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For Immediate Release

Union 4-H'ers Help Turning Point and the Elderly in the County

October 12, 2012, Monroe, NC – Five Union County 4-Hers, William Alt, Alexander Bannister, Catherine DeBerry, Jordan Purser and Ian Walsh participated in the North Carolina 4-H Citizenship Focus where 4-H programs across the state gathered to exchange ideas, gain knowledge and learn through hands-on experiences about the different levels and branches of government.

Through various conference sessions and facilitated discussions, delegates learned and shared information related to local, state and national government, 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 Laura Byrd to develop an action plan based on a local need in their community to implement upon returning home from the conference. The plan Union County delegates implemented in July was focused on the 4-H state initiative, Hungry to Help. The youth were awarded a \$500 grant to assist in feeding needy populations within the county. The 4-Hers donated this money to Turning Point Domestic Violence for food purchases.

As part of the action plan, the youth planted a community garden at the Union County Agricultural Center. They partnered with The Council on

Aging to provide any harvested vegetables to seniors in the county. The 4-Hers also partnered with Union County Cooperative Extension to collect food at the Annual Farm City Banquet, the Union County 4-H Fall Festival and with county 4-H clubs. This food is also donated to the seniors recommended by the Council on Aging.

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