

Civic U 4-H Parliamentary Procedure Event

The Situation

North Dakotans lack civic engagement, according to comments citizens shared during community forums that NDSU Extension held in 2015. This lack can hinder the state's continued growth and development. One key component of civic involvement is a basic understanding of parliamentary procedure. It is the foundation of organized decision making and opens doors to engagement in communities.

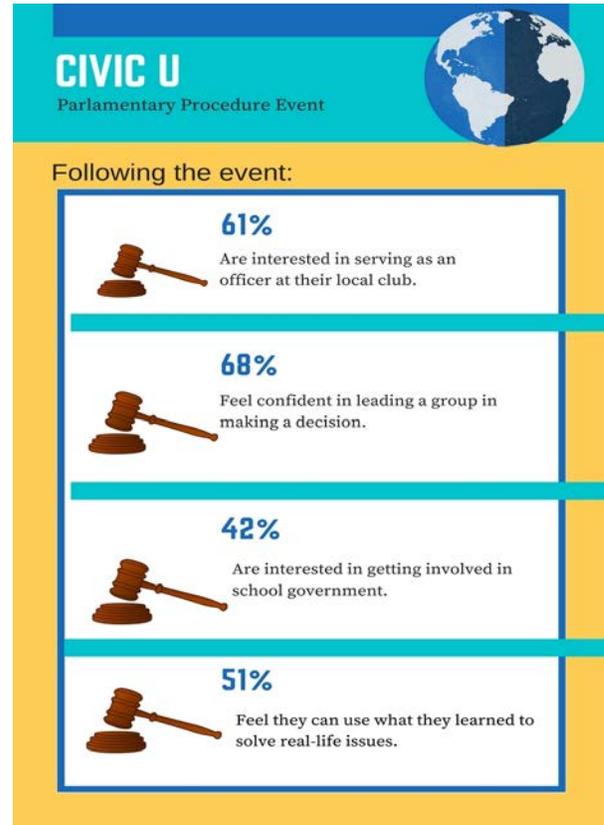
Extension Response

Extension created Civic U, a contest to give 4-H members an opportunity to develop and display their parliamentary procedure skills. Potential participants received a handbook to review prior to the contest. All participants took part in a non-scored quiz bowl before the competition. For the contest, teams had 10 minutes to prepare for a predetermined parliamentary procedure demonstration consisting of two topic areas and eight parliamentary procedure motions. The teams then presented their demonstration before a panel of three judges. The teams were scored on their ability to present the required motions, the discussion on those motions, teamwork and general effect of the demonstration. Participants also took a 25-problem test. An average of the individual scores contributed to the overall team score.

Impacts

Thirty-eight youth participated in the first annual event.

- 82 percent of participants have been involved in 4-H for three or more years.
- 82 percent of participants are involved in 4-H through traditional community clubs.
- 57 percent of participants have been involved in community service projects.



Public Value Statement

Exposing youth to parliamentary procedure will enable them to be more involved in high school organizations, which will help them become leaders in school and eventually their communities.

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