4-H and NDSU Foundations Develop Partnership

The North Dakota 4-H Foundation recently entered into partnership with the NDSU Foundation and Alumni Association to prospect and secure major gifts to support North Dakota 4-H. This partnership resulted from the 4-H Foundation’s desire to better leverage 4-H’s strong alumni base to raise funds to support North Dakota 4-H and to optimize this effort by aligning itself with the university foundation that has expertise and staffing to help accomplish this. North Dakota 4-H is a program of North Dakota State University Extension, making this partnership an important investment as it looks to the future.

NDSU Extension’s vision is to provide life-changing experiences for all young North Dakotans who want to participate in 4-H. The funds raised through this partnership will be used to support 4-H program costs, to encourage membership for youth and families who are not familiar with 4-H and all that it offers, and to train community volunteers who share their time and talents with youth programs across the state each year.

North Dakota 4-H Foundation board members will work alongside NDSU Extension and NDSU Foundation staff to fulfill the goals of this new partnership. The agreement made by all parties was effective January 1, 2019. This partnership happened because of a strategic review the 4-H Foundation conducted of itself in 2016 and the NDSU Foundation’s effort to place development directors in each of NDSU’s colleges. The NDSU Foundation development directors can be reached by contacting 701-231-6800.

About the North Dakota 4-H Foundation, Inc.

The purpose of the North Dakota 4-H Foundation is to create a foundation of resources used to provide funds for the North Dakota 4-H program not available through the public sector. It was chartered in 1959 and is governed by a board of dedicated volunteers and staff who work in cooperation with NDSU Extension staff to accomplish its purpose.

About the North Dakota State University Foundation and Alumni Association

The NDSU Foundation’s mission is to build enduring relationships that maximize advocacy and philanthropy in support of North Dakota State University. It believes in developing partnerships involving teamwork, accountability and transparency to improve lives and outcomes of North Dakotans and the world.

Both organizations are excited about this partnership and the opportunities it will provide to donors who want to make a difference in the lives of the youth of our state through participation in the 4-H program.

4-H youth with Governor Burgum

4-H Leadership Awareness Weekend (LAW)

Leadership Awareness Weekend (LAW) was transformed from a two-day activity to a three-day weekend mega event. The statewide 4-H civic engagement event was a worthwhile experience for several North Dakota youth. LAW combined parliamentary procedure activities and a contest with engaging government events. The North Dakota Legislature was in session, so youth met legislators and Gov. Doug Burgum.

"4-H LAW is a wonderful opportunity for youth to make new friends, learn how to become a strong leader and become more connected with our government," said 4-H’er Marie Kraemer of Grand Forks.

Giving Hearts Day

The N.D. 4-H Foundation was among more than 450 nonprofit organizations in Giving Hearts Day 2019. Nearly 300 donors contributed more than $26,000 to the North Dakota 4-H program. More than 30 donors were new contributors to the 4-H Foundation. Save Feb. 13 for Giving Hearts Day 2020.

Thank you, donors, for your $7,000 match: Jim Kirkeide, Peterson Farms Seed (Julie and Carl Peterson), Proseed (Keith Peltier), Julie and Dave Hassebroek, Great River Energy, Eric and Suzanne Lahlum.

NDSU Foundation Development Directors

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National 4-H Congress and Conference

For many 4-H members, the goal of attending either National 4-H Congress or National 4-H Conference is a highlight of their 4-H experience. The North Dakota 4-H Foundation continues to sponsor the youths participation in these events.

4-H Congress held in Atlanta, Ga., is the premier five-day experience. For those participating, it is the highlight of a member’s 4-H career. Youth are selected for their depth and breadth of 4-H experience along with leadership and community service. While attending, they hear dynamic speakers and attend programs that focus on leadership, citizenship, global awareness and inclusion. The intent is to expand 4-H’ers knowledge about the world and develop capable, competent and caring citizens.

Four youth attended in November 2018: Sandra Larson, Eddy County; Joslin Forness and Gracie Erickstad, Cass County; and Nora Larson, Adams County. Chaperoning the group was Vanessa Hoines, Family & Community Wellness Extension agent, NDSU Morton County.

National 4-H Conference held in Washington, D.C. helps youth to increase their leadership skills by becoming familiar with government; meeting with state and national leaders; and attending workshops on team building, adaptability and communications. They become the voice of 4-H members nationally during the week.

Four youth attended the April 2019 conference: Maria Brien, Rolette County; Katherine Kempel, Cass County; Victoria Christiansen, Stutsman County; and Kaitlyn Joerger, Grand Forks County. Chaperones were Andy and Shauna Staloch, volunteers from Williston. Andy is currently the chair of the N.D. 4-H Foundation.

4-H Foundation Board of Directors

The 4-H Foundation currently operates with 20 members. The bylaws state that no more than 30 individuals will make up the board. A list of board members is at https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/4_h_foundation/.

New board members were welcomed at the March 29 meeting in Minot. They are Julie Hassebroek, Cogswell; Ron Schmidt, Dickinson; Alana Sears, Wheatland; N.D. Association of Agricultural Extension Agents Representative Paige Brummund, Minot; and Ambassador Representatives Aspen Lenning, Plaza, and Billie Lentz, Rolla.

Meeting with Sen. John Hoeven during National 4-H Conference were Maria Brien, Rolette County; Katherine Kempel, Cass County; Sen. Hoeven; Victoria Christiansen, Stutsman County; and Kaitlyn Joerger, Grand Forks County.