

March 2016 Contact: Leslie Gackle, State Adviser

812-243-6720 home/cell

Immediate Release lgackle@hotmail.com

**“INSPIRE” - FCCLA TEENS AT STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

Indianapolis, Indiana – More than 800 Family, Career and Community Leaders of America members, ProStart competitors, advisers, alumni, and guests from around Indiana gathered in Indianapolis, Indiana, February 25-27 for the 2016 Indiana FCCLA State Leadership Conference

Members attended an Opening Session held Thursday evening in which Kelsey Timmerman, keynote speaker, shared the message of “Where Are You Wearing?” and “Where are you eating?” to encourage students to understand the true cost of where our clothing and food comes from. Kelsey is an author, speaker and parent and is from Indiana.

Moreover, attending members donated non-perishable foods items for Leed2Feed, which is the national outreach project. Chapters around the state have been collecting funds and non-perishable foods for this organization and continued that support at the State Leadership Conference.

Besides completing a service project, the members had a chance to compete in Indiana State FCCLA Projects and STAR events. STAR stands for: Students Taking Action with Recognition and the top scorers will have the opportunity to compete at National Leadership Conference in San Diego, CA in July. The State projects and STAR Events allow students to demonstrate skills learned in the classroom, share information about service projects completed, and highlight important events.

On Thursday night and Friday morning students competed in STAR events. Also on Friday was the ProStart Invitational where culinary students competed in teams to showcase the culinary skills they learn in the classroom. Friday morning and afternoon offered a variety of youth sessions designed to help the attending members succeed in their adult lives and included information about traffic safety, teen dating violence, homelessness, tiny homes, nutrition issues and college life.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with family as its central focus. Participation in state programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers and communities.

For more information about FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences, you can visit [www.indianafccla.org](http://www.indianafccla.org) or follow us on Twitter @indianafccla or like us on Facebook at Indiana FCCLA.