



## 2016 MG PUB Grant Final Project Report

MG PUB Grant Proposal Number: **2016193**

Proposal Title: **Providing Program Incentives that Enhance the Education and Development of Maryland Youth Enrolled in FFA Agricultural Education Programs.**

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Maryland FFA members were once again actively involved in a variety of career and leadership development activities during the 2016 project year. Members learned by doing through participation in 85 competitive Career Development Events (CDE'S) in addition to several individual proficiency based award areas.

CDE Event Level:	State/M-Reg	Region "Big E"	National FFA	Nat Hort Veg	Nat OK Land	Total
Number of CDE Events	43	13	27	1	1	85

Four hundred eighteen FFA members, representing 40 Chapters, participated in CDE events at the 2016 FFA State Convention held at the Maritime Institute Conference Center, Linthicum Heights, Maryland. The addition of other Chapter Members, Alumni, CDE Judges, Past State Officers, Parents and Guests increased Convention participation to 630. Of those winning State events, forty nine FFA members in all, representing 13 Chapters, traveled to the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Massachusetts, to participate in two days of Regional activities. At the Eastern States Exposition, FFA Students participated in 13 CDE events. Two FFA members participated in the Regional Stars program.

Two hundred thirteen Maryland FFA members, advisors, alumni and chaperones attended the FFA National Convention this year. In the national CDE competition Maryland had six Teams receive Gold. Five Teams received Silver recognition. Six Maryland students participated in the Ag Science Fair. One Team received Gold recognition and 2 Teams received Silver. Nine State Proficiency Award winners were submitted to National. During the National Convention, 26 Maryland students from 14 Chapters were awarded the American Agriculturalist Degree, the highest degree that can be awarded to an active member. This degree is achieved by having a strong Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) project. SAE is an outside of the classroom project designed to help students prepare for a career in Agriculture by applying their classroom learning to their own entrepreneurial efforts or when working within an established agribusiness.

The Maryland State FFA Officers conducted 5 regional leadership workshops for Maryland FFA members in the month November. Five hundred nineteen FFA Members, from 34 Chapters, and 48 Advisors were in attendance for leadership training. A Chapter Officer Leadership Conference was also held in October. Nineteen Chapters participated. One hundred twelve Chapter Officers and 25 Advisors/Chaperones attended.

Maryland had 6 National FFA Scholarship Program Recipients this year. The scholarships totaled \$13,500. Two "Career Pathways" Grants and one "Food for All" Grant was awarded to 3 Maryland Chapters by the National FFA Organization.

The 2016 MG PUB Grant was used to support and grow the educational and leadership experiences of Maryland FFA students. MG PUB's sponsorship of National Team Support for State CDE Winners reduces the student's cost of representing Maryland at the Region and/or National level. Recognition of MG PUB's National Team support is allocated to the sponsorship of: Agricultural Issues Forum, Agronomy, and Agri-science Fair (Plant Systems - Team Division). Using MG PUB funds to help students with financial needs participate in FFA program opportunities was continued again this year. These funds are used in the form of scholarships or grants. Student applications for the scholarship or grant are designed to document financial need and their local FFA participation and achievement. This

supportive activity helped students attend the 2016 State and National Convention and is well received by FFA Chapter Advisors.

FFA Membership increased this year. There are now 48 Maryland FFA Chapters and approximately 2,460 FFA members in Maryland. Our continued growth is attributed to the development of a strong FFA program, thanks to strong agricultural industry support. MGPIB is a leader in this effort.

<b>MGPIB</b>	<b>State Level</b>		<b>National Level</b>	
	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Individuals</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Individuals</u>
<u>National Convention Team Support</u>				
Ag Issues Forum	3	17	1	4
Agronomy	12	62	1	4
Agri-Science Fair (Plant Systems) - Team	3	13	2	4
<u>Leadership Development Sponsorship</u>				
State Convention & Leadership Workshops				
Speakers & Workshop Leaders	xx	631		
Convention & CDE Facilities & Supplies	190	556		
Convention Breakfast Sponsor	xx	480		
FFA Student Participation Scholarships		5		1

MGPIB's sponsorship of motivational speakers and workshop presenters has assured an excellent State Convention and highly successful leadership workshops for Chapter members throughout Maryland. FFA students greatly benefit from such leadership events where they experience opportunities for new thoughts, ideas and formal leadership skill training.

MGPIB is recognized throughout the year for their Maryland FFA support. Annually sponsors and partners are listed in all State Convention and Leadership Event programs and recognized in news releases. MGPIB is currently listed as a **Silver Three Star Partner** on FFA Foundation information pieces annually distributed at their exhibit at the State FFA Convention, Annual Farm Bureau Convention, MGPIB Commodity Classic and other selected events throughout the state. Maryland attendees at the National FFA Convention also received a listing of Maryland Sponsors of State and National activities.