



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **FCCLA Unites Youth on Capitol Hill during Capitol Leadership Meeting**

*Youth Leaders Gather to Advocate for Teen Issues with Legislative Representatives*

**Washington, D.C. – November 9, 2017** – Red jackets will soon be filling the halls and lining the steps of the Capitol. Why?

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) will bring over 250 of its student leaders and advisers to Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., this week to participate in FCCLA's Capitol Leadership meeting.

During Capitol Leadership, students will receive training focusing on networking, professionalism, strategic planning, and advocacy around key teen-centered current issues. Students will advocate for Family and Consumer Sciences and Career and Technical Education by showing policymakers how their support for education impacts teens in preparing to be college- and career-ready. An important aspect of Capitol Leadership features today's teens meeting with their representatives to explain the importance of continued support for the Strengthening Career and Technical Education Act, which reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.

Attendees will also hear from panel experts focusing on four specific career pathways: Hospitality and Tourism, Visual Arts and Design, Human Services, and Education and Training. Teen leaders will learn more about the opportunities within these career paths and Family and Consumer Sciences Education. Featured guest speakers and instructors include Jeff Bland, chef with U.S. Foods; Lendrell Martin, technical designer with Ann Taylor; Elisa Kunz, volunteer and youth programs with the National Park Service; and Ashley Nelson, National FCCLA Outreach and Professional Development Manager.

Capitol Leadership is the first of several large gatherings FCCLA will host throughout the 2017-2018 school year to provide similar opportunities to students around the nation.

***For more information on FCCLA or to attend or arrange interviews regarding its Capitol Leadership meeting, please contact Karen Patti at (703) 716-1309 or [kpatti@fcclainc.org](mailto:kpatti@fcclainc.org).***

### **About FCCLA**

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences education. FCCLA has more than 160,000 members and more than 5,400 chapters from 48 state associations, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members, and it's the only career and technical in-school student organization with a central focus on family. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in families, careers, and communities.

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