THE NEXT STEP
2018 ANNUAL REPORT
Dear Friends,

Today, the only constant is change, and work at the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation is no exception. Trends in agriculture point to changes in technology, policies, and consumer perspectives. No longer can we say, if you ate today, thank a farmer, and leave it at that. Nebraskans want to know how agriculture impacts their health, the environment, and their values.

The Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation has responded with relevant resources and engaging programs. AgMag fits into classrooms where reading is a focus for a majority of the day. A Pig’s Tale curriculum augments virtual field trips to provide learning that is continuous and sticks. Connecting Chapters, Agriculture Reading Hour, and the Promotion & Education Committee equip and activate volunteers, growing the army of ag-vocates needed to make an impact across Nebraska. Scholarships, grants, and awards round out programming that invests in the future of Nebraska and its number one industry.

There are no shortcuts to any place worth going. Thanks to the generosity of donors and hard work by volunteers and the foundation team, we’ve moved forward towards the vision of a Nebraska where agriculture is valued by all. We look forward to your partnership as we take the next step in 2019 and beyond.

With gratitude,

Megahn Schafer
Executive Director

“We’re moving forward towards the vision of a Nebraska where agriculture is valued by all.”
Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom is a statewide program that helps students and teachers develop an awareness and understanding that agriculture is their source of life’s necessities.

- 3,501 volunteers actively engaged in our programs
- 265 connections made through the Ag Pen Pal Program
- 54,772 AgMags distributed to fourth grade classrooms across the state
- 278 current and future teachers attended Agriculture in the Classroom workshops
- 24,505 students participated in hands-on learning through our programs
This new resource for teachers shares real life examples to show students that pig farmers care for pigs, people, and the planet.

- Connects agriculture to students’ everyday lives.
- Aligned to Nebraska’s NEW Next Generation Science Standards.
- Brings technology into the classroom through a variety of virtual field trips to Nebraska pig farms.

In each lesson, students gain knowledge to solve the question, “How does a pig grow?” To enhance the experience and create new opportunities for students, each lesson features a virtual field trip connecting students with a Nebraska pig farmer.

The curriculum is sponsored by Nebraska Pork Producers Association, Nebraska Corn Board, and Nebraska Soybean Checkoff.

The Nebraska AgMag series supports Nebraska fourth grade content area standards for language arts, social studies, and science. This learning tool introduces new, non-fiction text and can serve as a large class discussion piece, an activity for small groups or individuals, and an at-home enrichment resource.

Agriculture is brought to life through the colorful, easy-to-follow AgMag. Each AgMag is accompanied by a Teacher’s Guide with activities, discussion questions, and connections to core subject learning. Agriculture touches every part of our lives, from what we eat and drink, to what we wear, and the products we use. With AgMag, students can explore Nebraska through the lens of the food, fiber, and fuel system that benefits us all every day.

Thank you so much for the AG Magazine we received from your foundation! Current and visually appealing resources are a much-welcomed break from our Nebraska Studies textbook. Students benefit from different types of texts as well as ag content.

I’m a Farm Bureau customer and very proud of the Farm Bureau Foundation’s commitment to our youth.

Thank you again for the amazing resource!

Sherry Nelson
Fourth Grade Teacher, Ravenna Elementary

54,772 AgMags distributed to fourth grade classrooms across the state
Connecting Chapters equips Nebraska high school FFA chapters to connect with their local elementary school to increase agricultural literacy in their communities.

With the average American at least three generations removed from the farm and anti-agriculture voices present on social media and news, outreach to the public with relevant, reliable information about agriculture and food is more important than ever.

Through the Connecting Chapters program, Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom, local FFA chapters, The Department of Education, and county Farm Bureau leaders build a foundation of partnership, mentorship, and service to work towards the common goal of developing leaders and protecting the future of agriculture.

**FFA CHAPTERS WHO PARTICIPATED:**
1. Attended a training provided by the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation.
2. Read and donated a book to an elementary classroom.
3. Planned and led one agricultural literacy activity in their local school.
4. Partnered with the local county Farm Bureau to host an agricultural literacy activity in their community.

**THE FFA CHAPTERS RECEIVED:**
1. Guidebook with lessons and activities.
2. Teaching materials to lead lessons and activities.
3. A connection to local community leaders.
4. Recognition at the State FFA Convention.

In year one of Connecting Chapters, the positive effect of the program could be seen through a high participation rate, positive feedback from students and teachers, and success of community-wide activities. After nearly tripling the original goal for participation, the Foundation maximized limited resources for a positive impact across the state of Nebraska.

**The Lessons and Activities are well organized, easy for the students to understand, and easy for the students to implement in their local school.**

Troy Jensen
Freeman FFA Advisor/Ag Education Instructor

**THE NEXT STEP**

54 FFA chapters participated in the 2017-2018 school year.

3,400+ K-12 students benefited from the outreach activities led by the FFA students.

2,754 FFA members participated in learning and service activities that prepared them to be agricultural leaders.

100% of participants answered that Connecting Chapters is an effective way to grow agricultural literacy in Nebraska.
Agriculture Teacher and FFA Advisor of the Year
Ashton Bohling, Auburn High School
Casey Carriker, Raymond Central High School

Charles Marshall Loan
Kaycee Bartels, Johnson County
Renee Horky, Merrick County
Justin Larsen, Lancaster County
Anna Wiese, Dodge County

Field Trip Grants
Brenda Cochran, Wasmer Elementary
Carolyn Dolezal, St. Peters Catholic
Jane Gundvaldson, Aspen Creek Elementary
Pam Mitchell, Pawnee City Elementary
Marilyn Opitz, Jackson Elementary
Becky Senters, Roper Elementary
Lisa Wright, New Hope Christian School
Anne Wuebben, Bloomfield Elementary

Greater Horizon Scholarship
Caleb Fuelberth, Merrick County
Holden Stengel, Fillmore County

Kenneth E. Schwartz Memorial Scholarship
Natalie Jones, Logan County

Nebraska LEAD Scholarship
Shane Greving, Chapman
Haley Miles, Ainsworth
Paula Peterson, Waverly
MerleArin Raichart, Benkelman
Rebecca Schwarz, Bertrand
Scott Sorensen, Cairo
Scott Speck, Gothenburg

Nebraska Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year
Jennifer Johnson, Sutton Public Schools
Stephanie Wolf, Brady Public Schools

Nebraska Agricultural Education Student Teaching Scholarship
Rachelle Allen, York County
Eleanor Aufdenkamp, Lincoln County
Alex Cumming, Platte County
Lynn Hanson, Saunders County
KateLynn Ness, Dodge County
Haley Rogers, Dawson County
Trevor Spath, Cass County
Emilie Vales, Saline County
Haley Zabel, Lancaster County

Nebraska Agricultural Education Teacher Retention Program
Victoria Armstrong, Maywood Public Schools
Jesse Bower, Friend Public Schools
Aubrie Brown, Elba Public Schools
Evey Choat, Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Public School
Hannah Horak, Shelton High School
Brian Johnson, Litchfield Public Schools
Rebekah Kraeger, Cozad Community Schools
Reed Kraeger, Elwood Public Schools
Justin Nolette, Cody-Kilgore Unified Schools
Lacey Peterson, Riverside Public Schools
Tyler Schindler, Omaha Bryan High School
Morgan Schwartz, Stanton Community Schools
Nicole Sorensen, Minatare High School

Nebraska Farm Bureau Scholarship
Cora Brott, Paxton
Allison Johnson, Hastings
Tressa Reiner, Burwell
Myranda Russell, Lincoln
Caleb Bensel, Cambridge

Nebraska Rural Radio Foundation Scholarship in Honor of Max and Eric Brown
Amanda Fairley, Fairbury
Catherine Ripp, Bruno

Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet Finalist Awards
Chris Niemann, Butler County
Erin Norman, Dawes County
Jason Perdue, York County
Brady Revels, Douglas County

$76,927 awarded to students and teachers!
PROMOTION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE IN ACTION

The Promotion & Education Committee serves as an active, statewide voice promoting a positive public perception of agriculture to consumers of all ages. This year, committee members volunteered in their communities, served as Ag Pen Pals, and gave numerous classroom presentations. The committee participated in continuing education workshops and toured Ward Laboratories in Kearney.

Brief highlights of the committee’s contributions include:

- Ag Awareness Festival Presentation, Lincoln
- Agriculture Matters 5K|10K Race, North Platte
- American Farm Bureau P&E April Facebook Campaign
- Earth Wellness Festival Presentation, Lincoln
- Farm Field Trip Host, Waverly
- FFA Quiz Bowl Judging, Lincoln
- Field Day Presentation, Madison
- Food Labeling, Fact or Fiction Presentation, Nebraska State Fair, Grand Island
- Our World: Soil Workshop, Multiple Classrooms and Senior Centers
- Tailgate with Farmers and Ranchers at SuperSaver, Lincoln
- Workshop at NEFB Annual Meeting: Fighting Myths with Facts: A Healthy Conversation About Food and Agriculture, Kearney

2018 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lisa Lunz, Chair
Hilary Maricle, NEFB Federation Board
Sarah Bomark, Southwest
Jan Frenzen, At-Large
Dawn Kucera, Northeast
Paula Peterson, Southeast
Natasha Schumacher, Northwest
Andrew Ward, North Central
Julie Wilke, Central

CONSUMER MATERIALS

The Foundation provided kits for volunteers to hand out at community events across Nebraska. These items are a fun and creative way to promote Nebraska agriculture with consumers.

The Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation was a great partner to the 2018 Douglas County Fair in Omaha. The agricultural posters and banners added to the event by providing agricultural facts to help consumers understand where their food comes from and how it is produced. Those posters and banners were showcased at the Village Pointe Shopping Center and at Chance Ridge Event Center. Several thousand people saw the banners over the week they were on display.

Vernon Waldren
Douglas County Fair Director
AGRICULTURE READING HOUR

In celebration of agriculture in Nebraska, volunteers throughout the state read an agriculture-themed book to elementary students in Nebraska. *Before We Eat* was provided by the Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation thanks to a donation from Farm Credit Services of America. Farmers, ranchers, FFA chapters, 4-H clubs, and agriculture industry leaders read to children in their community and, in turn, donated the book to the classroom or school. The program’s mission is to increase student knowledge about the importance of agriculture in their daily lives.

111 volunteers from across the state read *Before We Eat* to 3,000 kids.

HONORING DONORS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donation Level</th>
<th>Donors</th>
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<tr>
<td>$100,000+</td>
<td>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska, Nebraska Farm Bureau</td>
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<td>Charles W. Herbster, FBL Financial Group, Inc., Nebraska Corn Board</td>
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<td>Dixon County Farm Bureau, Hall County Farm Bureau</td>
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<td>$10,000 - $24,999</td>
<td>Nebraska Beef Council, Nebraska Pork Producers Association, Nebraska Soybean Board</td>
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<td>Lancaster County Farm Bureau, Steve and Elma Nelson, We Support Ag (WSA), William Claybaugh</td>
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<td>$1,000 - $4,999</td>
<td>Aurora Cooperative, Craig and Tracy J. Behnkens, Allen and Kay Blezek, Burwell Cattlemen, Cass County Farm Bureau, Dawson County Farm Bureau</td>
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<td>$500 - $999</td>
<td>Buffalo County Farm Bureau</td>
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FY18 October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018

First National Bank, Doug and Margaret Gibson, Ronald and Marilyn Hanson, Lee Harlan, Larry Heyen, John C and Leslie Martin, Mark and Judi McHargue, Jeff and Kimberly Metz, Paul and Linda Meyer, Nebraska Association of Resources Districts Foundation, Dave and Vicki Nielsen, Northeast Nebraska Corn Growers Association, Keith and Doris Olsen, Kevin and Cassidy Peterson, Platte River Fitness Series, Harold and Mary Ann Rickertsen, Jim Stewart, Mike and Darla Valasek, Jerry and Naomi Warner, Roger Wehrbein, Annette Wiechert, Kevin and Penny Burch, David & Associates, Wayne Eatinger, Equitable Bank, Phil and Cortney Erdman, Farm Credit Services of America, Milton and Joann Fricke, Gage County Farm Bureau, David and Becky Grimes, Nick Halmes, Howard County Farm Bureau, Iowa-Nebraska Farm Equipment Dealers Association, Inc., Keating, O’Gara, Nedved & Peter, P.C., L.L.D., Beverly Kremer, National Center for Agricultural Literacy, Nebraska Agribusiness Club, Brian and Nicole Nedrow, North Platte/Lincoln County Visitors Bureau, Omaha Agri-Business Club, Platte County Farm Bureau, Red Willow County Farm Bureau, Dennis and Kimberly Schaardt, Thomas and Beverly Thurber, Washington County Farm Bureau.
Thank you for supporting the future of agriculture by donating to our programs!

FY18 October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018

Steve and Lona Thompson  
Bruce and Karen Tiedeman  
Paul and Rita Volk  
Ronald Weber  
Where Food Comes From, Inc.  
Douglas Winz  
Kristin Witte  
York County Farm Bureau

William and Donna Angell  
Howard and Peggy Atkins  
Charles and Marsha Barr  
Donald and Barbara Batie  
Terry and Sara Bears  
Boyd County Farm Bureau  
Forest and Dorothy Carnine  
Cory Print Scan  
Jeff and Carolyn Cover  
Andy and Laura DeVries  
Andrew and Andrea Dey  
Oscar Diaz  
Dodge County Farm Bureau  
Darrel and Joyce Entz  
Erik and Lynette TeSelle  
Darrell and Sandy Hinze  
John and Barbara Vales  
Dennis and Anita Watkins  
Stan and Patty Wegner  
Ray and Nadine Winz  
Kimberly Wiseman  
Dana and Judy Wolf

Shirley Neidig  
Darren and Stacy Nelson  
Nemaha County Farm Bureau  
Jonathon and Trenda Nelson  
Martin and Kristy Nienhueser  
Joel Nore  
Morris and Joanie Ochsner  
James and Katherine Olson  
Keith and Stacey Ostermeier  
Paul Davis Restoration  
Krista Podany  
Polk County Farm Bureau  
Myles and Mary Ramsey  
John and Cheryl Ravenscroft  
Todd and Julie Reed  
Jay and Jan Rempe  
Fred Retzlaff  
Bruce and Julie Rickertsen  
Rock County Farm Bureau  
Larry and R LaDene Rutt  
Sandhills State Bank  
Sandramere Seed & Supply  
Scotts Bluff County Farm Bureau  
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Robert and Andrea Schafer  
ServPro  
Marty and Linda Stewart  
John and Molly Temme

Kevin and Colleen Gates  
Evelyn Geu  
Fred Hageman  
Dave and Loretta Hamilton  
Matthew and Cassie Hoebelheinrich  
Cory and Autumn Jacobs  
William and Betty Janssen  
Larry and Judith Johnson  
Alex Koehler and Sami Lauf Koehler  
David and Joan Loseke  
Jim and Lisa Lunt  
Martin and Ruth Massengale  
John and Pat McGill  
Fred and Gloria Otradovsky  
Paul and Tammy Peter  
Adam and Abbie Peterson  
Gale and Lois Polham  
Francis M. Jr. and Judith Reece  
Jeremy and Kari Renz  
Mary Richard  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
Dennis and Diane Sanne  
Courtney Schaardt  
Andrew and Audrey Schipporett  
Joe and Laura Singleton  
Bruce and Prudie Skinner  
Marilyn Sonderup

HONORING DONORS

FY18 October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018

White Castle Roofing  
Woodhouse Auto Family  
Ag Valley Coop  
Raymond and Judy Althouse  
Loren and Karen Ammon  
Alan and Sallie Atkins  
JB and Sonya Atkins  
William and Queeda Baldwin  
Eldean and Norma Banahan  
Don and Karen Benner  
Scott and Susan Bice  
Philip Blethers  
Victor Bohuslavsky  
Kenneth and Leslie Boswell  
Antonia Bourlier  
Carroll and Bonnie Burling  
Burt County Farm Bureau  
Kendall Busch  
John and Peggy Christensen  
Wayne and Marybeth Crawford  
Seth and Nikki Davison  
DEKALB Agrow  
Myron and Julie Dorn  
Douglas County Farm Bureau  
Brock and Kerry Elsen  
ExMark Manufacturing  
Firespring  
Mark and Lois Fleer  
Randall and Sherry Gangwish  
Tim and Chelsey Girard  
Matt Gunderson  
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Terry Hejny  
Bruce and Tina Henderson  
Richard and Lanelle Herink  
Kirk and Trula Jamison  
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Ronald and Patricia Johnson  
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Regan and Dwan Kucera  
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Robert and Karen McNeff  
Ermst and Janice Mehl  
Melvin and Patricia Meierhenry  
Nebraska Cooperative Council  
Shirley Neidig  
Darren and Stacy Nelson  
Nemaha County Farm Bureau  
Jonathon and Trenda Nelson  
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Joel Nore  
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Sandramere Seed & Supply  
Scotts Bluff County Farm Bureau  
Clint and Megahn Schafer  
Robert and Andrea Schafer  
ServPro  
Marty and Linda Stewart  
John and Molly Temme

The Foundation received gifts in memory of the following individuals between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018:

Bernadene Bane  
Nance County  
Lynn Hudkins  
Lancaster County  
Martha Knobel  
Jefferson County  
Bryce Neidig  
Madison County  
Darleen Tonack  
Douglas County

Arlin and Arlis Steinhoff  
Tom and Erin Stieren  
Robert and Megan Stuart  
Duane and Rosie Sugden  
Erik and Jenna Sutterfield  
Darrell and Lynette TeSelle  
John and Barbara Vales  
Dennis and Anita Watkins  
Stan and Patty Wegner  
Ray and Nadine Winz  
Kimberly Wiseman  
Dana and Judy Wolf

Thank you for supporting the future of agriculture by donating to our programs!
SPECIAL EVENTS

GROWER’S GALA
The Grower’s Gala was held in conjunction with the 2017 Nebraska Farm Bureau Annual Convention. The evening was filled with dinner, a live auction, and entertainment. A highlight of the evening occurred when Charles W. Herbster of Falls City pledged to match gifts up to $50,000 to support Foundation programs.

2018 ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC
At the 20th Annual Golf Classic, 140 golfers and many sponsors raised $26,332 to advance agricultural literacy in Nebraska. Save the date for the 21st Annual Golf Classic to be held July 29, 2019!

KC CHIEFS FUNDRAISER
Chiefs fans boosted foundation fundraising through a new ticket fundraiser in 2018. Supporters received discounted ticket prices for select games, and the foundation received a $10 donation for each ticket purchased. During the first two months of the campaign, the Foundation raised $3,130!

FINANCIALS

TOTAL NET ASSETS

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<td>FY16</td>
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TOTAL RAISED IN FY18

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ANNUAL EXPENSES

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<td>Promotion &amp; Education</td>
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<td>$791,084</td>
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COST TO RAISE $1

22.2 cents

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS

Hall County Farm Bureau Scholarship
Ron Hanson Collegiate Leaders Scholarship

543 donors - 44% of those were first-time donors in FY18

SUPPORT THE NEBRASKA FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION AND CHEER ON THE KANSAS CITY CHIEFS!

THE NEXT STEP
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Steve Nelson, President, Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation
Dr. Allen Blezek, Vice President, Emeriti – University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Rob Robertson, Secretary/Treasurer, Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation
Victor Bohuslavsky, Nebraska Soybean Checkoff
Bob Campbell, Farm Credit Services of America
Matt Gunderson, Farmers National Company
Rich Herink, First National Bank
Lisa Lunz, Promotion & Education Committee Chair
Hilary Maricle, Federation Board of Directors Representative
John C. Martin, Buffalo County Farm Bureau
Carol Packard, Nebraska Department of Education

STAFF
Megahn Schafer, Executive Director
Courtney Schaaradt, Director of Outreach Education
Lona Thompson, Director of Development
Brooke Tempel, Education Specialist
Jenna Sutterfield, Program Associate
Kara Zimmerman, Office Assistant/Event Planning Intern

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.