

## For Immediate Release

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### **St. Louis County 4-H Youth Attend the National 4-H Youth Summit on Agri-Science in Washington, D.C.**

*Hands-on learning experience prepared youth to develop an action plan to address local challenge.*

*St. Louis, Missouri*—With increased challenges facing our communities and the agriculture industry, it is essential to design youth-driven programs dedicated to identifying ways to improve health, agriculture, and food. Thirteen local innovators of tomorrow, Candace Betts, Bianca Bowser, Benjamin Brandt, Kaitlynn Foster, Rachel Fry, Abi Gorline, Mia Hoormann, Isabella Karanja, Drachen Koester, Anna Loucks, Samantha Ott, Olivia Pfeiffer, and Anushka Ramgounda, recently got the chance to hone his or her agri-science skills at the National Youth Summit on Agri-Science in Washington, D.C.

For three dynamically engaging days, the 4-H'ers participated in a variety of sessions on topics focused around precision agriculture, food and health, animal science, wildlife biology, bio based products, and bioenergy. With support from industry leaders, youth had the opportunity to not only build skills and knowledge, but also explore careers in the agri-science industry.

The youth also developed a community action plan to implement throughout the year to raise awareness about a social issue and make an impact in their community. One teen reflected, "I learned that we need to be proactive and get others involved. The impact is far greater if we influence others to take steps to change the community." The youth in St. Louis will be focusing on the issues of food insecurity, waste reduction, and animal care.

Bayer, the CHS Foundation, and ADM sponsored the 2019 National 4-H Youth Summit on Agri-Science.

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### **About 4-H**

4-H, the nation's largest youth development organization, grows confident young people who are empowered for life today, and prepared for a career tomorrow. These programs empower nearly six million young people across the U.S. through experiences that develop critical life skills. It is the youth development program of our nation's Cooperative Extension System and USDA, which serves every county and parish in the U.S. through a network of 110 public universities and more than 3,000 local Extension offices. Globally, 4-H collaborates with independent programs to empower one million youth in 50 countries. Youth who have participated in 4-H are four times more likely to contribute to their communities, two times more likely to make healthier choices, two times more likely to be civically active, and two times more likely to participate in STEM programs.

Learn more about 4-H at [www.4-H.org](http://www.4-H.org). Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/4-H](http://www.facebook.com/4-H). Follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/4H>.