



## Michigan 4-H Veterinary Science Teen and Adult Leaders Workshop February 27-28, 2015

### 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. 168 total participants attended - 19 males and 149 females representing 35 counties. 99 youth participated along with 69 adults. 68% of the evaluation respondents were first-time participants.

### Funding

Sponsorship was made possible by GreenStone Farm Credit Services and by generous donations to the Michigan 4-H Foundation. There was also a \$61.25 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 conference 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 9 MSU College of Veterinary Medicine students and 8 industry representatives and other volunteer resource people.

The attendees spent 2 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, Science, Animals, Medicine and YOU! (SAMY): First Aid and Avoiding Poisonous Plants; Dissection: What is that sheep organ?; Practical Approach to directly Impact Cattle Welfare; Financing Your Vet School Career; Equine Sports Massage Therapy; SAMY: Zoonosis: Becoming a Disease Detective; Grossology; Rabbit Health; Mystery at the Cattle Ranch: Investigating Herd Outbreaks; 4-H Life Skills: Hands On, Minds On; and Canine Sports Massage Therapy.

Attendees were also able to engage in a panel discussion called, Ask the Vet and Veterinary Students, with 13 panel participants.

### Impacts

122 participants completed the evaluation representing 73% of the workshop attendees.

- 97% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were more knowledgeable about veterinary science.
- 92% said they felt more knowledgeable about entrepreneurship and career opportunities for youth to pursue in science related fields.
- 96% plan on applying the science knowledge and skills from this workshop.
- 86% indicated that this training helped them understand how to teach youth using a hands-on “learning-by-doing” approach.
- 89% indicated that after this training they understood how to teach youth using an inquiry “question-asking” approach.

### Participant Comments

“I feel that this was very beneficial. It is great to be able to meet other peers from all over the state along with veterinary students and veterinarians from MSU. Getting to know all these people and learn about many different topics makes this a great experience .”

~ Washtenaw County Youth

“I have learned an intense amount of information in the past two days. I hope to continue to attend programs like this in the future .”

~ Huron County Youth

“This 4-H workshop was extremely beneficial because I learned a lot about other opportunities in the veterinary science career field. This has been a very fun workshop and I am looking forward to coming back next year.”

~ Van Buren County Youth

“We always learn something different every visit. It’s good to have a variety of vet students to teach us their knowledge and experiences.”

~ Monroe County Volunteer

### Contact Information

Julie Thelen  
MSU Extension Educator  
4-H Livestock and Veterinary Science  
Phone: 517-432-1626  
Email: [thelenju@anr.msu.edu](mailto:thelenju@anr.msu.edu)