

# Transylvania Teens Participate In State 4-H Congress – Transylvania County NC

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Ashley McBee, Madiera Duckett, and Madison Pulley on their way to a Congress ceremony.

Transylvania 4-H'ers took part in the 2015 [North Carolina](#) 4-H Congress. Held July 18-21, the event brought 518 young people and their leaders to N.C. State University in Raleigh for activities including presentations on a variety of subjects, leadership and citizenship training, a large scale service project, two dances, officer elections and more.

Madiera Duckett participated in the 4-H AIRE competition (Application, Interview, Resume, Essay) and was later in the week installed as the West District Reporter during the annual candlelight service held in Dorton Arena, along with other district and state officers for the 2015-2016 year. She will return to Raleigh next week with her fellow officers for an officer orientation and planning session to set statewide goals for the coming year.

Madison Pulley competed in the state 14-18 year old presentation category, speaking on the topic of teen pregnancy resources. Pulley served as [Transylvania County's](#) voting delegate in the state elections and learned about many more 4-H opportunities and potential projects the 4-H Teen Council might implement this year.

Ashley McBee competed in the 14-18 year old public speaking category at her first 4-H Congress. McBee placed third among the seven state finalists, earning a bronze medal for her speech about the impact that playing volleyball has had on her life.

Bobby Brown competed at the state presentation finals in the Environmental Science category for ages 11-13. Brown earned second place and a silver medal for his presentation "Biomonitoring of Benthic Macroinvertebrates in Davidson River."

Pulley and Duckett also took part in a 4-H community service project on [North Carolina](#) State University's Centennial campus. Equipped with GPS technology and a phone app to record the amount of recyclables and trash collected, the 4-H'ers worked as district teams to clean up green spaces in an "Amazing Race" type of clean-up event. After all of their efforts, more than 800 pounds of trash were collected, including an old tire and shopping cart.

The 4-H Congress event provided many opportunities for delegates to build and renew relationships with teens from other counties. [Transylvania County](#) paired up with Madison County's delegation to enjoy a Chinese meal and see "To Kill a Mockingbird" at the [North Carolina](#) Museum of Art's outdoor movie theater.



Ashley McBee, bronze medal winner of public speaking ages 14-18.

The 4-H program is the youth education program of [NorthCarolina](#) Cooperative Extension, based at [North Carolina](#) State and [North Carolina](#) A&T State universities. More than 232,000 young people between the ages of 5 and 19 participate in [NorthCarolina](#) 4-H activities each year with the help of 20,563 adult and youth volunteers. For more information about getting involved with 4-H, contact the [Transylvania County](#) 4-H Agent, Mary Arnaudin, at 884-3109 or [Mary\\_Arnaudin@ncsu.edu](mailto:Mary_Arnaudin@ncsu.edu).