



# 4-H Lead to Change 2022 Report



# Power of the Process

Lead to Change is an enriching continuation of the National 4-H Youth Summit on Agriscience that sparks the interest and ignites the desire and drive to do more within every 4-H'er.

Teens participate in live evaluations with mentors and industry leaders to gain valuable experience and exposure. Selected teams are then given \$2000 to implement their Lead to Change project in their community.

The second round, *Scale for Success* for \$5000, motivates teens to expand their vision and leadership, allowing them to apply for more funding to scale and grow their project, becoming an even larger catalyst for change in their community.



# Summary

As part of the National 4-H Youth Summit series, youth are given the opportunity to continue growing their leadership skills while making positive impact through community projects. Together, with adult mentors, youth teams create and implement Lead to Change (L2C) projects to address a real need in their community and continue their learning experience post-event.

In 2022:

- 19 youth teams submitted L2C projects and underwent a pitching presentation
- 12 projects were selected and awarded \$2000 for implementation
- Of the 12, two teams were then awarded \$5000 for further scaling
- Assets were provided to partners to elevate L2C and highlight their support of these youth-driven community projects



# Impacts of 2022 Lead to Change



*Ohio*  
C.H.A.R.M.S.

Our project is bringing the community together around agriculture, helping make people aware of the food resources in our community and also helping immigrant families overcome the language barriers in accessing these resources.



*Maryland*  
Nurture Natives

We have educated hundreds of individuals on the importance of native species, pollinators, and biodiversity. At our Nurture Natives Giveaway, a local farmer was able to educate dozens of community families about the harmful impacts invasive species have on agriculture.



*Iowa*  
Got Worms?

This helped us teach younger generations about agriculture. Not just about eliminating waste but also correcting misconceptions about ag to create an interest in the field. This has helped bring ag education into high school classrooms and students see the careers in ag and the diversity of the industry.



*Missouri*  
Sustainable Grazing

This experience has been a scary but exciting one. I have wanted to learn more about the different programs in our community. I even wrote an article about the National 4-H Agriscience Summit for my school newspaper! I wanted to inform others about my experience, help 4-H grow locally and help youth like myself become active in agriculture.



# Impacts of 2022 Lead to Change



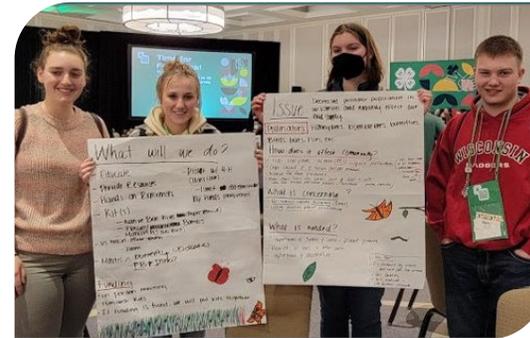
## *Iowa* Farm to Fork

The National 4-H Youth Summit on Agriscience and my Lead to Change project has helped me determine how I've wanted to pursue a job in agriculture. A few of the jobs in agriculture I am interested in are ag educator, animal nutritionist, or a vet tech.



## *Iowa* Find your Future in Ag

To help youth understand the wide scope of careers in agriculture, teens hosted an event called Find Your Future in Agriculture career fair in Harrison County with agricultural professionals to help engage and educate with youth about different agricultural industries.



## *Wisconsin* Bugging Out

This experience has impacted my future goals related to ag career exploration in many ways. Not only did I learn more about the multitude of careers in ag, such as the variety of jobs in government agencies like the FDA and USDA, but also being a 4-H educator.



## *Louisiana* Coastal Restoration

The biggest takeaway I have is understanding what is going on around me. Before, I would never attempt to understand what is happening around me. Now I'm always seeking opportunities to learn more! Louisiana is my home and I want to see the entire state thrive. It starts with us the next generation of leaders.



# Impacts of 2022 Lead to Change



*North Carolina*  
The Reality of Ag

This experience has shown us the impact agriculture has, how important it is for future generations and the role it plays in our food systems. This project got me excited and thinking about ways to elevate ag in our community.



*Ohio*  
Local Ag Businesses

By working with and speaking to other community members, we have found that our programs and activities help their businesses. This experience showed me that you can make the best better.



*Massachusetts*  
Lots to Plots

This entire experience has given me more drive to do this work. It's sad to see how disconnected teenagers are from their food sources. The best part of teaching the workshops was seeing the other kids have fun or have a lightbulb moment when they kind of understood why we're doing this.



*Iowa*  
Composting in Iowa

Teaching others about composting wasn't as hard as I initially thought it would be. I discovered that I'm comfortable leading others and taking charge of projects, I feel like I embraced leading my peers and look forward to teaching more people about the benefits of composting.





# Scaling for Success Winners



# Nurture Natives

University of Maryland

[Video Submission](#)

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The Nurture Natives team have successfully built relationships in their community and demonstrated real leadership. They used every opportunity to educate residents on invasive and native plants, while providing resources like guides and seedlings to support pollinators and local biodiversity.

They will continue to expand their reach and hope to engage close to 1,000 individuals, bridging the gap even further between residents and the local food and ag industry.

*"Through the 4-H Agriscience Summit and Nurture Natives, I have become largely aware of the remarkable difference youth can make. In the last year, I have become passionate about advocating for positive change in my community."*



**Nurture Natives**  
A Guide to Invasive Species and their Native Look-Alikes  
Abigail Bonney | Esther Bonney | Samantha Rutherford  
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

**Bradford Pear**  
←  
• This species is invasive and highly aggressive, yet has become a favorite in our area  
• This tree has a serious structural issue and often falls apart after only 15 years due to weak branches growing from the same section of the trunk  
• The flowers emit a smell of "rotting fish" to attract flies  
• Can develop up to 3" thorns and dense, thorny thickets that choke out native plants

**Serviceberry**  
←  
• A hearty species with beautiful spring blossoms, the nectar, pollen, and fruit of the Serviceberry attract a variety of pollinators including honey bees, woodpeckers, foxes, chipmunks, and white-footed mice  
• Provides food to over 20 species of caterpillars and moths  
• The blueberry-like fruit serve as a delicious Summer snack

**Native Alternative**



# C.H.A.R.M.S

Ohio State University  
[Video Submission](#)

After identifying a real need in their community, the students in the team have grown in leadership and champions for various immigrant communities. Their enthusiasm for the work has shined through and the teens are now true advocates for agriculture and food security, becoming involved in various organizations.

They will continue to expand their work with OSU to map assets like community gardens, translate the information into more languages, and provide 4-H access points via smartphones further empowering residents.

*"Going to the 4-H Youth Summit on Agriscience and our Lead to Change project work has led me to explore my options in agribusiness. I now want to organize ag businesses in the future, and actively work toward the changes I want to see in my community."*





NATIONAL 4-H  
COUNCIL

**THANK YOU!**

