

Building Communities - Activity 1 - Citizenship

Hometown Heroes Cookout

+2/2 WHAT: As an appreciation cookout, FFA members grilled BBQ chicken sandwiches for first responders and took time to wash their emergency vehicles. WHY: To help strengthen the relationship between first responders and FFA members, helping develop a bond with these vital community stakeholders and establish new partnerships.

Goal #1

+3/3 **Goal:** (who) FFA members will wash 15 emergency vehicles and feed over 50 first responders (when) at the cookout on September 23rd.

+ 2.5/3 **Plan of Action:** (who) FFA members (what) will wash cars and grill food for first responders (where) at the corner of the Madisonville Police and Fire Depts. (how-implement) Members will seek permission to host the event and gather supplies. (how-accomplish) Members will be separated into small groups - 8 with police, 8 with fire, 5 at grills. Responders will be invited to bring their emergency vehicle to the wash stations, directed to the picnic area for food. * WHO MAKES SUPPLY LIST?

+ 1/1 **Outcome: EXCEEDED** 21 members attended, washing 16 emergency vehicles: 11 police cars, 5 fire department vehicles. 68 first responders were fed including EMS, Fire Fighters, Madisonville Police, and Sheriff Officers.

Goal #2

+ 3/3 **Goal:** (who) FFA Officers will obtain 200 plates worth of food donations (when) by the cookout on September 23rd.

+ 2.5/3 **Plan of Action:** (who) FFA Officers (what) will approach different businesses about food donations (where) throughout Madisonville. (how-implement) Students will determine what businesses to seek out, dividing up what officers will contact which businesses. (how-accomplish) Due to COVID, students will call before visiting and discuss the meaning of the event. If able, they will setup the pickup of any donations prior to the cookout and write thank-you cards.

+ 1/1 **Outcome: UNMET** 200 chicken breasts were donated by Purdue, 240 sodas donated by Dr. Pepper, 150 desserts donated by parents. We were unable to get chips or buns donated, however we have new donors to ask next year.

Goal #3

+ 3/3 **Goal:** (who) FFA Officers will create a first responders appreciation video (when) by September 30th that receives 2000 views on social media.

+ 3/3 **Plan of Action:** (who) Officers (what) will create a video showing appreciation to first responders (where) at the different first responder posts. (how-implement) Officers will write a script, film, and upload to Facebook. (how-accomplish) Officers will go to the posts to record their sections of the video, working with the PR rep of each group. After filming, they will splice together clips and share on social media. Views will be counted to assess the goal.

+ 1/1 **Outcome: EXCEEDED** FFA Officers created a video by September 25th, receiving 4.2K views on Facebook with 44 shares. To further this in future years, professional mics will be purchased so it can be sent to the news.

Summary

+ 4/6 **Advancing Community:** PURPOSE: This event was intended to show appreciation for first responders, while also allowing our members to give back to our community. BENEFIT: Many people never get the chance to interact with this group of individuals unless in a time of urgency. Hosting this event allowed our members to build a stronger relationship with these unsung heroes, while also experiencing the pride of giving back to worthy groups in our town. This also allowed these heroes to know they have support from our FFA.

+ 5/6 **Impact:** In today's climate it is more important than ever for today's youth to have positive, first-person interactions with first responders. This event gave an opportunity for 21 youth to interact with 68 policemen, firefighters, and EMS - in a setting that allowed mutual appreciation for one another. Our video served as a reminder to our community to take a moment and give thanks to our hometown heroes. Seeking out food donations also allowed local businesses to show their appreciation.

+ 3/4 **Related to Quality Standard:** When giving back to the community, our program hopes each attempt is one that truly connects members to worthwhile groups. Here our members were able to engage within the community, exposing them to groups they can become active with in the future.



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The Hometown Heroes Cookout allowed our members to give thanks to our local police, firefighters, and EMS. Students were able to wash 10 emergency vehicles as they connected with 68 first responders over BBQ chicken sandwiches. We worked with local businesses to help secure food for the event, allowing these business to also show their appreciation. A tribute video was made to further extend our support of these groups throughout the community, being watched 4.2k times on Facebook. Shirts were also made to help commemorate the event.

+3/3

- * GOALS CLEARLY STATE "WHO" + "WHEN"
- * ADVANCING COMMUNITY HAS NO TANGIBLE CONTENT TO SUPPORT CLAIMS
- * ACTION PLAN GIVES UNDERSTANDABLE STEPS
- * IMPACT DOES NOT HIGHLIGHT MEASURABLE SUCCESS

40/45

