

# Ohio FCCLA September News Brief

With the beginning of the school year comes the beginning of an exciting new year with FCCLA! Already, awesome things are popping up for Ohio FCCLA. Fall Leadership Camp is October 17-18! Fall Leadership Camp is perfect for new members ready to learn the ropes of our organization and a great opportunity for veteran's to learn more and have fun. The State Executive Council has a wonderful time planned for you filled with educational, engaging workshops covering subjects from Public Relations to State Officership to our new partnership with UGive! We are excited to introduce the new Track program which will take the place of the Steps that some of you may remember. This camp experience is complete down to the campfires and games! We hope you can join us! Talk to your advisor about this wonderful weekend! Also, Capitol Leadership is coming up October 9-12. Don't forget to register if you haven't already!

Also, the time is coming for you to start exploring STAR events! March will approach faster than you think! Take a look at some of our favorite STAR events with insight from someone who has participated in it before!

## **Applied Technology-**

### **Erin Short, Vice President of Membership**

“The STAR Event that I participated in this year was Applied Technology. This STAR Event is a team or individual event. I completed this event with two of my friends. We designed a slide show that could be used by teachers in their class rooms in order to recruit new members at our school. When we competed at state we did not take a projector or a screen to show the slide show, the laptop was the only device that we brought to show the slides. The judges recommended that we use more technology. So my advice to you is to try to fit in as much technology as you possibly can.”

## **Advocacy-**

### **Lindsey Schneider, Vice President of Public Relations**

The STAR event Advocacy is a wonderful project to pursue if you are passionate about an issue in your community or a growing issue at the state or national level. For me, it was childhood obesity. When two of my equally passionate friends learned about this new STAR event that helps you to take an issue and make a difference through FCCLA, we knew it was for us. Our Morning Madness dance video was a hands-on way for 2nd and 3rd graders at our school to get a little extra activity and wake up their minds at the beginning of the school day, and our educational assembly gave them the tools they needed to make informed decisions about their health. Advocacy gives you an opportunity to structure a plan to help resolve problems that we face in our community, state, or country. In this project you execute an on-going service learning project and make a portfolio about your experience including key elements such as target audience profile, issue type, media involvement, etc. You also prepare and deliver an oral speech using your portfolio as a guide and complete a case study. Advocacy is the ultimate way to explore opportunities and make a difference!

## **Career Investigation-**

### **Natalie Shoen, State Corresponding Secretary**

"When I participated in Career Investigation two years ago, it really helped figure out my strengths and weaknesses. This is a great STAR Event for members who don't really know what they want to do in the future. For Career Investigation, you take a lot of self-assessments, choose a career that you either: a) match by the results of your self-assessments or b) are really interested in from before, research the career chosen, do a job shadowing or "mentorship" with someone in the profession, and reflect on the project. Of course, everything is planned through the FCCLA Planning Process and I really recommend that you know this process really well. I had a great time not only learning about my own personal interests and "personality" but about a career that I now wish to pursue."

## **Chapter Showcase Display-** **Victoria Bruns, State President**

My favorite STAR Event, and the event that I have now competed in and advanced to National Leadership Conference for three years now is Chapter Showcase Display. In this STAR event students develop a program of work (a timeline) of all of their chapter's activities for the school year. They complete the program of work as well as the FCCLA planning process and categorize all chapter activities within 8 different categories. Some of these categories include public relations, state and national programs, chapter finances, and the list goes on. This is a STAR Event that will keep you updated on what your chapter is doing, some of the activities you might not have known they ever even did! Through competing in this STAR Event, I became more involved in FCCLA and aware of all the hard work and planning that is dedicated to all of my chapter's activities. This STAR Event also has a lot of room for creativity! Which is another reason why I enjoy competing in Chapter Showcase Display.

## **National Programs in Action-** **Amanda Meyer, Vice President of National Programs**

This past year, I competed in the STAR Event, National Programs in Action with one of my classmates. I focused on the National Program, Community Service. Our project was based around giving children with both physical and mental disabilities social opportunities by interacting with a consistent group of caring teenagers. This was made possible with the help of local daycare for children with these challenges. This local center sent out a survey and found that it is harder for families that have disabled children to find babysitters than an average family. This daycare had a monthly program called Parents' Night Out. Parents' Night Out provides free childcare for the first Saturday of each month for five hours for the families that have children with disabilities.

Each month, my STAR Event partner and I would gather a group of our chapter's members to help babysit for these children. While volunteering there, we helped with the many activities the center would have planned for the night. We went with the children bowling, to a pumpkin patch, to see Santa Clause, sit around a campfire, and many other activities. When we saw how much these activities helped engage children in social opportunities, we wanted to start planning the activities. In December, we planned out all of the activities for the night. These included playing Winter Bingo, decorating a Christmas tree, watching the Polar Express, and coloring winter pictures. We also held an "indoor snowball fight" in which we made "snowballs" out of yarn and gathered the children in the daycare's gymnasium.

While completing this project, my chapter and I gained so much experience with being patient. We also saw the impact we had on so many families, which brought families closer. After our project, members of our chapter began to understand how much volunteering and getting involved with service learning can really positively impact a community. Overall, our chapter donated 235 volunteer hours to the center. This was the most incredible project and experience I've ever had in FCCLA and I hope you are considering completing a STAR Event in this category!

## **“Just a few tips for any STAR Event competitors that I have learned over the past few years:**

1. Don't Procrastinate! An idea that you could do to keep working on your STAR Event throughout the year is to outline what you want to have accomplished each week at the beginning of the year. March will be here before you know it!
2. Pick a topic or STAR Event that interests you. If you are passionate about something, you are more likely to put more effort and time toward it. Which means even bigger results!
3. REHEARSE! REHEARSE! REHEARSE! For some, speaking in front of people can make them very nervous. For others, not as much. Either way, rehearsing is very helpful. I also suggest presenting to your adviser or another member as your "judge" with the score sheets and rubrics available in the STAR Events manual.
4. Probably one of the most important things to remember: Your service and work that you dedicated to your STAR Event and Service Learning project is not always reflected on your rating at competition. All projects and activities that members complete in STAR Events has made a difference and an impact, and that is what truly matters. Bronze, Silver, and Gold medals aren't the most important thing. It is knowing that you have made a difference in someone else's life and gained skills and knowledge in your own that you will carry with you for the rest of your life.”

**~Victoria Bruns, State President**