Making The Connection

2015 Annual Report

Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture
DEAR FRIENDS,

At the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, connections are everything. We link our educational resources to state education standards to make certain they are relevant and useful in classrooms. This year, we are especially pleased to highlight the Nebraska Interactive Map Project, a technology-based resource that connects students with their state through vivid maps of Nebraska rainfall, historic cattle drives, soil types, commodity production and more. Our hands-on lessons help Nebraska youth connect agriculture with the products they use and the food they eat each day.

None of these connections make us prouder than the connections we witness between the people we serve – farm and ranch families and the people of Nebraska. When our students experience a day on a farm and have the opportunity to eat popcorn after seeing it in a field, it cements the farm-to-plate connection in a way a textbook simply cannot. When our farm and ranch volunteers engage in meaningful conversation with Nebraska consumers, they discuss links between science, economics, food and the environment.

Most importantly, though, are the personal connections that make the questions and answers more than facts and figures. Seeing the land through the eyes of the father who will pass his 100-year family farm on to his son and hearing questions with the ears of the mom who wants information to make the best choices for her family, paves the road for positive and productive dialogue.

None of this would be possible without the passionate volunteers and donors who partner with us each day to make certain the future is bright for agriculture and our great state. To this vital connection, we say thank you.

Sincerely,

Megahn Schaefer
Executive Director

Relationships are the very heart of everything we do.
AG IN THE CLASSROOM

More than 15,000 students reached
Nearly 800 teachers participated in pre-service training

NEW RESOURCES

Nebraska Interactive Map
Beef Reader
Beef it Up Curriculum
Science of Soy

“The Ag in the Classroom program equips me with lessons and activities to teach my students that agriculture connects us to our past, develops an appreciation for our present and celebrates with us hope for our future. -Sandy Dorn, fourth grade teacher
2014/2015 AG PEN PAL PROGRAM

OUTREACH EDUCATION

AG PEN PALS
219 connections made between classrooms and farmers/ranchers

FIELD TRIPS
10 ag field trips funded by the Foundation

VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS
42 Skype lessons given to classrooms across Nebraska
Over 1,200 consumers equipped with accurate agriculture information

CONSUMER EDUCATION
SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

STUDENTS
- Charles Marshall Education Loan Fund
  - Kaycee Jo Bartels, Johnson County
  - Renée Holby, Merrick County
  - Justin Michael Jensen, Lancaster County
  - Krista Lynn Satter, Gage County
  - Amber Weese, Dodge County
- County Farm Bureau Scholarships
- Greater Horizon Scholarship
- Keith R. Olson Agricultural Policy Internship Award
  - Miri Biersmann, Lancaster County
  - Kenneth E. Schwartz Memorial Farm Bureau Fund

EDUCATORS
- Nebraska Agriculture Education Student Teacher Scholarship Program
  - Jeremy Eggerling, Milford
  - Wade Overturf, Sutton
  - Catherine Ripp, Kansas
- Nebraska Agriculture Teacher Assistance Scholarship
  - Victoria Armstrong, Maywood Public Schools
  - Jesse Bower, Sutton Public Schools
  - Alisa Copple, Morrill County School District No. 63
  - Elyse Dallam, Laurel-Concord-Coltville School
  - Thomas Dux, Fairbury Public Schools
  - Elizabeth Eastep, Anselmo-McLean Public Schools
  - Taylor Holsay, Ogallala Public Schools
  - Samantha Jensen, Bertrand Community Schools
  - Sarah Knutson, Cornsogga Public Schools
  - Bailey Koba, Tekamah-Herman Schools
  - Stephanie Miller, Heartland Community Schools
  - Andrew Ostert, Lakeview Community Schools
  - Patricia Steen, High Plains Community School
  - Emi Woeppe, Sterling Public Schools
- White-Reinhardt Scholarship to the National Agriculture in Classroom Conference

The hands-on experience that we’re giving students through agriculture education and the leadership component that comes through FFA, are invaluable in helping the leaders of tomorrow. This NFBFA program is helping make sure those opportunities continue to exist.

- Thomas Dux, Fairbury Public Schools
  Nebraska Agriculture Teacher Assistance Scholarship Winner

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR
- Teacher of the Year Award
  - Karen Ashby, Chandler View Elementary
  - Jennifer Zysset, Windy Hills Elementary
- FFA Advisor of the Year Award
  - Jason Speck, Chase County Schools (Imperial FFA Chapter)
  - Jeremy Weis, Chase County Schools (Imperial FFA Chapter)
- Teacher Mini-Grants
  - Allison Bowler, Prescott Elementary - Lincoln
  - Ray Gruene, North Bend Central Public Schools
  - Heidi Neumann, Morton Elementary - Omaha
  - Kevin Altizer, Collins Middle School - Lincoln
- We Support Ag (WSA) Field Trip Grants
  - Jane Grandahl, Thomas Elementary School
  - Sandy Druke, Meadow Lane Elementary School
  - Pam Mitchell, Pawnee City School
  - Kevin Allenberg, Collett Middle School
  - Marilyn Opitz, Jackson Elementary School
  - Sandi Seckel, West Park Elementary School
  - Sherry Loos, Yutan Elementary School
  - Cindy Mertz & Becky Feagan, St. Mary’s Catholic School

Nearly $80,000 awarded to students and teachers

Karen Ashby - Third grade teacher at Chandler View Elementary, Bellevue
Jennifer Zysset - Second grade teacher at Windy Hills Elementary, Kearney
### DISASTER RELIEF FUND

Over $15,000 raised to provide relief to farmers and ranchers affected by tornados.

### FINANCIALS

#### Revenue
- Contributions & Grants: $969,698
- Fundraising Special Events: $69,941
- Investment Income: $(2,938)
- Sales: $1,260
- Interest/Dividend Income: 77

**Total Revenue:** $1,038,038

#### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Services</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ag in the Classroom</td>
<td>$77,076</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ag Promotion &amp; Education</td>
<td>187,826</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disaster Relief Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership Programs</td>
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<td>Scholarships</td>
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<td>Young Farmers &amp; Ranchers</td>
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<td><strong>Program Services Total</strong></td>
<td>752,996</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>170,223</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenses:** $923,219

#### Net Income From Operations

**$114,819**

#### Net Assets

- Unrestricted: $632,787
- Temporarily Restricted: $51,646
- Permanently Restricted: $122,800

**$807,233**
Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture’s mission is to generate financial resources and partnerships to build awareness, understanding, and a positive public perception of agriculture through education and leadership development.