

UNITED WAY OF THE OHIO VALLEY
OHIO COUNTY
PARTNER AGENCY: OHIO COUNTY 4-H

OHIO COUNTY YOUTH AG DAYS - Agricultural literacy includes an understanding of agriculture's history and current economic, social and environmental significance to all students. This understanding includes knowledge of food and fiber production, careers, processing and marketing. The objective for the Ohio County Youth Ag Days was to expose our youth to the real world of agriculture and provide them with the opportunity to learn about careers, agriculture production, technology and research in agriculture. Four hundred fourth grade students from 6 elementary schools sat in combines, interacted with farm animals, learned about soils, water pollution, forest products, crop technology, how insects affect our food production, how various foods they eat are made from agriculture products, technology that impacts our food chain, and careers in agriculture. It was all part of Ohio County 4-H's 19th annual Agriculture field day at a local farm. Twenty-five presenters at the field day exposed students to the many career opportunities they can pursue in life. The students discovered there are lots of ways to become involved with today's agriculture community through careers in nutrition, education, business, research, technology, conservation and much more. Surveys indicated that 81% of the youth participating do not live on a farm. In a pre-survey: most youth believe that agriculture will be less important as the population grows. Post Survey: Youth now know that agriculture touches their lives every day with food and other Agriculture related products.

4th Grade Teacher - "My students understood that agriculture is much more than farming. This educational experience has been used at our school for program review assessment. The students chose a career in agriculture and wrote a portfolio piece on the experience." "Agriculture is too important a topic to be taught to only a small percentage of students considering careers in agriculture and pursuing vocational agriculture studies" –Community Leader. The backbone of today's agriculture is science, technology and business. Informed citizens will be able to participate in establishing the policies that will support a competitive agriculture industry in this country and abroad.

WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL YOUR INVESTMENT MAKE?

With your investment of \$100 **Ohio County 4-H** can:

- Provide ½ Scholarship for economically disadvantaged youth
- Provide \$100 Scholarships to develop Teen Leadership skills
- Provide two \$50 Scholarships to attend
- Provide training opportunities that will benefit our youth
- Purchase curriculum, ribbons and trophies for youth
- Provide Judging Team training materials for 2016 KY State Fair competition

