AFB staff partner effectively with county and state 4-H staff to offer high impact camping programs. Each year over 100 youth are active members of 4-H Clubs and participate in the County Fair with show entries as well as demonstrations. In 2010 the OMK Kick in the Attitude Middle School Camp, OMK Family/Teen Camp and a workforce/college prep Teen Camp "Great Expectations" were all held at Zion Ponderosa Ranch in Mt. Carmel, Utah. These camps brought military youth and families together where they were provided training in personal leadership, decision making, coping skills and time to kick back and relax.

**Seymour Johnson AFB, North Carolina** – Youth participate in activities throughout the year and won several Gold and Silver awards at the state level Presentation contests during the summer. Five military 4-H'ers completed 1,153 hours of community service to better their community.



*At Beale AFB, youth designed greeting cards to send to deployed airmen.*



*4-H'ers at Joint Base Andrews learn appropriate portion size and measuring techniques in their 4-H Cooking Club.*

Youth at **Joint Base Andrews, Maryland** participated in cooking, computer, arts and crafts and science project areas. Through the cooking classes children used their math skills to measure ingredients and their life skills to read and follow recipes. They combined their heads and hearts to make "healthy" snacks and meals. Through 4-H Arts & Crafts youth used their hands, head & hearts to express themselves in a variety of creative crafts and fine arts. Through 4-H Byte Night youth used their heads to safely and appropriately become familiar with the internet and to use the internet to research educational and career developmental projects.

**The Air Force Global Strike Command, the newest Air Force Major Command, develops and provides combat-ready forces for nuclear deterrence and global strike operations.**



*4-H tackles major projects facing energy use in the United States. These young 4-H'ers prepare to join the Revolution of Responsibility by identifying how solar power can affect their homes.*

**F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming** 4-H Clubs continue to grow with 133 members and, 18 volunteer in three different clubs. Youth participated in project clubs in various areas, including Foods & Nutrition, Visual Arts, Cake Decorating, and Dogs, and participated in frequent community service projects.

**Edwards AFB, California** – 4-H'ers developed their desktop publishing and journalism skills by interviewing peers and families on Youth Center activities. Youth developed their leadership skills by assigning an editor for each newsletter edition published.

**Eglin AFB, Florida** – The Youth Center partnered with a county-wide initiative to plant dune grasses on Eglin as well as Okaloosa Island. Youth learned the importance of dunes to our ecosystems which help the Florida coast from wind and storm surges. 4-H'ers planted over 300 dune grasses through the project.



*At Eglin AFB, youth assisted with erosion control by planting dune grasses along the barrier island front.*



**The Air Education & Training Command develops America's Airmen today for tomorrow through education and training.**

**Columbus AFB, Mississippi** – More than 500 youth participated in 4-H sponsored programs at the Youth Center during 2010. Eight adult volunteer leaders support the project areas of Science Expressive Arts, Shooting Sports, Health, Leadership, Cooking, Technology, Environmental Education, Photography and more. Lachardonnay J, the Columbus AFB Youth of the Year is on the Lowndes County Junior Council.

**Keesler AFB, Mississippi** – 4-H'ers participated in the 4-H National 4-H Youth Science Day experiment applying uses of water and hydrogels to their community, planted tomatoes, peppers and herbs in their community garden and learned the best ways to prepare bread with their family.

**Lackland AFB, Texas** – Combining 4-H with the national Military Saves initiative, 4-H'ers mde money placemats for their food and nutrition project and made pieces of clothing in the textile project area reminding members of the importance of saving money.

**Tyndall AFB, Florida** – 4-H'ers donated over 2,100 community service hours during 2010 and served in the National Night Out program. High school 4-H'ers learned about Energy Star conservation programs and served as ambassadors for the program, sharing with others how to cut down on wasteful items in individual homes.



*Tyndall AFB Youth participated in the National 4-H Science Experiment learning important concepts related to water and hydrogels*

**The mission of Air Force Materiel Command is to deliver war-winning technology, acquisition support, sustainment and expeditionary capabilities to the warfighter.**



**Hanscom AFB, Massachusetts** – 4-H'ers examined where our food comes from and planted a community garden with tomatoes, squash, herbs, peppers and other vegetables. Youth in the cooking club harvested the vegetables and prepared numerous tomato sandwiches, which became a staple for the 4-H'ers.

**Hill AFB, Utah** – Horse, Outdoor Recreation and Garden projects are popular with members learning English horse riding techniques, proper care in outdoor environments and growing their own food items. Other 4-H'ers found their interest in Clowning around, putting laughter to work with appropriate clowning techniques.

*"It is amazing that our youth are a part of something of this size and scope nationally."*  
*– Offutt Youth Center Staff Member*

**Tinker AFB, Oklahoma** 4-H'ers participated in the National Youth Science Experiment "4-H2O". Members performed an experiment on how carbon dioxide builds up in the atmosphere. Using simple chemistry tools, workbooks and online guides the members successfully completed the experiment. They also learned how to calculate their own carbon footprint and how humans contribute to global warming.



**Air Force Special Operations Command is America's specialized air power — a step ahead in a changing world, delivering special operations power anytime, anywhere.**

**Hurlburt Field, Florida** – Youth combined skills learned in two 4-H project areas, arts and crafts and money management and decorated their own piggy banks. A local credit union judged the piggy banks on creativity and originality.

**Buckley AFB, Colorado** – Buckley Youth Programs collaborated to support a mock deployment where participants had opportunities to manipulate the EOD robot, sit in a UH-60 helicopter and see an F-16 up close and in formation.



**The mission of the Air Force Space Command is to provide an integrated constellation of space and cyberspace capabilities at the speed of need.**

**Vandenberg AFB, California** – In the 4-H Pet Club, Vandenberg youth learned that guinea pigs are strict vegetarians and identified the proper nutrients and vitamins guinea pigs need to thrive. During the year 4-H'ers identified common health problems and groomed the guinea pigs for proper showmanship.

*"I like that the guinea pigs are healthy and that we can feed them things from the garden"*  
– Max G, Vandenberg AFB



*Practice wise consumer skills is an important part of 4-H at Vandenberg AFB; youth made their own wallets from tape.*

**JB Charleston, South Carolina** – A 4-H'er attended State 4-H Council, an event that focuses on the public service side of government, leadership and citizenship. Younger 4-H'ers submitted artwork for display and judging at the Coastal Carolina Fair with 2 youth receiving first place ribbons.



**The mission of Air Mobility Command is to Provide global air mobility . . . right effects, right place, right time.**



*4-H'ers worked with county and state extension staff to staff their own fish farm. Once harvested, the fish will feed individuals at a local homeless shelter.*

**Fairchild AFB, Washington** – Teens at the Fairchild Air Force Base Teen Center started a fish farm to raise tilapia. It is part of a service project to provide food for Union Gospel Mission, a local homeless shelter. Along with service to the community, the teens are gaining extensive knowledge of animal husbandry. They are learning to maintain a high volume 400 gallon fish farm (200 fish that will reach two pounds at harvest), basic water chemistry, and the importance of keeping records for future fish farmers. The fish will be harvested each year.

*"We get positive comments from parents about how neat the clubs are because the children learn life skills, become aware of their community needs and be physically fit and healthy."*

*- RAF Lakenheath Staff*

**Scott AFB, Illinois** – At an annual skill-a-thon in April, 4-H'ers participated in Aerospace, Clothing and Textiles, Electricity, Entomology, Food and Nutrition, Intercultural, Small Engines and other projects.

**MacDill AFB, Florida** – Adult leaders and 4-H'ers excelled at the Florida State Fair in 2010. MacDill had 70 winners among Food and Nutrition, Gardening, Photography and Sewing Projects. One 4-H'er won "Best of Show" in Food and Nutrition and MacDill had 7 recipes published in the 2010 State Fair Cookbook.



*4-H'ers at McConnell AFB engaged the embryology project to care for eggs for 21 days before they hatched.*

**McConnell AFB, Kansas** – School age program staff serve as project leaders, offering five different 4-H projects during eight week sessions. In 2010, 4-H'ers participated in music, embryology, juggling, gardening, duct tape crafts, leathercraft, electricity, woodworking, astronomy, rabbits, drama, exploring 4-H, classroom agriculture, yoga, environmental science and others!

**Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey** – 4-H'ers decided to use a fenced in space outside the Youth Center to create a Nature Park. The clubs have cleared the weeds and brush; developed a plan for the area; created stepping stones by using pizza boxes as their template; made a grand entry way; collected stones to make borders; gathered pallets that will be used to make a stage area and raked a lot of leaves. A local community 4-H Club and Master Gardeners worked with Air Force 4-H'ers to complete the project.



*4-H'ers in the School Age Program and Teen Center created a nature park outside the Youth Center at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.*

**The mission of the Air Force Reserve Command is to fly, fight and win . . . in air, space and cyberspace. The Air National Guard federal mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt utilization and its state mission is to provide assistance during emergencies when required by the governor.**



*A teen from the AFR/ANG Teen Summit receives a coin from Air Force Reserve Command Vice Commander, Maj Gen Martin Mazick*

For the third summer, Air Reserve and Air Guard teens flew across the country to participate in exciting, upbeat, and life-changing AFR/ANG Teen Leadership Summits.

The Classic Summit at Wahsega 4-H Center in Dahlonega, Georgia, and the Adventure Summit at Cheley Colorado Camps in Estes Park, Colorado served first time attendees. At these summits, teens participated in high ropes, the zip line, technical climbing, mountain biking, hiking, white-water rafting, and horseback riding. The Survival Summit in July brought together 36 teens who attended a previous summit. Teens and adults spent a day completing team building activities at a base camp before learning to pack a backpack for a 3-day trip in the Rocky Mountain National Park. While on their backpacking trip, teens spent time exploring waterfalls, pine forests, and even snow fields!

Feedback from both teens and parents show the true impact of the program. "The Teen Leadership Summit changed me as a person. I came back from my experience wanting to make a difference and really understanding my role as a military dependent. I now have all the tools I need to make a positive difference in my life and I plan to put them all to use. I owe a lot to this program. It taught me more in one week than I've learned in years."

## Air Force Reserve Teen Leadership Council

Sixteen AFR dependent teens serve on the first AFR Teen Leadership Council (TLC). The AFR TLC was developed as a way to establish a method of communication for AFR teens to share viewpoints on issues related to AFR dependent life. At the first annual training at HQ AFRC at Robins AFB, council members participated in public speaking and leadership workshops led by Georgia 4-H staff, provided input on current AFR youth programming and suggested future programming ideas, and received an overview about child and youth programming at Yellow Ribbon events.

In addition, teens received an AFRC mission brief and met with AFRC Commander Lt Gen Charles Stenner and AFRC Vice Commander Maj Gen Martin Mazick. TLC members also traveled to a Yellow Ribbon event on Hilton Head Island to give them hands on experience working with others. Working with South Carolina Operation: Military Kids, teens led character trait activities, arts and crafts, puzzles, games, science experiments, mobile tech lab activities, and a digital camera program.



*Maj Gen Martin Mazick, AFRC Vice Commander, shared the AFRC mission and goals with members of the Air Force Reserve Teen Leadership Council before they departed to assist with a AFRC Yellow Ribbon event in South Carolina.*

# The 4-H/Air Force Partnership

The 4-H/Air Force Partnership provides educational, social, and exciting opportunities for youth that assist them in developing life skills; makes available resources and materials for Air Force Airman and Family Services staff to assist them in their daily activities; and offers support and services for Airmen and their families in the U.S. and overseas. 4-H is a continuous source of support for Air Force Airman and Family Services and together 4-H and Air Force are building tomorrow's leaders today, one youth at a time.



**The mission of the Pacific Air Forces is to Provide Pacific Command integrated expeditionary Air Force capabilities to defend the homeland, promote stability, dissuade/deter aggression, and swiftly defeat enemies.**

4-H'ers at **Andersen AFB, Guam** learned skills related to nutrition, the arts and other leisure time activities. Numerous mentors from Guam assist youth in their projects, particularly as they build life skills.

**Eielson AFB, Alaska** – Teenage 4-H'ers participated in outdoor adventure activities throughout the summer which included hikes over rugged terrains such as Angel Rock outside Fairbanks. School Age 4-H'ers followed the 4-H Gardening curriculum, plant squash, peas, cabbage, onions, lettuce and carrots.



**The U.S. Air Forces in Europe executes the U.S. European Command mission with forwardbased air power to provide forces for global operations, ensure strategic access, assure allies, deter aggression and build partnerships.**



**Incirlik AB, Turkey** – Staff members realizing that bullying is a growing problem among young people implemented Bullying Bytes. Pre-teens performed skits while adults shared coping mechanisms to prevent bullying. The Denver Broncos Cheerleaders even shared their experiences with the 4-H'ers who later shared the information with others.

**RAF Lakenheath, England** – 4-H'ers received training from stateside 4-H staff to help implement projects in the cooking, vocal performance, fitness, art, leadership, sewing, fashion, journalism, and photography clubs. Each year over 120 youth enroll in 4-H at RAF Lakenheath.

**RAF Mildenhall, England** – In the Lego Mindstorms 4-H Project, club members build and program their own robots. 4-H'ers learn to maneuver, evaluate, and adjust their programming skills, develop their content skills in mathematics, engineering, and technology and apply life skills such as teamwork, communication and patience.

For more information about the **4-H/Air Force Partnership**, contact:

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The 4-H/Air Force Partnership is a collaboration of U.S. Air Force Airman and Family Services and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture through Kansas State University.