

Michigan 4-H Veterinary Science Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop February 19-20, 2016

Audience

This workshop was open to teen (aged 13 and older) and adult leaders interested in veterinary science and exploring animal systems while learning about animal health for a broad array of animal species. 170 total participants attended - 30 males and 140 females representing 35 counties. 104 youth participated along with 66 adults. Youth who were not current 4-H members were also participants. 80% of youth survey respondents indicated they had been active in 4-H three or more years.

Funding

Sponsorship was made possible by GreenStone Farm Credit Services and by generous donations to the Michigan 4-H Foundation. There was also a \$58.00 participant fee.

Objectives

This conference is designed to:

- To present new ideas, activities and approaches to the 4-H Veterinary Science Program.
- Teach skills in areas of veterinary medicine and management.
- To give workshop participants opportunities to explore new ideas in-depth and get a "hands-on" experience.

Description

Participants had 10 contact hours with 4 MSU faculty along with 7 MSU College of Veterinary Medicine students and 5 industry representatives and other volunteer resource people.

The attendees spent two days exploring ideas, research and hands-on activities relating to veterinary science. Youth and adult participants were given the opportunity to attend a variety of sessions including: Real Situations in Veterinary Medicine; Necropsy; Hot Topic: Antibiotics; Parasite Palooza: Helpful or Harmful creepy crawlies; Bovine Reproductive Technologies and Artificial Insemination; Outbreak; Equine First Aid and Emergency; Biosecurity and impact on animal health; Wanderlust and Travel Bugs: Go study abroad; Birthing Difficulties for Large Animals; Equine Surgeries; Clinical Canine and Feline Genetics; and Becoming the veterinarian: How to crack the case.

Attendees were also able to engage in a panel discussion called, "Ask the Vet and Veterinary Students" with 14 panel participants.

Impacts

79 youth participants completed the evaluation representing 76% of the youth workshop attendees. The following percentages indicate youth responses:

- 96% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were more knowledgeable about veterinary science as a result of the workshop.
- 92% said after the event, they felt more knowledgeable about entrepreneurship and career opportunities they can pursue in science-related fields.
- 93% plan on applying the science knowledge and skills from this workshop.
- 100% indicated they are aware of the science skilled learned through the workshop.
- 99% indicated they can identify the science learned through the workshop.
- 94% indicated that after this training they have a plan for reaching their goals.

Participant Comments

"This program was beneficial because I got to learn about a lot of new topics in a short amount of time, all of which interested me."

~ Oakland County Youth

"It made me more confident about wanting to become a vet and I will use the skills I have learned this week."

~ Lenawee County Youth

"This workshop has reinforced my decision to follow my passion through veterinary medicine."

~ Montmorency County Youth

"It helped me learn more about the science that goes into agriculture."

~ Oceana County Youth

"It was very interesting and the vets and vet students are wonderful about answering questions and interacting with the youth."

~ Osceola County Volunteer

"I love to see the teens learning about science, learning to ask questions, think about many possibilities and learning to problem solve." ~ Ottawa County Volunteer

Contact Information

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