

CATAWBA TEENS ATTEND NORTH CAROLINA CITIZENSHIP FOCUS

A delegation of high school students representing the Catawba County Youth Council and 4-H attended NC Citizenship Focus, which was held in Raleigh, North Carolina. The Catawba County delegation returned home from three days in which more than 200 youth and adults representing over 75 counties across the state gathered to exchange ideas, gain knowledge and learn through hands on experiences about the different levels and branches of government.



Conference delegates were (left to right) Mia Gore, Barbara McAnulty, Darby Monsam, Andrew Beard, Shivam Desai, and Sarahi Robles.

Teens representing Catawba County at the conference were:

Shivam Desai and Sarahi Robles from Newton-Conover High School, Andrew Beard and Darby Monsam from Bandys High School, Mia Gore from Fred T. Foard High School and Barbara McAnulty, student at Hickory High and 4-H representative. Through various conference sessions and facilitated discussions, delegates learned and shared information related to local, state and national government as well as participated in budget simulation sessions and learned how to be active in the area of citizenship. Delegates also worked with their county 4-H Agent to develop an action plan based on a local need in their community to implement upon returning home from the conference. McAnulty will work on an action plan based on displaying the flag in public locations and the Youth Council delegates developed a plan addressing positive out-of-school activities for teens.

The highlight of the conference was the Legislative Breakfast where delegates had a chance to meet and have photos taken with their elected officials. Following the breakfast, delegates traveled to the Legislative Building in Raleigh to meet with their elected officials and their staff.

4-H Citizenship North Carolina Focus is sponsored by North Carolina's Electric Cooperatives – Touchstone Energy. North Carolina 4-H is Cooperative Extension's youth development program.

For more information on Citizenship Focus or the Catawba County Youth Council, contact Donna Mull, 4-H Agent and Youth Council Advisor, at Cooperative Extension at 465-8240 or donna_mull@ncsu.edu. The Youth Council focuses on leadership, citizenship, and volunteerism and involved 30 high school-age youth representing each public high school and community organizations.