2017-2018 4-H STEM PROGRAM WORK TEAM ANNUAL REPORT

1. Full name of your Program Work Team (PWT):

4-H Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Program Work Team

2. Please identify your PWT’s greatest accomplishments over the past year.

The 4-H STEM PWT endeavors to connect county 4-H STEM educators with campus resources, and support enhanced and expanded STEM outreach to 4-H youth and community audiences. The major initiatives undertaken during the 2017-2018 program year included 4-H National Youth Science Day Challenge support, 4-H Science Sampler Day for Youth and the 4-H Cornell Campus Connections Crawl for educators.

For the 2017 4-H National Youth Science Day challenge, Incredible Wearables, the PWT purchased and distributed a kits to enable all counties to participate in the national event. The 2018 NYSD Challenge “Code Your World” kits were provided to all counties. In addition to the NYSD kits, this year the PWT purchased a set of youth programmable robots, Spheros, for loan to any educator.

The 4-H Science Sampler for youth was held on the Cornell Campus. Youth from around the state spent a day engaged in 3 workshops of their choosing. Cornell faculty, staff and students presented hands-on activities in a variety of settings.

The Cornell Campus Connections Crawl for educators provided 4-H educators and volunteers opportunities to meet departmental colleagues with STEM content and activities to share. In addition to hands-on workshops, participants shared strategies for adapting external STEM curriculum to meet 4-H youth development goals. A mindfulness botany walk led by Botanical Gardens staff and an introduction to the Climate Change Garden, introduced outdoor resources to educators.

The PWT met in person at the annual NYSACCE4-HE conference and at the Crawl as well as meeting by Zoom for updates and planning. PWT members and leadership also supported the 4-H STEM Library Partnership by connecting audiences with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s “Bird Song Hero” as an activity aligned with the 2018 Summer Reading Program theme of “Libraries Rock.”