2016 ANNUAL REPORT
GROWING DEEPER ROOTS
As I reflect on my first full year with the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation, I am in awe of all that I have learned. While my assumption that everyone in Nebraska has a basic understanding of agriculture has been soundly debunked, my confidence in the positive impact of our programming has taken root.

The Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom program, established more than 30 years ago, is the well-known and important base of our programming. This year brought sustained demand for teacher resources and training, classroom presentations, project grants, and field trips. Our partnership with the Nebraska Department of Education, and our commitment to address the shortage of Agriculture Education teachers lead to two productive awards – the Student Teacher Scholarship and the Teacher Retention Program. And, for the first time in several years, every open position for an Agriculture Education Teacher in Nebraska was filled by a qualified teacher in 2015-2016.

This was also a year of getting the word out about the importance of agriculture in Nebraska. You may have seen us in print or television news, promoting Ag Day, highlighting teacher training, or discussing the impact of reaching students early with accurate agriculture information. Perhaps you attended a presentation by our volunteer Promotion & Education Committee at the Nebraska State Fair. If you haven’t liked our Facebook page, please do! You will enjoy interesting Farm Fact Friday posts, photos of agriculture literacy events, information about scholarships and awards, and links to free resources.

This report is a brief glimpse of the work completed by a team of employees and volunteers who work each day to make certain all understand the opportunities agriculture provides to each and every Nebraskan. Thank you for your interest, thank you for your support, and please stay tuned. Great things are ahead for agriculture literacy in Nebraska.

Sincerely,

Megahn Schafer
Executive Director

Growing Deeper Roots,

This was a year of getting the word out about the importance of agriculture in Nebraska.
Hi! I’m cowboy Caden. I am ten years old and raise cattle in Nebraska. My mom grew up raising cattle just like her dad (my grandpa) did. I guess you can say I am carrying on the family tradition.

My favorite time of the year is when the cows have their calves. We wait almost ten months for the calf to arrive. The whole time we wonder what color the calf will be, if it is a heifer or a bull, and how much it will weigh. There is nothing more exciting than when one of your cows is having a calf!

We take pride in caring for our animals. We believe meat is better when the animals get good care. We make sure our herd of cattle have plenty of room to roam and grow, clean and fresh water at all times, and a good balanced diet. A herd is a group of cattle.

People do not realize cattle ranching is not a 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. job. There are times of the year when we work around the clock. During calving season, my parents get up at all hours of the night to check on cattle, to help them give birth. During the summer and winter, we do all we can to keep them comfortable. Yes, even in the middle of a blizzard, my parents are hauling hay to our cows and breaking the ice off their water, so they have something to eat and drink.

Taking care of our cattle is more than just a job to us - it is a way of life.

Discover through this Beef Reader why my family takes pride in raising beef for you to enjoy.

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At the University of Nebraska - Kearney we really appreciate that the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation brings agriculture to our students and then, in turn, our students can go promote agriculture in their future classrooms.

- Carrie Kracl, Associate Professor of Teacher Education, UNK
Presented and facilitated presentations and food dialogs throughout the state with over 500 people in attendance

Partnered with key universities & colleges in the state on agriculture literacy efforts on campus

Appeared on statewide TV programs talking about corn planting and classroom activities

Designated Promotion and Education Committee members volunteered at agriculture events across the state and were an educated voice for agriculture in their communities

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN GET INVOLVED!

**Volunteer** in a school, summer camp, fair, or after school program. We can help you with resources to help your volunteering go smoothly.

**Tell Your Story** by blogging, posting, tweeting, and sharing your story with others who may not have a farm background but want to understand everything you’re doing on the farm.

**Promote Agriculture Literacy** by talking to teachers, volunteers, and consumers in your community.

**Make a Donation.** Your support is crucial. Your gifts help make all of our agriculture literacy efforts possible. Thank You!
TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Each year the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation recognizes two outstanding teachers and their innovative approaches to incorporating agriculture into their classroom environment.

My students are engaged in learning about Nebraska’s roles in food and livestock production through the wonderful Ag Pen Pal letters and, we hope, visits that will come about because of this program.

- Anica Brown

A visit to our Ag Pen Pal’s farm made the whole Ag Pen Pal experience come full circle for our students.

- Judi Roach

Four Nebraska teachers attended the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference. From left to right, Judi Roach (2016 Teacher of the Year), Patti Romshek (2014 Teacher of the Year), Kathy Bohac (2014 Teacher of the Year), Courtney Schaardt (Director of Outreach Education), and Anica Brown (2016 Teacher of the Year).
SCHOLARSHIPS

The Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation recognizes those who support agriculture through education, leadership, and engagement. We congratulate the following recipients of scholarships:

Greater Horizon Scholarship
Awarded to students enrolled in a college or university’s agricultural field of study and plan on returning to farming or ranching.
Kailey Conway, Adams County
Cody Henderson, Sioux County
Brandon Nichols, Morrill County

Kenneth E. Schwartz Memorial Scholarship
Awarded through the University of Nebraska Foundation to incoming juniors or seniors at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln majoring in an agriculture or agricultural-related program including agribusiness.
Sarah Morton, Cass County

LEAD Scholarship
Awarded to Farm Bureau members who participate in the Nebraska LEAD program and commit to serving in a leadership role with Farm Bureau upon completion of the program.
Brenda Dutcher, Pawnee County
Shelly Kelly, Lincoln County
Andy Langemeier, Dodge County
Clint Shipman, Nuckolls County
Sye Tecker, Dundy County

Nebraska Agriculture Education Student Teaching Scholarship
Awarded to students enrolled in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Agriculture Education teacher education program.
Kali Bohling, Dodge County
Alexandra Cunningham, Knox County
Katie Husman, Merrick County
Reed Kraeger, Cass County
Miranda Paitz, Kearney/Franklin County
Carrie Summerford, Custer County
Kate Quiring, York County

Nebraska Agriculture Teacher Retention Program
Awarded to Nebraska Agricultural Education teachers in their first through fifth year of teaching.
Victoria Armstrong, Maywood Public Schools
Jessica Bower, Sutton Public Schools
Nicole D’Angelo, Seward High School
Elizabeth Eastep, Anselmo-Merna Public School
Samantha Jensen, Bertrand Community School
Sarah Knutson, Conestoga Public Schools
Stephanie Miller, Heartland Community Schools
Justin Nollette, Sandhills Public Schools
Catherine Ripp, Lakeview Jr.-Sr. High School
Tyler Schindler, Omaha Public Schools
Morgan Schwartz, Stanton Community Schools
Bryan Stoker, Keya Paha County School
Morgan Tausch, Lawrence/Nelson Public Schools

Nebraska Farm Bureau Scholarship
Awarded through the University of Nebraska Foundation to students enrolled in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.
Heather Bentley, Miller, NE
Morgan Eggleston, Arnold, NE
Cheyenne Gerlach, DeWitt, NE
Jennifer Gilbert, Omaha, NE
Justin Shipman, Guide Rock, NE

More than $50,000 was awarded to students and teachers!
The Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation recognizes those who support agriculture through education, leadership, and engagement.

We congratulate the following recipients of grants and awards:

**GRANTS**

**Classroom Mini-Grants**
Awarded to classroom programs that promote agriculture literacy.

- Alison Bowder, Prescott Elementary School
- Bev Grueber, North Bend Central Elementary
- Jane Gundvaldson, Thomas Elementary School

**We Support Ag (WSA) Field Trip Grants**
Awarded to classrooms that want to connect their class to where their food, fiber, and fuel come from with field trips to Nebraska farms and ranches.

- Kevin Atterberg, Culler Middle School
- Carolyn Dolezal, St. Peter’s Catholic School
- Sandy Dorn, Meadowlane Elementary School
- Angela Holdren, King Elementary School
- Sherry Loos, Yutan Elementary School
- Pam Mitchell, Pawnee City Elementary School
- Sascha Perry, Skinner Magnet Elementary School
- Becky Senters, Roper Elementary School

**AWARDS**

**FFA Advisors of the Year**
Awarded to FFA Chapter Advisors that have been nominated by their Officer Team and FFA Chapter. Awards are based on the Chapter’s accomplishments, advisor interaction with their students and advisor involvement with their community.

- Colin Kubik, Arapahoe

**Teacher of the Year**
Awarded to two outstanding teachers for their innovative ideas on how they incorporate agriculture into their classroom environments.

- Anica Brown, Pound Middle School, Lincoln
- Judi Roach, North Elementary School, Sidney

**Young Farmer & Rancher Discussion Meet Finalist Awards**
Awarded to the four Young Farmer & Rancher Discussion Meet finalists that move on to compete at the Nebraska Farm Bureau Annual Convention in December.

- Amanda Berg, Boone County
- Tyson Narjes, Cheyenne County
- Erin Norman, Dawes County
- Randy Reinke, Antelope County
## FINANCIALS

### Revenue
- Contributions & Grants: $713,405
- Fundraising Special Events: 78,002
- Investment Income: 10,852
- Sales: 1,449
- Interest/Dividend Income: 416

**Total Revenue**: $804,124

### Expenses
- Program Services:
  - Ag in the Classroom: $308,341
  - Ag Promotion & Education: 136,887
  - Scholarships: 93,063

**Program Services Total**: $538,291
- Special Events/Fundraising: 214,375
- Administrative: 150,473

**Total Expenses**: $903,139

### Net Income From Operations
- Net Income: $-99,015

### Net Assets
- Unrestricted: $75,158
- Temporarily Restricted: 233,060
- Permanently Restricted: 708,218

## DONORS

### October 1, 2015 - September 30, 2016

#### $50,000+
- FBL Financial Group, Inc.
- Nebraska Corn Board
- Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation
- Nebraska Soybean Board

#### $10,000 - $24,999
- Nebraska Beef Council

#### $5,000 - $5,999
- Bart & Shana Beattie
- George & Billie Beattie
- Jeff & Nanette Beattie
- Nebraska Farm Bureau Services, Inc.

#### $1,000 - $4,999
- ADM Grain Company
- Alan & Sallie Atkins
- Bruce & Shirley Neidig

#### $500 - $999
- David & Associates Farm Credit Services of America
- Milton & Joann Fricke
- Trevor Gangwish
- Hall County Farm Bureau
- Don & Shannon Hannappel

#### $1 - $499
- AmazonSmile Foundation
- Adams County Farm Bureau
- Raymond & Judy Althouse

#### $1 - $499
- David & Kay Anderson Antelope County Farm Bureau
- Howard & Peggy Atkins

#### $1 - $499
- Art Anderson Farms
- Keating, O’Gara, Nedved & Peter, P.C., L.L.O.

#### $1 - $499
- Blaine County Farm Bureau
- Mary & Ted Billings

#### $1 - $499
- Brubaker, Blander & Assoc., P.C.
- Bruce & Julie Reed
- Erma McGill

#### $1 - $499
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska
- Victor Bohuslavsky
- Wells Fargo
Thank you for supporting the future of agriculture by donating to our programs!
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- Donelle Wolters
  Ag in the Classroom Presenter

- Becky Koester
  Program Associate
Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to engage youth, educators, and the general public to promote an understanding of the vital importance of agriculture in the lives of all Nebraskans.