

# 2025 National Chapter Award

**KS** KS0151



# **Chapter Information**

FFA Chapter Name School Name

**Riverton** Riverton

School Address School City School State School Zip Code
P.O. Box 290, 7120 SE 70th Riverton KS 66770

90

School Phone

620/848-3388

Primary Advisor Contact Email Cell Phone

Jacob Larison jlarison@usd404.org 6207621219

Chapter Type Unduplicated Ag Ed Enrollment Total FFA Membership In-school FFA Members

High School 90 98

Beginning Date Ending Date Convention Year

6/1/2024 5/31/2025 2025

Chapter Advisors

Jacob Larison jlarison@usd404.org

# **Certifications**

We hereby certify that all claims and information reported in this application are true and accurate.

| Sydney Renee Moore          |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Student's Signature         |   |  |
| Jacob Larison               | Chad Harper                               |  |
| Chapter Advisor's Signature | Superintendent's or Principal's Signature |  |

# **Form I Activities**

| <u>Fo</u>         | Form 1 Activities   |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Growing Leaders   |   |  |  |  |  |
|                   | Reality U Financial Simulation - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |
| Leadership        | Reality U event simulates the potential outcomes of students' future choices while offering insights into life beyond high school. Participants gained an understanding of real-world scenarios, allowing them to start planning their futures effectively. Held in the field house, the event had various booths with different life expenses.   |  |  |  |  |
| style             | Walking Trail/Pickleball Court - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |
| Healthy Lifestyle | In early March, the twelve members in our Ag Fabrication class worked to design, layout, and paint a regulation-size pickleball court on the parking lot at our community walking track. This allowed an additional place for members of our community to exercise outdoors and enjoy the local facility.   |  |  |  |  |
|                   | HONOR ROLL PARTIES - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |
| Scholar-<br>ship  | To help create a positive attitude among our members toward lifelong learning, our chapter hosted honor roll parties at the end of each quarter for our members on the honor roll. Members prepared and served a meal for over 60-70 students that qualify for it by having at minmum a single C letter grade.  |  |  |  |  |
| £                 | Christmas Angel Adoption - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |
| Personal Growth   | To help our members appreciate the blessing they have been granted, our chapter took a leadership role in our school's Christmas Angel program by adopting 12 less fortunate elementary students. 19 members purchased clothing, toys, and other important items to support 12 young children and provide reflection on their experience.   |  |  |  |  |
| s                 | Project STEALTH - PURPOSE/WHY   |  |  |  |  |
| Career Success    | To promote agriculture among the youth in our school system, our chapter hosted the STEALTH (Students Teaching Everyday Agriculture and Learning Through Horticulture). Members taught six different lessons to six classes, grades K-1. Each young student was hands-on in our greenhouse. After three weeks, they took home their new plants.   |  |  |  |  |
|                   | Building Communities  |  |  |  |  |
| Environ-mental    | Chapter Fishing Tournament - PURPOSE/WHY  We hosted a fishing tournament in Sept.14 teams of members fished in groups with family and friends. The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks went over fishing regulations, limits, and species identification with our participants. In the evening they checked back in with photos of their fish to determine the winner of each category. |  |  |  |  |
| ses               | Pigs for the People - PURPOSE/WHY   |  |  |  |  |
| Human Resources   | After hearing of shortages at the local food pantry, we chose to raise pigs and donate the meat as a project for members in Animal Science. Our chapter purchased 6 feeder hogs and raised them to an average weight of 232 pounds. Using grants from Frontier Farm Credit and National FFA, our chapter doncated over  |  |  |  |  |

States Across the Playground - PURPOSE/WHY

Noticing a need for improvement, and to help members become more active in the school and community, our members used a National FFA mini-grant to improve our school playground. Our primary goal was to make a map of the USA on the playground. We also painted the teeter totters as well as other equipment and added rubber safety mulch.

600 pounds of fresh pork.

| _ |                           |   |
|---|---------------------------|---|
|   |                           | T-Shirt and Banner Sponsors - PURPOSE/WHY   |
|   | Stakeholder<br>Engagement | In an effort to create an atmosphere of teamwork between the local chapter and our many community stakeholders. In July, officers reached out to 26 local businesses and asked them to serve as chapter sponsors. Each sponsor donated a minimum of \$100, with a total of \$3,725. Sponsor logos were placed on our all shirts and 2 banners |
|   | nent                      | Signs on the Route - PURPOSE/WHY  |
|   | Economic Development      | To capitalize on the tourists from Route 66, 53 members designed, created, and placed seasonal decorations at the Rt 66 Sculpture (built by our chapter in 2018). Decorations were created that included the 4th of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Senior Send-off, National FFA Week, and the start of school.   |

| EC                     | and the start of school.  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
|                        | Strengthening Agriculture   |  |  |  |  |  |
| ۵                      | Chapter Facebook and Instagram - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Support Group          | In order to encourage greater positive relations with community members, parents, and others that are interested in supporting Agricultural education, our chapter makes regular use of our Facebook Page. In the past 12 months, our chapter has created over 153 posts on our page to connect with our supporters and our FFA chapter members.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| nt                     | Summertime Swim - PURPOSE/WHY   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chapter<br>Recruitment | As an incentive for our members from the previous year, we hosted a pool party at the community pool in Baxter Springs. We ordered pizza for members and served pop and cookies. New members were invited and a total of 15 members were in attendance to help kick off the new school year.  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                        | Hunter Education Class - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Safety                 | As a rural community in SE Kansas, many area youth and adults have an interest in hunting. To help ensure safe practices, as well as wildlife stewardship, our chapter hosted a two-day Hunter Education Course on February 21 and 22. With 4 officials of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, 35 local residents earned their hunter safety card. |  |  |  |  |  |
| cacy                   | Advocacy in Action - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural Advocacy  | Fourteen members traveled to Topeka to advocate for Kansas Ag Ed. Members developed and distributed a flyer that highlighted Ag Ed as well as FFA. Eighty souvenir succulents in blue and gold pots were given to each legislator that was encountered. Members educated legislators on Agriculture Education/FFA and toured the State Capitol.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| racy                   | Succas for Agriculture - PURPOSE/WHY  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural Literacy  | On January 22, our chapter hosted 27 people from the community in the Ag Ed classroom in order to teach them about horticulture. We had an engaging activity where participants painted three pots, chose two succulent starts, and created their own cuttings to take home in an effort to grow their Agricultural Literacy and appreciation.    |  |  |  |  |  |



# 2025 National Chapter Award

# **Form I Summary**

| NQCS Indicators  | Points<br>Possible | Points<br>Earned |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. All students enrolled in the agricultural education program have the opportunity to be a member of FFA.   | 5                  | 5                |
| 2. Students build a progressive leadership and personal development plan.  | 5                  | 4                |
| <ul> <li>3. All students participate in meaningful leadership and personal development activities in each component of the agricultural education program:</li> <li>Classroom and laboratory instruction</li> <li>Experiential, project, and work-based learning through SAE</li> <li>Leadership and personal development through FFA</li> </ul> | 5                  | 4                |
| 4. The FFA chapter constitution and bylaws are up-to-date and approved by chapter members.   | 5                  | 4                |
| 5. FFA members are involved in the planning and implementation of a Program of Activities (POA).   | 5                  | 5                |
| 6. The FFA chapter conducts regularly scheduled chapter meetings.  | 5                  | 5                |
| 7. An awards recognition program planned and conducted by FFA members is in place.   | 5                  | 5                |
| 8. The FFA chapter has a current budget, which provides the financial resources to support the POA.  | 5                  | 5                |
| Capable and trained officers lead the FFA chapter.   | 5                  | 5                |
| 10. The FFA chapter has an active, dedicated support group.  | 5                  | 5                |
| 11. Stakeholders are engaged in developing and supporting a quality chapter.   | 4                  | 2                |
| 12. SAE is an integral component of the agricultural education program, with all students maintaining an exploratory SAE and career plan of study.   | 5                  | 4                |
| 13. A recruitment and retention plan is yielding steady or increasing student enrollment.  | 5                  | 4                |
| TOTAL  | 64                 | 57               |



# **Growing Leaders - Leadership**

#### **Reality U Financial Simulation**

Date the Activity was Completed: 11/19/2024

PURPOSE/WHY

Reality U event simulates the potential outcomes of students' future choices while offering insights into life beyond high school. Participants gained an understanding of real-world scenarios, allowing them to start planning their futures effectively. Held in the field house, the event had various booths with different life expenses.

# Related to Quality Standard:

Reality U allowed all of our junior and sophomore students to gain decision-making skills regarding financial literacy in order to prepare them for their future life choices, which were brought to life by utilizing over 22 members of the community.

#### Goal #1

#### Goal:

S- Emails and phone calls will be made in an effort to

M- organize a time, date, and location

A- that will be available for members of the community, high school students

R- and high school faculty/staff

T- by November 9.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Inform members of the Reality U event at the October chapter meeting

Contact Reality U Facilitator to organize a set schedule

Communicate with School Administrations to reserve the gym and date approval

WHERE

RHS Ag-Ed Building

RHS High School

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

The President and Sentinel will arrange availability in the gyms for the chosen date

Officers will coordinate with Reality U Facilitator to determine a set date and time

#### Outcome: MET

By contacting members of the community, high school faculty, and Reality U Facilitator, officers were able to find a set time, date, and location in order to create and continue planning the event.

## Goal #2

# Goal:

S- Officers will correspond with community leaders

M- to confirm at least 20 volunteers to assist with

A- working each of the stations for Reality U

R- in order to produce a realistic financial simulation

T- by Nov. 9.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Communicate with community business members via phone call, text, email, and in-person

Produce an informative letter for each volunteer about the event

WHERE

RHS Ag-Ed Building

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Officers will inform local business community members of the event

Officers will create a spreadsheet to keep track of community members who have said yes to volunteering Officers will dictate the responsibilities for each volunteer

# Outcome: MET

After officers contacted and inquired with community members about the Reality U event, they produced a spreadsheet with 22 community members who all agreed to their positions for the Reality event.

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#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S- A survey including career interests and academic progress

M- will be completed by 60 sophomores and 52 juniors

A- to create a real-life scenario customized to their career

R- and personal/family interests

T- by Nov 6.

## Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Students will complete a survey in RISE regarding their career interests and academic progress

Create and distribute the customized scenario for each student

WHERE

**RHS High School** 

Ag-Ed Classroom

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

RISE Teachers will provide students with a survey to complete about their personal interests and progress Officers will evaluate the surveys

Officers will sort and distribute a customized scenario for each student

# Outcome: MET

After 60 Sophomores and 52 Juniors completed the survey through their RISE class, officers organized and distributed customized scenarios based on students' career interests and academic achievement.

# **Summary**

#### Advancing Leaders:

#### **PURPOSE**

We were able to inform the sophomore and junior classes about financial choices and career decisions that might arise through their life. Students now have the ability to view how future choices might have negative outcomes.

#### **BENEFIT**

With this event, students gained an understanding of real-life financial scenarios after having customized problems fit for their lifestyle, which was found in the survey they completed and students are now able to start planning their futures effectively.

#### Impact:

# **CHAPTER**

Chapter Officers furthered leadership and communication skills

Two chapter members were able to be volunteers during the event, learning communication and work ethic skills. MEMBER

A total of 60 Sophomores and 52 Juniors participated in this event, 52 being members of the chapter, developing their communication and financial skills

#### **AUDIENCE**

By hosting this event, students increased their experience in financial decisions, which assisted them in preparation for their future scenarios.

# **Growing Leaders - Leadership**





Through the efforts of our officer team and volunteers, we were able to host the Reality U Event for over 110 high school students. Sophomores and Juniors participated in the event held on November 19th, while learning about real-life financial, career, and personal scenarios that could potentially arise in their future. Students were given the opportunity to make their own choices while figuring out how to balance career, personal, and family needs, which allowed each of them to expand their knowledge in financial decisions and career options.

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# **Growing Leaders - Personal Growth**

# **Christmas Angel Adoption**

Date the Activity was Completed: 12/4/2024

PURPOSE/WHY

To help our members appreciate the blessing they have been granted, our chapter took a leadership role in our school's Christmas Angel program by adopting 12 less fortunate elementary students. 19 members purchased clothing, toys, and other important items to support 12 young children and provide reflection on their experience.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

After serving 12 young children, members appreciated their blessed situations after they shopped for necessities most take for granted. Members were shocked by the amount of necessities rather than toys or non-essential items on the angels' lists.

# Goal #1

#### Goal:

S- Inspire member to adopt

M- at least 8 local children with a budget of at least \$100

A- per each of the Christmas Angels by

R- discussing and passing a motion during new business

T- during our November chapter meeting.

#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Conduct the November chapter meeting

Provide information for members to form a decision

WHERE

Meeting - Ag Ed classroom

HOW/STEPS

Put the Christmas Angel program on the agenda

Distribute information at the meeting

Allow for a main discussion

Declare the outcome

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

The Treasurer will share current/past finances and expenses

Members will make a motion/discuss/vote

The president will chair the meeting/handle the vote

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

On Nov. 26th, the idea was declared. It was moved to adopt 12 Angels at \$125. After discussing and amending, the motion passed at \$125 each- which exceeded our goal by \$25 and the goal of 8 kids.

# Goal #2

#### Goal:

S-Acquire the list of necessities

M-for the entire group of Angels

A-by corresponding with high school and elementary administrators

R-and schedule transportation for shopping and delivery

T-by no later than December 4th.

## Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Discuss with elementary, middle, and high school admin to plan the activity

WHERE

Planning - Ag Ed classroom

Discussion - G-Mail

HOW/STEPS

Send emails to schedule meetings with principals

Discuss with each of the school leaders

Report back to membership

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Secretary will contact the elementary administrators to secure the list of Angels

Our President will meet with high school administrators to schedule the event

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# Outcome: MET

Assigned officers had meetings with the school admin and obtained the list of all 12 Angels, as well as scheduled the activity, by Nov. 5. This met our goal as members shopped and delivered by Dec. 4

#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S-Compose and complete a reflection component

M-for all nineteen members involved in the Angel activity

A-that reflects their financial situations

R-and evaluate their personal career and lifestyle goals

T-by December 15th.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Determine involved members

Create and complete the reflection component

WHERE

Introduction- Ag Ed classroom

Shopping-Walmart

HOW/STEPS

Sponsor 12 angels

Complete shopping/delivery for Angels

Create reflection component

Schedule time for members to complete the reflection

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Secretary will promote the event/signup

Our President will create the reflection component

Involved members will complete their reflections

#### Outcome: MET

Our President collaborated with our Advisor to construct a guided reflection for all 19 members before Dec. 4. Our goal was met as the 19 members met and completed the personal reflection on Dec. 4.

## **Summary**

## Advancing Leaders:

# **PURPOSE**

Many of our elementary students come from difficult financial situations or home lives, with a high number of students receiving free school lunches and breakfast. Utilizing our strong chapter finances, this program allows our members to serve others and reflect on their situation to envision their plans.

# **BENEFIT**

Our members developed an appreciation for their own situations and completed a reflection component while working to brighten the holiday season for youth who required help.

# Impact:

## **CHAPTER**

Our chapter utilized our own finances and created learning opportunities for members by investing \$1,493 back into 12 young children within our school. School admin recognized our ongoing service to the school. MEMBER

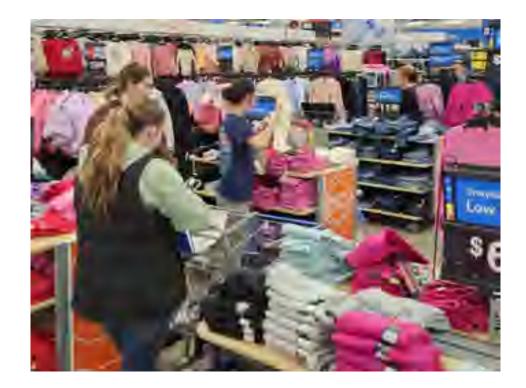
19 members were impacted by the program as they worked in groups to shop for local youth and reflected on their personal, career, and life goals.

# **AUDIENCE**

12 elementary students that were identified as "in need", received gifts of \$125 to assist them in the holiday season.

# **Growing Leaders - Personal Growth**





Nineteen members spent an evening shopping to purchase gifts for our twelve Christmas Angels for children in difficult financial situations. This project has helped our members appreciate their own blessings. In this 14th consecutive year, our chapter has been able to help over 125 total children. Working with school administration, we adopted twelve students identified as "Angels" and voted to spend \$125 on each child. Members eagerly carried out the purchasing and distribution of gifts and reflected on their own situations and future goals.

# **Growing Leaders - Career Success**

# **Project STEALTH**

Date the Activity was Completed: 3/6/2025

PURPOSE/WHY

To promote agriculture among the youth in our school system, our chapter hosted the STEALTH (Students Teaching Everyday Agriculture and Learning Through Horticulture). Members taught six different lessons to six classes, grades K-1. Each young student was hands-on in our greenhouse. After three weeks, they took home their new plants.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

With 93 children aged from 5 to 8 years old, Project STEALTH allowed our members to plan and coordinate a large-scale event. While planning and coordinating, our members developed impactful life and career skills that will help shape their futures.

#### Goal #1

#### Goal:

S- Chapter officers in a Horticulture Science class

M- will visit in-person with six K-1 teachers to effectively communicate

A- in order to establish a schedule

R- for the STEALTH activity

T- by the first of February, 2025.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

The Secretary and President will communicate in person with all kindergarten and 1st grade teachers to make a schedule for the event

WHERE

Ag Ed Classroom

HOW/STEPS

Communicate with all K-1 elementary teachers

The Sentinel will hand-deliver a finalized schedule to six K-1 teachers

**RESPONSIBILITIES** 

Two officers will meet with all involved elementary teachers

One officer will share the final schedule with each of the involved teachers

#### Outcome: MET

By February 20th, our Secretary and President contacted all K through 1st-grade teachers. Then created and shared a schedule for the STEALTH activity, which took place from March 3rd to March 6th.

# Goal #2

## Goal:

S- Groups of horticulture students will

M- distribute 14 vital jobs and responsibilities

A- to coordinate six different classes of elementary students

R- understand how plants are grown

T- from March 3rd to March 6th, 2025.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Horticulture members will evenly distribute responsibilities among three groups in each class

Horticulture members will create slide presentations to inform grades K-1 about plant growth/needs WHERE

Ag Ed Classroom

HOW/STEPS

Members assign themselves to adequate jobs and responsibilities

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Each group will create a slideshow

Each member in a group will be responsible for a vital job or task to facilitate the event

# Outcome: MET

By February 25, all 42 members of the Horticulture classes had distributed the jobs and responsibilities adequately. Each group made slideshow presentations on plants and planting to aid in learning.

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#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S- During the STEALTH event

M- 100% of our Horticulture members

A- will take part and fulfil the jobs and responsibilities assigned to them

R- in the classroom and the greenhouse

T- between March 3rd and March 6th, 2025.

#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Each Horticulture student will complete their assigned job or responsibility

WHERE

Ag/Ed Classroom

Greenhouse

HOW/STEPS

Before the event, members will be reminded of their selected job or responsibility

Ensure all tasks and responsibilities are completed, allowing for complete learning

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Each member will ensure students are safely taking and handling cuttings

Horticulture members will assist all elementary students

#### Outcome: MET

Between March 3rd and March 6th, all 42 Horticulture members worked together, fulfilling their responsibilities to teach the K-1st graders how to sow seeds, propagate plants and take care of them.

# Summary

#### Advancing Leaders:

# **PURPOSE**

We were able to develop 42 Horticulture members' organizational, communication, and life skills by being responsible for vital jobs and tasks in the coordination and planning of an event for over 90 K-1 students to effectively learn about the propagation, growing and maintaining of plants.

## BENEFIT

The members gained and developed organizational, teambuilding, and general life skills. Through an opportunity and experience that will benefit their future despite what career they may have.

## Impact:

# **CHAPTER**

By working with grades K-1, the chapter increased its visibility in the community and grew our role in the school system.

## **MEMBER**

A total of 42 members were involved in this event, which developed their interpersonal and leadership skills in working with youth.

#### **AUDIENCE**

By working in this hands-on activity with our members, each child has increased their knowledge of agriculture and grew their desire to continue learning about plants, which will impact their friends and families as well.

# **Growing Leaders - Career Success**

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Through the efforts and cooperation of 42 horticulture members, they constructed a hands-on activity and provided a lesson to six separate elementary classes fulfilling their own jobs or responsibilities in order to have a successful event. They were able to engage all 90 Kindergarten through 1st grade students in a presentation in the Ag classroom as well as plant Bell Pepper seeds, Tomato seeds, and a cutting in the greenhouse. The students were also taught how to maintain and take care of their plants once they took their own plants home.

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# **Building Communities - Human Resources**

# Pigs for the People

Date the Activity was Completed: 3/10/2025

PURPOSE/WHY

After hearing of shortages at the local food pantry, we chose to raise pigs and donate the meat as a project for members in Animal Science. Our chapter purchased 6 feeder hogs and raised them to an average weight of 232 pounds. Using grants from Frontier Farm Credit and National FFA, our chapter doncated over 600 pounds of fresh pork.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

While our members learned countless lessons about pork production, the true outcome of this project was the reduction of food insecurity within our community. Members were proud that their efforts improved the welfare of over 75 local families.

#### Goal #1

#### Goal:

S-The 13 members of the Animal Science Class

M-will purchase six young pigs using grant funds

A-that will be housed at a local supporters facility

R-and visited bi-weekly to be ready to be processed

T-prior to Feb. 29, 2025.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

The chapter will buy six piglets with grant funding

Our Animal Science will have the piglets ready before February 29th

WHERE

Local producer's farm

Local supporter's facility

HOW/STEPS

Apply for grant funding for project

Communicate with local producers to find and arrange the purchase of pigs

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIĖS

Secure the purchase of six pigs using our grants

The members in the Animal Science Class will monitor the pigs regularly

# Outcome: MET

Prior to Oct. 1, the chapter applied for and received grants from National FFA and Farm Credit, which covered the six pigs, feed, and processing. All 13 involved members monitored the pigs bi-weekly.

#### Goal #2

# Goal:

S-Our 13 Members in our Animal Science

M-will take our six pigs to be harvested and processed

A-at the Quapaw Processing Plant

R-and learn about the facility and how it operates and processes

T- before or on April 1.

#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Have our six pigs harvested and processed

WHERE

**Quapaw Processing Plant** 

HOW/STEPS

Obtain a processing date for our pigs

Ensure our pigs are the required weight before that date

Take our 13 members in Animal Science to learn about the processing facility

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

A chapter leader will communicate with the Quapaw Processing Plant to schedule a processing date

Our members in Animal Science will ensure the pigs are at weight

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# Outcome: MET

Due to the heavy winter snows, on March 24, all 13 members of Animal Science visited the Quapaw Processing Plant in order to learn more about the facility, safe processing, and the meat industry.

## Goal #3

#### Goal:

S-Our 13 members in the Animal Science will

M-take at least 600lbs of bacon, sausage, and pork chops

A-to Grace and Gratitude in Baxter

R-for the support those in need within in our community

T-before the end of March.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Donate all of the ground pork, sausage, chops, and bacon to Grace and Gratitude

WHERE

Grace and Gratitude

HOW/STEPS

Receive all the product back from the processing plant

Contact Grace and Gratitude

Our 13 members in Animal Science deliver the products to Grace and Gratitude

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

One member will contact leaders at Grace and Gratitude to coordinate donation

Animal Science Class will deliver the pork during March

#### Outcome: MET

We received a total of 608lbs of pork chops, sausage, bacon, and ground pork from processing. Our Sentinel contacted Grace and Gratitude. Our 13 involved members delivered the product on March 24.

# **Summary**

# **Advancing Community:**

# **PURPOSE**

Many families in Kansas struggle financially, however, by teaching students the process of raising pigs, we were able to teach members how impactful it is to give back to the community while learning about agriculture.

Through raising six pigs with grants from Frontier Farm Credit and National FFA Living, students were able to learn about hard work, the swine industry, giving back to the community by donating their efforts to feed over 75 different families within the area.

#### Impact:

### **CHAPTER**

Through our Living to Serve and Frontier Farm Credit Grants, the chapter was able to improve the welfare of our area's less fortunate citizens by donating over 600 lbs of pork to the local pantry.

#### **MEMBER**

13 FFA members involved in Animal Science weighed and walked the pigs every other week until their processing date. Our members learned about hard work, animal growth and care, nutrition, and giving back to others.

# **AUDIENCE**

Over 75 families were reported to benefit from our donation.

# **Building Communities - Human Resources**





As a result of the efforts of 13 members, six market hogs were raised from an average weight of 32 lbs to an average weight of 232 lbs. While we experienced several challenges this year, after processing over 600lbs of four different types of pork at a federally inspected facility, members made a delivery to SEKMA Grace and Gratitude, a food pantry for those in financial need within our community. Not only did these members learn and practice swine management, they also learned of the impact of helping those in need within our SE Kansas area.

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# **Building Communities - Citizenship**

# States Across the Playground

Date the Activity was Completed: 8/7/2024

PURPOSE/WHY

Noticing a need for improvement, and to help members become more active in the school and community, our members used a National FFA mini-grant to improve our school playground. Our primary goal was to make a map of the USA on the playground. We also painted the teeter totters as well as other equipment and added rubber safety mulch.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

By investing 8 hours of service, members developed pride in being active citizens in our community as we painted the playground to make it fun for people of all ages. As this playground is the only type of play area for youth in our community.

# Goal #1

#### Goal:

S- Our chapter officers

M- will work to find a design to increase use of the playground

A- by meeting with the RES Principal and district maintenance director

R- to determine playground designs

T- prior to August 7th, 2024.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Select officers to contact the school leaders

Discuss design with school leaders

WHERE

Riverton Elementary Office

Riverton Elementary Playground

HOW/STEPS

Send emails and make follow-up phone calls

Research prices of items and materials

Examine the playground

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Officers will discuss playground improvements

The Advisor will communicate with school leaders

The Advisor will meet with the Superintendent about funding

#### Outcome: MET

In June and July of 2024, the Advisor coordinated with officers and met with school leaders to identify approved designs that could be painted by our members in a single day of work before August 14.

# Goal #2

# Goal:

S-Chapter officers will work with the advisor to recruit

M-at least 12 members to volunteer 4 hours each

A-to paint the elementary playground

R-in order to create an engaging and fun student environment

T-by August 7, 2024.

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#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Each officer will work to recruit at least 2 members to participate

Officers will communicate with possible volunteers

WHERE

Ag Ed classroom

Riverton Elementary Playground

HOW/STEPS

A Facebook announcement will be made to inform members of the workday

Officers will directly contact members by text to enlist workers

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

The reporter will post on Facebook

Every officer will contact different individuals about the event

#### Outcome: MET

On August 2, the officers met and began recruiting members. The reporter made a Facebook post to request members' help. On August 7, we met our goal of 14 members who served a total of 4 hours each.

#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S-All members who volunteered to help will meet

M-in the Ag. Ed. room at 8 am on August 8th

A-to decide on jobs and gather all the supplies needed

R-to most effectively complete painting the playground

T-on August 8, 2025.

#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Determine the tasks that must be accomplished

Inform volunteers to meet in the Ag. Ed. classroom by 8am on August 8th

Decide which volunteers will best fit each task

WHERE

Ag. Ed. Classroom

Riverton Elementary Playground

HOW/STEPS

Create a list of jobs to be done

Assign tasks to volunteers

Locate and pass out all the tools needed to complete jobs

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Officers will assign jobs to volunteers and have all supplies ready

# Outcome: MET

After all 14 volunteers arrived at the Ag Ed room, jobs were passed out and necessary supplies were handed out to the correct volunteers. Then all volunteers were led to the playground to begin work.

# **Summary**

## Advancing Community:

# **PURPOSE**

The Riverton Elementary Playground has fewer people coming to play due to disrepair. The Riverton FFA took on the responsibility of painting the playground to make the play area a more fun place for children in the upcoming school year by painting a pickleball court and a map of the fifty U.S states as well as picking up trash. BENEFIT

This volunteer project gave members a drive to improve their community and provides a fun and enjoyable environment for elementary students and families.

# Impact:

# CHAPTER

Through the day of service grant, our chapter was able to improve the school and make it a more enjoyable place for citizens.

# MEMBER

14 FFA members met to improve the playground and gained an appreciation for the work put into painting their school, and helped improve work ethic in our chapter.

## **AUDIENCE**

Over 300 elementary students can now have a more enjoyable and educational time playing each day during the school year. Multiple people from the community now come to play pickleball

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# **Building Communities - Citizenship**



On August 8th, 14 members met in the Ag Ed room to discuss and assign tasks that would make our elementary school's playground more fun for people of all ages. Officers prepared for the job that school leaders and members recommended and began painting two basketball courts with the recommended designs, a pickleball court and a map of the all fifty states of the USA. Through a Living to Serve mini-grant, our chapter improved our community and made it an even more fun place for people to come play pickleball or learn the states while playing.

# **Building Communities - Economic Development**

# Signs on the Route

Date the Activity was Completed: 3/14/2025

PURPOSE/WHY

To capitalize on the tourists from Route 66, 53 members designed, created, and placed seasonal decorations at the Rt 66 Sculpture (built by our chapter in 2018). Decorations were created that included the 4th of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Senior Send-off, National FFA Week, and the start of school.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

Acknowledging that we are a small community, our activity encourages the thousands of tourists who are traveling Route 66 each year to stop and visit our small community, which increases the number of purchases made at our locally owned businesses.

#### Goal #1

# Goal:

S-Work as a team to

M-create 8 different seasonal designs

A-that will be placed at the Route 66 Sculpture

R-in order to enhance tourism of our community as visitors travel historic Route 66

T-from June, 2024 to May, 2025.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Select ideas for each design

Purchase materials

Work as a team to create and place signs

WHERE

Design and paint- Ag Ed classroom/shop

Placement- Route 66 Sculpture

HOW/STEPS

Seasons/holidays will be chosen

design ideas will be requested

Materials will be purchased and gathered

Decorations will be designed and set

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Sentinel will watch over the activity and members will take part through the Horticulture class.

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

With 9 different seasonal signs created and placed, we exceeded our goal. In twelve months, many groups of members worked to paint and design unique signs that were placed at the Route 66 Sculpture.

# Goal #2

# Goal:

S-Use a \$500 budget for the entire year to design and pay for material

M-while involving at least 30 FFA members to

A-design, build, and setup each board

R-for the changing seasonal decorations

T-from June 2024 to May 2025.

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#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Choose ideas for designs

Purchase materials

Work as a group to create/place decorations

WHERE

Design and construction- Ag Ed classroom/shop

Placement- Route 66 Sculpture

HOW/STEPS

Seasons/holidays will be picked

Designs will be submitted

Materials will be purchased and gathered

Decorations will be created and placed

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Sentinel will supervise the undertaking and members will be involved throughout the school year

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

With 53 total members involved in the designing, building, painting, and organization, we exceeded the membership goal. In using nine themes, we remained under \$500 for the entire year of decorating.

#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S-Create interesting designs that will be reviewed on

M-at least 6 internet sources (ex. Route66roadtrip.com, Tripadvisor)

A-through the broad efforts of members

R-to build an increase of tourist traffic

T-by May 15, 2024.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Brainstorm creative and entertaining designs

Utilize our chapter social media to promote our efforts

WHERE

Creation of designs- Ag Ed Classroom

Online reviews- Online sites

HOW/STEPS

Ask for design ideas at monthly meetings

Use local products in designs

Encourage members to repost each design

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Reporter will post each design on our Facebook/Instagram page

Our Leadership Team will search for local reviews online

# Outcome: MET

After research in March of 2025, we found that our designs are on nine different travel sites, surpassing our goal by three sites. Reviews show that this has become a popular attraction on Route 66.

# **Summary**

# Advancing Community:

**PURPOSE** 

Although we are in an unincorporated community, we are blessed to be located on Route 66, a Historic Byway as named by the State of Kansas. With thousands of tourists driving Route 66 from Chicago to Los Angeles yearly, our chapter wanted to capitalize on our notoriety.

BENEFIT

Nearly every day someone is seen taking a photograph of the Route 66 Sculpture and signs. Seasonal decorations have created additional intertest and business owners say customers are talking about our designs.

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#### Impact:

# CHAPTER

Our chapter gave back by promoting our community. Over the 9 different decorations, our chapter spent \$318 in materials and supplies. Our chapter has become known for this endeavor.

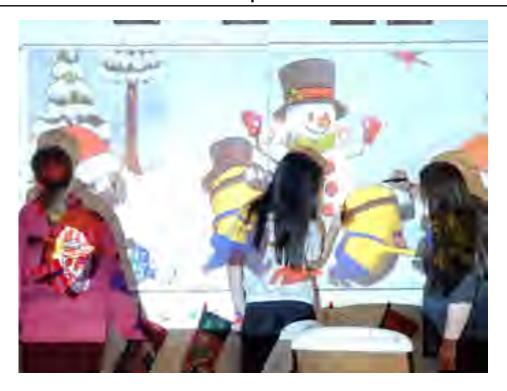
# **MEMBER**

A total of 53 members had a direct involvement as they worked in teams and built skills in design and graphic principles.

# AUDIENCE

The KDOT estimates that up to 5,000 vehicles pass by daily. Online reviews and photos show that our project was a success and local businesses greet tourists regularly.

# **Building Communities - Economic Development**



From June 2024 to May 2025, a total of 53 members worked to layout, create, and install 9 different seasonal decorations including Valentine's Day, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Back to School, FFA Week, and other seasonally-inspired designs at the Route 66 Sculpture- made by our chapter in 2018. As the only FFA Chapter on historic KS Route 66, we've worked to encourage visitors to travel through and visit our community. Our ongoing efforts have made this attraction a regular stop for travelers and reviews show that our efforts have been a success.

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# Strengthening Agriculture - Safety

# **Hunter Education Class**

Date the Activity was Completed: 2/22/2025

PURPOSE/WHY

As a rural community in SE Kansas, many area youth and adults have an interest in hunting. To help ensure safe practices, as well as wildlife stewardship, our chapter hosted a two-day Hunter Education Course on February 21 and 22. With 4 officials of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, 35 local residents earned their hunter safety card.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

With online options for Hunter certification, we were proud to enhance safety through an in-person format. Participants learned to safely handle firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment. The knowledge and skills gained will be shared with others.

# Goal #1

#### Goal:

S-Establish the date, times, and location for this

M-communication with one Kansas Wildlife and Parks official

A-for assistance of the Hunters Education Course

R-and determine a plan of action for members

T-by January 23.

#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Talk with Scott Leamon of the KDWPT

Review schedules to determine suitable dates for all people

WHERE

Communication and scheduling- online/via email and in-person

HOW/STEPS

Review calendars

Make contact with KDWPT

Review options/conflicts

Set dates/times/locations for this event

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Vice President will oversee scheduling and coordinate the overall event

Two members will be asked to lead communication with KDWPT

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

Our Reporter worked with a member and contacted Officer Scott Leamon and determined the best dates as Feb. 21-22, which met our goal. The event was set for 6-10 pm and 8 am- 5 pm in our cafeteria.

# Goal #2

# Goal:

S-Create promotional materials to obtain

M-at least 35 enrollees and 10 student helpers

A-by posting flyers, social media, and intercom announcements

R-to ensure maximum attendance and student volunteers

T-by Feb. 4, 2025.

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#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Promote to the public and to members

Communicate with school staff

WHERE

Public promotion is online and in local businesses

School promotion- HS/MS offices and Ag Ed classroom

HOW/STEPS

Create flyers

Create social media posts

Write/make intercom announcements

Post sign-up list for volunteers

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Vice President will be in charge of the activity/volunteers

The officer team will coordinate event promotion activities

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

With 39 people enrolled and 16 members signed up to work five different shifts and assist in the event by February 16, our goal was met. Paper flyers were put out locally and media posts were shared.

#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S-Utilize and structure an online registration site

M-to allow a maximum of 45 participants

A- establish an RSVP count

R-so that the required number of instructional booklets, food, and drinks are on hand

T-by February 19.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Provide items on the registration site

Order course materials

Plan/shop for meals/snacks

WHERE

Registration site- Online

Ordering/menu- Ag Ed classroom

HOW/STEPS

Set up website with course details

Track enrollment

Order course handbooks and materials

Set menu/create shopping list

Purchase food/drinks

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Scott Leamon will setup the signup website

Our VP will see that shopping lists are created and organize volunteers

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

As of Feb. 20, we had 39 class enrollees, and we went out to order materials and gather needed food/drink items by Feb 19, which met our goal. Unfortunately, 4 people registered but failed to attend.

# **Summary**

### Advancing Agriculture:

### **PURPOSE**

Research shows that both non-fatal injuries and even the fatal hunting incidents that occur yearly are preventable. With many local youth interested in hunting and wildlife, our chapter worked to make certain that safe practices are followed by offering certification.

#### **BENEFIT**

By providing training for safe handling of firearms and ethical hunting behaviors, both new and expert hunters can enjoy the outdoors with greater confidence, which benefits both agriculturists and local hunters.

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#### Impact:

# **CHAPTER**

The course is an annual event that has benefitted citizens for 10 years. Hosting the class has publicized the chapter and allows for connection with younger students.

# **MEMBER**

In total, 16 members were involved with this activity by helping with setup/cleanup, assisting with meals, and encouraging the event. As students, 2 members completed the course.

AUDIENCE

By completing the course and earning the certification, 36 people are now granted to purchase a hunting license and hunt legally.

# Strengthening Agriculture - Safety



On Feb. 21 and 22, we hosted our Hunter's Education Course for the 10th year. The 35 candidates learned the ethics of hunting, how to safely handle weapons and ammunition, safe hunting habits, and the basics of first aid/survival. They were instructed by four different KDWPT officials. Our members promoted the event, worked to set up stations, and prepared food for participants. Participants were treated to snacks and beverages while they learned about landowner rights and how to be safe while participating in outdoor recreational activities.

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# Strengthening Agriculture - Agricultural Advocacy

# **Advocacy in Action**

Date the Activity was Completed: 3/13/2025

PURPOSE/WHY

Fourteen members traveled to Topeka to advocate for Kansas Ag Ed. Members developed and distributed a flyer that highlighted Ag Ed as well as FFA. Eighty souvenir succulents in blue and gold pots were given to each legislator that was encountered. Members educated legislators on Agriculture Education/FFA and toured the State Capitol.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

By creating and attending this activity, members advocated for agriculture education on the state level. Members communicated effectively with legislators and answered questions. This activity spread awareness and aided in ensuring access to Ag Ed.

#### Goal #1

#### Goal:

S-All 7 chapter officers

M-will work cooperatively to create one informational brochure

A-that promotes the different pathways within our program and chapter

R-to advocate for Agriculture Education

T-prior to March 14, 2025.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Design the brochure

Decide what activities are put on the brochure

Put specific details about each topic

WHERE

Riverton Ag Ed Classroom

HOW/STEPS

Discuss prominent classes/activities in FFA

Decide who will create the brochure

Discuss the main projects in each ag class

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

The chapter Vice President will create the brochure

All officers will share projects from each class

Officers will print out and fold all brochures

#### Outcome: MET

On February 25, the brochures highlighting each Ag Ed pathway and FFA were finished and printed. All officers then spent folded all 100 tri-fold brochures and they were distributed at the Capitol.

# Goal #2

# Goal:

S-All of our members attending the event

M-will work to design 3 different parts of a table top display

A-to showcase each of the different Ag Ed pathways

R-as well as the skills learned from them

T-prior to March 12, 2025.

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#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Members from each ag class will decide the main features of the class

Members will design a tabletop display

The Vice President will design a poster for each class

WHERE

Ag Ed Classroom

Local Print Shop

HOW/STEPS

Decide a theme for each display

Determine main points to highlight

Create necessary posters

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Members will design each display

The Vice President will create all the posters

Members present key points of ag

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

Summarizing the main events from each class, three posters highlighting different pathways of Ag Ed were created. At the event, members set up two tabletop displays to draw in and engage legislators.

#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S-The advocacy in action event

M-will involve at least 12 members who will travel to the state Capitol

A-to discuss their experiences in Ag Ed with legislators

R-to advocate for Agricultural Education

T-on March 12, 2025.

#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Reserve a bus with the USD 404 transportation director

Communicate a departure time

Discuss expectations and etiquette

WHERE

**USD 404** 

Kansas State Capitol building

HOW/STEPS

Reserve a bus

Create a letter involving details of the event

Set up a booth at the Capitol

Communicate with legislators

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Chapter Advisor reserves a bus

Sentinel will create a detailed letter

All members set up a booth and talk with legislators

#### Outcome: EXCEEDED

At the event, 14 chapter members advocated for agriculture education with legislators in Topeka. Repeatedly, they communicated their Ag Ed experiences, its benefits, and the impacts on their future.

# **Summary**

### Advancing Agriculture:

#### **PURPOSE**

Members of the Riverton FFA are exposed to the section of agriculture that takes place in our community. However, most of them have never been exposed to agriculture legislation. This event was put into place to both educate FFA members about the effect they have on agriculture and advocate for Ag Education.

Advocacy in action allowed members to speak and discuss important topics with legislators who directly affect funding for Agriculture Education and CTSO classes in Kansas.

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#### Impact:

# **CHAPTER**

The Riverton FFA was allowed to advocate to expand access to agriculture education and build a positive reputation for the chapter around the state of Kansas.

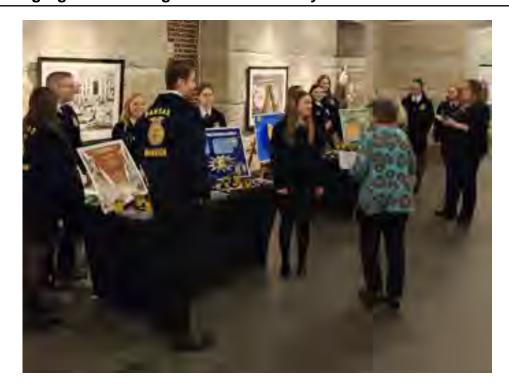
# **MEMBER**

Fourteen members each spent 3 hours talking with legislators and advocating for Agriculture Education. They were able to gain public speaking skills and gain a more extensive understanding of agriculture legislation in Kansas.

# **AUDIENCE**

The 14 members visited with over 100 state leaders about Agricultural Education and FFA.

# Strengthening Agriculture - Agricultural Advocacy



The Advocacy in Action event took place on March 13th. All 14 of our FFA members arrived at the State Capitol at 7am to set up. Throughout the day, members discussed their experiences in FFA and the different Ag Ed pathways. They were able to voice the importance of agriculture education to legislators in order to make a positive impact on CTSO programs in Kansas. Members distributed nearly 100 brochures and 80 souvenir painted clay pots with a succulent planted inside as a constant reminder of the importance of Ag Education and the Kansas FFA.

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# Strengthening Agriculture - Agricultural Literacy

# **Succas for Agriculture**

Date the Activity was Completed: 1/22/2025

PURPOSE/WHY

On January 22, our chapter hosted 27 people from the community in the Ag Ed classroom in order to teach them about horticulture. We had an engaging activity where participants painted three pots, chose two succulent starts, and created their own cuttings to take home in an effort to grow their Agricultural Literacy and appreciation.

#### Related to Quality Standard:

In this hands-on activity, participants created agricultural-themed pots, selected and created a plant cutting, as well as transplanted two succulents of their choice, community members attained an understanding and appreciation for agriculture.

#### Goal #1

#### Goal:

S- Chapter officers will build a Google form and a flyer

M- in order to obtain at least 20 community members

A- who are signed up to participate in the event

R- by posting on Facebook and sharing

T- before January 8, 2025.

# Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Create a Google form sign up sheet for community members

Design flyers to put up around the school for students and staff members to be informed

WHERE

Ag Ed Classroom

RHS commons area

Chapter Facebook

Chapter Instagram

HOW/STEPS

Design a flyer on Canva

Post the flyers around the school

Make a Facebook post

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Sentinel will create the Google form

The Reporter will design the flyer to be posted around the school

# Outcome: EXCEEDED

By using a Google form, we had 27 community members participate in the event, which allowed local citizens to enroll online and provide their experience level and age so we could adequately prepare.

#### Goal #2

#### Goal:

S- In order to have enough materials

M- our chapter will purchase 120 pots and 2 sets of acrylic paint

A- for the community members to use for the event

R- that will then be used to plant succulents

T- prior to January 15th.

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#### Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Determine which size pots and brushes are needed for the event

Complete 5 test pots to determine needed paint supplies

Purchase the correct quantities of pots, paint, and brushes

WHERE

RHS Ag/Ed room

HOW/STEPS

Order materials from Amazon

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

Officers will determine the quantity of supplies to ensure a full supply of necessary items

Our Advisor will purchase the items from Amazon.com to ensure they get here on time

#### Outcome: MET

After reviewing the results of the Google form, chapter leaders met and discussed the quantities of pots, paint, and brushes needed for the event and placed an order in advance of January 15th.

#### Goal #3

#### Goal:

S- Direct 2 of our members to create a detailed agenda for

M- at least 20 community members

A- which provides an engaging agricultural literacy event

R- with multiple hands-on components

T- for over 90 minutes on January 22.

## Plan of Action:

WHAT/TASKS

Set out pots, paint, water cups, paper towels, and paint brushes for community members to use

Creating an agenda to ensure that the event runs as smoothly as possible

WHERE

Ag Ed room

**HOW/STEPS** 

Set out the succulent display in the ag/ed room to make cuttings with

WHO/RESPONSIBILITIES

2 officers will create an agenda to ensure that the event will run smoothly

Our advisor and secretary will move the succulent display into the ag/ed room

#### Outcome: MET

On January 22nd, 27 community members painted and decorated 3 terracotta pots and planted 3 different succulents of their choice while being educated how to care for and propagate various succulents.

#### Summary

# Advancing Agriculture:

#### **PURPOSE**

We were able to promote agriculture to 27 community members around the area by educating them about the process of propagating succulents in order to create a bond with the field of agriculture.

# **BENEFIT**

Community members not only benefitted from taking home the plants, they also gained knowledge on different types of succulents. Local citizens gained knowledge of agriculture through the experience of talking and learning from current FFA members, hopefully instilling a love for plants.

#### Impact:

#### **CHAPTER**

By working with local citizens, the chapter exhibited a more involved role in the community, resulting in greater overall support for FFA.

#### **MEMBER**

Ten members were involved in preparing and executing the event, which developed students' leadership skills and allowed them to be more vocal when talking to people they may not know.

#### **AUDIENCE**

By working hands-on with our FFA members, each community member increased the community's knowledge of plants and deepened their love for agriculture.

# Strengthening Agriculture - Agricultural Literacy





With the dedication of 7 chapter leaders, we were able to host 27 community members in the Succas for Agriculture event, with 3 of them being chapter members. Attendees were able to grow a love and passion for plants and agriculture as they were engaged in hands-on learning which encouraged conversations on agriculture. These new horticulture enthusiasts chose from a variety of previously started succulents and made one cutting of their own from provided plant assortments. Each participant took home 3 custom pots and succulents of their choice.

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- All items must be checked as being met for this application to be acceptable.
- Only computer-generated checks are shown here.

| Item   | Value |
|--|-------|
| An activity is named and described for all 15 quality standards                    | MET   |
| At least 51 points are attained from the Indicators of a high-quality FFA Chapter. | MET   |
| Required electronic signatures and approvals are current and complete.             | MET   |

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