



2023

FROM THE FARM TO THE FIELD.
ASK FOR YOUR **FREE DECODER GLASSES** TO SEE THE MANY
SPORTS PRODUCTS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH AGRICULTURE.



Minnesota Farm Bureau

Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation Annual Review

Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation Board of Directors

President.....	Dan Glessing
Vice President	Carolyn Olson
Secretary	Karin Schaefer
Treasurer.....	Dave Johnson
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District 2	Robert Roelofs
District 3	Peter Bakken
District 4.....	Nathan Collins
District 5	Fran Miron
District 6.....	Miles Kuschel
District 7	Shayne Isane
Promotion & Education Chair.....	Cindy Durheim
Young Farmers & Ranchers Chair	Katie Wiese

Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation Staff

Administration and Finance

Executive Director.....	Karin Schaefer
Director of Operations.....	Dave Johnson
Business Manager	Alex Yang

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Director of Communications.....	Rachel Reisig
Communications Specialist.....	Emma Wielinski

Foundation and Leadership Development

Foundation Director.....	Ruth Meirick
Education Coordinator.....	Pam Debele
Leadership Coordinator	Rachael Peterson

Membership and Marketing

Director of Membership and Marketing	Robin Kinney
Northeast Region Specialist	James Dodds
Southeast Region Specialist.....	Virginia Magyar
Northwest Region Specialist.....	Kayla Mystic
Southwest Region Specialist.....	Amanda Revier
East Central Region Specialist	Dennis Sabel

Public Policy

Director of Public Policy.....	Pierce Bennett
Public Policy Specialist	Kaytlin Bemis



From our Director

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on my years working with the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation, I am reminded of the many things I learned and experienced. Through conversations during Farm Bureau and other events, one of the biggest things I've discovered is the disconnect many Minnesotans have from agriculture. People are often unaware that the products they use every day beyond the food they eat are farm products.

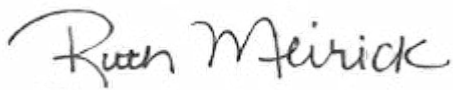
While this may seem discouraging as an employee of an organization that represents agriculture, to me it shines a light on the opportunities to showcase the Foundation and its programming, providing a positive impact and laying groundwork to build understanding.

The Foundation's goal is to grow relationships and resources that enable others to deepen their understanding of agriculture. And often this transformation starts with the simplest of things: engaging individuals in conversations.

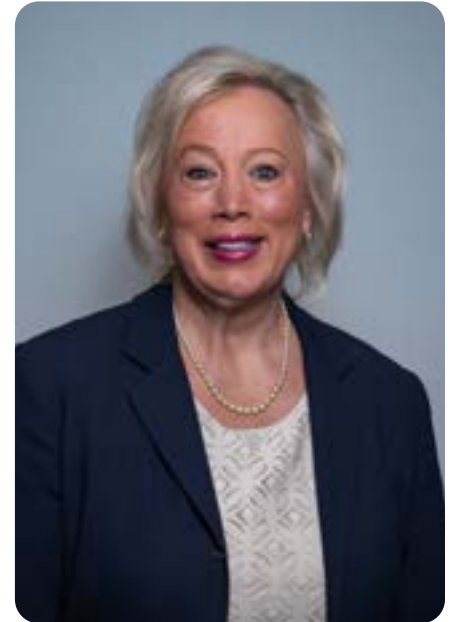
Those who support the Foundation believe in developing young leaders, educating others about agriculture and providing opportunities to spark curiosity around agriculture. In turn, we utilize those gifts and partnerships to provide resources that support the many agricultural events and programs that help us grow our industry. When you make a gift to the Foundation, it will be used for the intended purpose. That's a promise we've kept with our donors since our founding.

Thank you for your continued support of the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation. Know that we are grateful for your generosity, helping to make our work possible.

Sincerely,

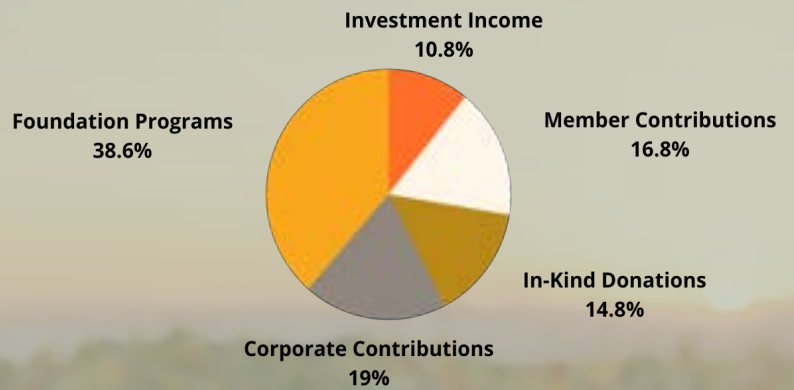


Ruth Meirick
Director, Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation

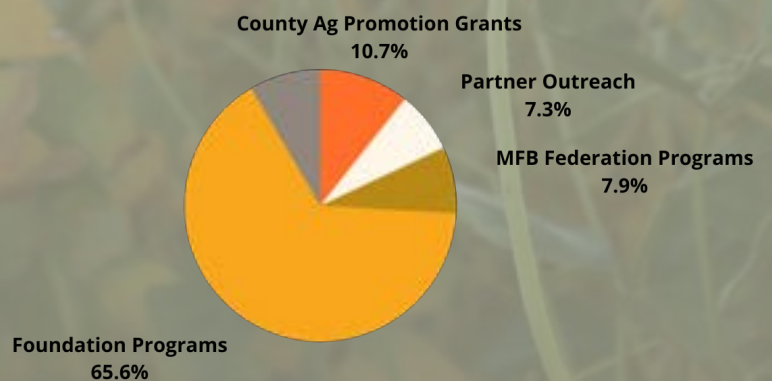


Financials

Income	
Member Contributions	\$65,758
Corporate Contributions	\$74,470
Foundation Programs	\$151,409
In-Kind Donations	\$58,000
Investment Income	\$42,524
Total Income	\$392,162



Expenses	
Administration	\$149,142
County Ag Promotion Grants	\$34,936
Partner Outreach	\$23,882
MFB Federation Programs	\$25,600
Foundation Programs	\$213,281
Youth & Leadership	\$27,542
Total Expense	\$474,382



\$392,000

Raised by the Foundation in 2023 for programs that support agriculture education, leadership development, and health and safety programming

65

Organizations received funding from the Foundation to assist in executing their agriculture outreach efforts

25

County Farm Bureaus received more than \$2,500 in grant funding to address food insecurity in their communities, and in turn matched those funds to raise an additional \$9,500

\$34,000+

Granted to 46 county Farm Bureaus through the agriculture promotion grant program, helping counties host and sponsor agriculture connection events

6

Students received scholarships to help them in their pursuit of an agriculture-related degree

5,000+

Ag Transportation Handbooks were distributed in its latest reprint, in partnership with Compeer and Minnesota Soybean

320+

Individuals attended the second-annual Ag Day Gala, helping to raise more than \$25,000 for the Foundation

12,000+

Deterra Prescription Drug Disposal kits were distributed to families across the state, helping address the opioid crisis by removing unused prescription medications

14

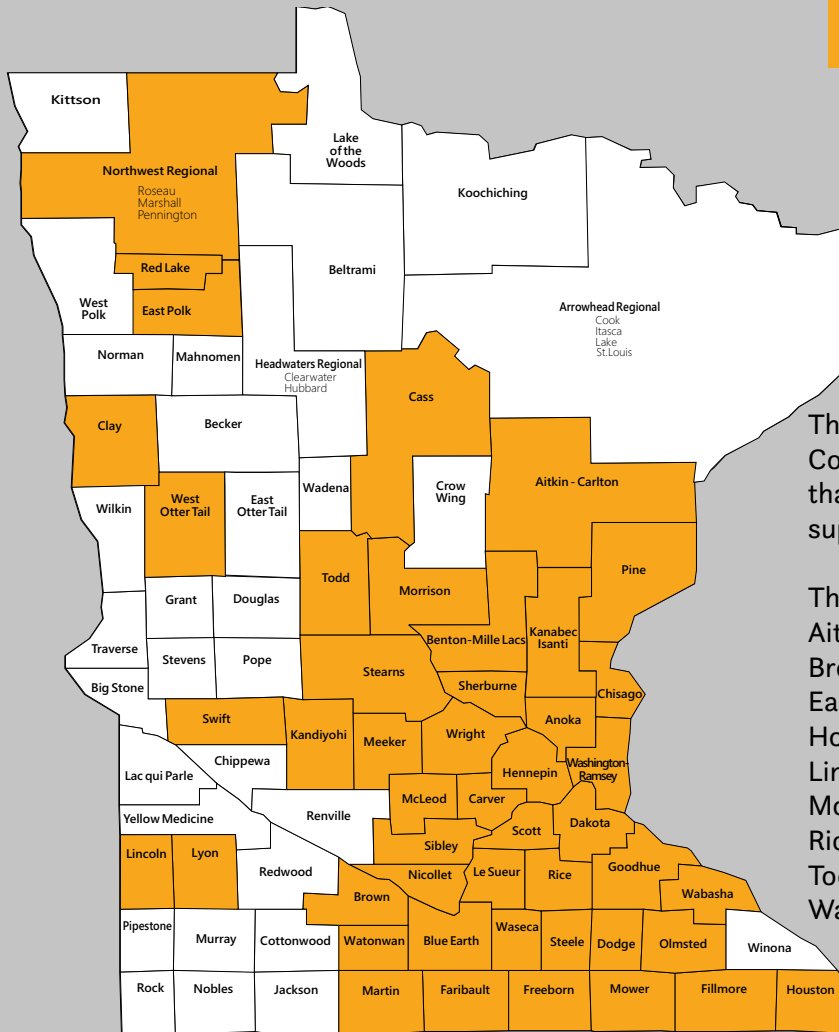
Guest speaker appearances and interviews conducted by Foundation Director Ruth Meirick to raise awareness about opioid addiction and mental health

Activities and Events



Foundation Fun Night

County Board Challenge



The annual County Board Challenge recognizes County Farm Bureau Boards of Directors that donate \$10 per board member in support of the Foundation.

Thank you to our counties participating in 2023: Aitkin/Carlton, Anoka, Benton/Mille Lacs, Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Cass, Chisago, Clay, Dakota, Dodge, East Polk, Faribault, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Kanabec/Isanti, Kandiyohi, Le Sueur, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, McLeod, Meeker, Morrison, Mower, Nicollet, Northwest Regional, Olmsted, Pine, Rice, Scott, Sherburne, Sibley, Stearns, Steele, Swift, Todd, Wabasha, Waseca, Washington/Ramsey, Watonwan, West Otter Tail, and Wright.



Farmfest

45
volunteers
served over
4,000 chops



Golf Scramble

20 teams
took part
in the event's
25th
anniversary



LEAP Conference

Attendees
donated over
300 lbs of food
and \$3,000 to
a local food
pantry

Supporting Agriculture

The Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation is a proud sponsor of the following programs:

American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture
Brown County Algal Harvesting Project
Minnesota CFANS Alumni Society
Family Pathways
Gopher Dairy Club
Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase
Minnesota 4-H Foundation
Minnesota Ag in the Classroom
Minnesota Agri-Women
Minnesota Agriculture & Rural Leadership Program (MARL)
Minnesota Association of Agriculture Educators
Minnesota Bison Association
Minnesota Beef Expo
Minnesota County Farm Bureau Ag Promotion Grants
Minnesota County Farm Bureau Hunger Solution Grants
Minnesota Farm Bureau Ag Transportation Handbook Project
Minnesota Farm Bureau LEAP Conference
Minnesota FFA Foundation
Minnesota Holstein Association
Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association
Minnesota State Fair
Normandale Elementary School
Prior to the Plate
South Dakota State University Dairy Club
The Banquet – Sioux Falls
The Stockyard Ag Exhibit
Western Minnesota Junior Suffolk Show
Women's Agriculture Leadership Conference
Young Leaders in Agriculture Conference



This spring, the Foundation announced its support of a project to explore the benefits of algal harvesting on local lakes and its use as a biomass product.

Partnering with AECOM, CarlsonSV LLP, St. Mary's Catholic School, Crystal Waters Project, Inc., and Minnesota Corn Growers association in collaboration with St. Cloud State University and the University of Minnesota Southwest Research and Outreach Center, the project hopes to guide the agriculture industry toward even more sustainable and regenerative production practices while engendering wise stewardship of the environment.

The project promises three-fold present and future benefits: restoration of lakes impaired by excess algal growth, integration of high school students in real-life STEM skills, and creation of a nutrient-rich biomass product.

Paul Stark Memorial Scholarship

The Paul Stark Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually to deserving freshmen or sophomore students enrolled at an accredited college or vocational technical school and pursuing a degree in an agriculture, conservation or forestry-related field.



Mackenzie Kuschel
Cass County



Megan Ratka
Stearns County

Al Christopherson Scholarship

The Al Christopherson Scholarship is awarded annually to deserving junior, senior or graduate students enrolled at an accredited college or vocational technical school and pursuing a degree in an agriculture, conservation or forestry-related field.



Jaylynn Frandrup
Dakota County



Ross Herber
Winona County



Maggie Molitor
Stearns County



Zoey Schentzel
Dakota County



Ag Day Gala

Doubling in size from the previous year, the second annual Ag Day Gala once again proved to be the event of the year for everyone involved in agriculture to gather, network, and celebrate.

Held on National Ag Day, the evening honored agriculture's legacy and impact in the state, while also looking forward to the future. It also provided an opportunity for influential community members, business leaders, and local producers to connect on a more casual, intimate level.

From the moment attendees arrived, they enjoyed some of Minnesota's best food and beverages with high-quality products and flavors of Minnesota. A farm-to-table dinner, served family style, provided time for even more connections to be made and stories to be shared.

The Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation is proud to have created an event that brings people together from all backgrounds of farming, agribusiness and more to celebrate the important job we have in feeding the world.



320+
attendees

Took part, doubling the
previous year's total

\$25,000

Raised in support of
agriculture outreach efforts

17
companies

Were featured during
the social hour and
dinner, highlighting
locally-sourced items

63+
organizations

Were represented, representing
all aspects of agriculture from
across the state

37 *items*

Were a part of the silent and
live auction, raising over
\$5,000 for the Foundation

County Outreach

Ag Promotion Grants

Ag Promotion Grants, funded by the Foundation, are designed to support the work of county Farm Bureaus and their local outreach efforts. In 2023, the Foundation awarded more than \$34,000 for farm safety, education, leadership and other county-driven efforts.

Highlighting the work done by grant recipients from this year is Meeker County Farm Bureau. The county partnered with local creamery, First District Association, as it reopened its retail store. The request was to have a space in the store where customers could let their children color, play with toys, and complete other activities while they shop. Driving home the importance of dairy, the developed area includes: a coloring/fact wall; coloring sheets with dairy facts; a miniature kitchen with food toys; age-appropriate books related to farming, dairy and cows; and a showcase of the history of First District Association and Meeker County Farm Bureau's role in association's creation.



Hunger Solution Grants

The Foundation supports county Farm Bureaus in their efforts to address food insecurity in their communities through the Hunger Solutions Grant Program. Last year, 25 counties received a grant, with many taking those funds and partnering with local organizations to match funds. In total, over \$12,000 was given back to local food shelves in support. Counties also gave back in non-monetary ways, including food donations, volunteer time and packaging or serving meals.

The following counties and regional Farm Bureaus received a grant in 2023: Anoka, Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Chisago, Clay, Crow Wing, Dakota, Douglas, Faribault, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Jackson, Kanabec/Isanti, McLeod, Nicollet, Rice, Sibley, Stearns, Traverse, Waseca, Washington/Ramsey, Wright and Yellow Medicine.

Recognition



During the 2023 American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Convention, the Minnesota Farm Bureau was one of six states to receive the New Horizon Award, which recognizes innovative new state Farm Bureau programs.

Minnesota was honored for its interactive ag literacy exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair. The building underwent a redesign in 2021, bringing a “Farmers Produce more than Produce” theme to connect and tell the story of agriculture in the state to fairgoers of all ages. In 2023 it received another refresh, highlighting agriculture’s connection to athletics.

In the first year, over 55,000 people engaged with the display. The building provides attendees the opportunity to think about their connection to agriculture beyond food, while also giving members and volunteers a way to speak with consumers and share their personal agriculture story.

When displays are not being used at the state fair, they move between agriculture interpretive centers and schools across the state for year-round awareness. It has also evolved into smaller-scale ag literacy collateral that can be used by county Farm Bureaus and other organizations.



With Gratitude



Thank you to the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation for sponsoring some of the awards at the Minnesota Association of Agriculture Educators Summer Conference. None of us do this for the awards, but seeing the hard work and efforts recognized through the awards is so inspiring and rewarding.

Sincerely, MAAE

Thank you so much for donating to this year's Minnesota Junior All-Breeds Convention. We really appreciate your generosity. The kids had a great time meeting new people and taking part in contests.

Sincerely, The MJHA Board



Thank you for your generosity towards the Minnesota 4-H Dairy Showcase and support for my project. This is my 10th year showing dairy and I was honored to finish 13th in the showcase. Your support will allow me to continue my involvement with the dairy project.

Sincerely, Kayla V.



Thank you for sponsoring the plaque for the Grand Champion Senior Beef Showman! It is my last year in 4-H, so being able to win showmanship was a good way to go out! Thank you again!

Sincerely, Taylor F.

Thank you for your support and funding to the Minnesota FFA. I am so happy I got the opportunity to compete in the discussion meet. My dad has been a member and a leader in Farm Bureau for a long time. He was the one who encouraged me to compete this past year. Because of him and the support through FFA, I am excited to be an active member of the Farm Bureau.

This fall, I will be attending the University of Minnesota. I will be studying animal science in hopes of becoming a veterinarian. I am excited to use this scholarship towards furthering my education. I can't wait to compete in the college discussion meet later this year.

Sincerely, Katie R.



Thank you for sponsoring the MN Beef Expo judging contest. I and many others are happy and grateful for your sponsorship. I was the intermediate individual champion. Thanks again!

Sincerely, Kennedy R.

Thank you for supporting Breakfast on the Farm. We are continually amazed by the support from our community. Your contribution gave attendees the opportunity to experience a modern farm and learn about where their food comes from. Proceeds from the breakfast will go towards the 7 area FFA groups that dedicated countless hours to Breakfast on the Farm.

Sincerely, Le Sueur and Blue Earth County Farm Bureaus



Donors

Thank you to our generous donors who help make our programming possible.

Benefactor's Society

Platinum: \$10,000 or greater

Ag Management Solutions
Compeer Financial
Farm Bureau Financial Services
Hormel Foods
Minnesota Corn Growers Association
Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation

Patron Society

Diamond: \$5,000-\$9,999

AgCountry Farm Credit Services
Dupont Corteva
Enbridge
Midwest Dairy Association

Emerald: \$2,500-\$4,999

Christensen Farms
Jonathan and Carolyn Olson
Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association
Syngenta

Ruby: \$1,000-\$2,499

Arthur, Chapman, Kettering, Smetak & Pikala, P.A.
AURI
Blondies Butcher Shop
Cargill
CFANS
Chisago County Farm Bureau
Al and Diane Christopherson
Compart Family Farms
Kevin Dahlman
Robin E. Kinney
Dan and Tiffany Kobbermann
Land O'Lakes
Ruth Meirick
Mid-America Catastrophe Services
Minnesota State Fair Foundation
Pure Prairie Poultry Inc.
Rahr Corporation
Matt and Karin Schaefer
JR Farms - Joe and April Sullivan
University of Minnesota
West Central Initiative

Contributor's Society

Gold: \$500-\$999

Associated Milk Producers Incorporated
Peter Bakken
Becks Hybrids
Adam Birr
Bongards Creameries
CannonBelles Cheese
Chippewa County Farm Bureau
Nathan and Jessi Collins
Mark Dorenkamp
Duluth Seaway Port Authority
Ellsworth Cooperative Creamery
Faribault Cheese Caves
First District Association
Dan and Seena Glessing
Glessing Family Farm
Greg's Meats
Shayne and Diane Isane
Dave and Amy Johnson
Legend Seed
Jason Link
Joel and Amanda Mathiowetz
Merck Animal Health
Minnesota Beef Council
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Minnesota FFA Foundation
Minnesota Milk Producers Association
Minnesota Pork Board
Fran and Mary Ann Miron
Brent and Emily Mohn
Morrison County Farm Bureau
O'Shaughnessy Distillery
Blois Olson
Jeff and Chandra Pagel
RD Offutt Farms Co
Revol Greens
Stearns County Farm Bureau
Steve's Meat Market
Trial Group North
Washington/Ramsey Farm Bureau
Michael and Karen Wojahn

Silver: \$250-499

Abra Auto
Keith and Morgan Allen
Autumnwood Farms
Janet Bremer
Susie Burggraf
Mark Consoer
Jon Dilworth
Jim and Gail Donkers
David and Cindy Durheim
Geislinger Insurance Services
Mike and Connie Gunderson
Gunnick & Gunnick
IDEAg Group
Charles and Anita Jackson
Miles and Sarah Kuschel
Larry and Sharon Larson
Myrtle Linkenmeyer Christensen
Mark and Cindy Maiers
Mark and Mary Davis Foundation
MAWRC
McLeod County Farm Bureau
Bennett Osmonson
George and Mary Peichel
Red River Farm Network
Robert and Jill Roelofs
Roger and Linda Sauerbrey
Steven Schoenfeld
Robert and Rebecca Shepard
Adam and Ashley Tabberson
Scott and Jean Winslow
Wright County Farm Bureau

Bronze: \$100-\$249

Andy and Heather Aanerud
Aitkin-Carlton County Farm Bureau
Anoka County Farm Bureau
Patrick and Joanna Bakeberg
Lee and Angie Barlau
Cory Becker
David and Angela Beyerl
Jeff Boersma
Dean and Carol Christopherson
Crow Wing County Farm Bureau
Jeff and Pam Debele
Bob Dorn
Nathan and Katie Drewitz
Jason and DiDi Edwards
Charles and Yvonne Erickson
Marlin and Diane Fay
Edward Frederick

Godahl Recreation Association
Glen and Melinda Groth
Casey and Amanda Jandera
Kandiyohi County Farm Bureau
Glen and Gail Kaschmitter
Jason and Caitlin Keck
Steven and Rebecca Kruse
Lac Qui Parle County Farm Bureau
Chad Larson
Brent Louwagie
Lyon County Farm Bureau
Doug and Talana Mathiowetz
Kevin Meyer
Tracy Miller
Paul and Kristy Miron
Mower County Farm Bureau
Barry and Sandra Nelson
Nicollet County Farm Bureau
Nobles County Farm Bureau
Craig and Sarah Nord
Norman County Farm Bureau
Olmsted County Farm Bureau
Kevin and Julie Paap
Ron and Lori Pagel
Dan and Rachel Reisig
Renville County Farm Bureau
Josh and Amanda Revier
Rice County Farm Bureau
Rock It Man Entertainment
Dennis and Kathryn Sabel
Gary and Tina Schoenfeld
Darren and Corey Scott
James Solum
Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative
Sparboe Companies
Dylan Swensrud
Patrick and Jolynn Sullivan
Steele County Farm Bureau
Lawrence and Jane Thell
Thibodeau, Johnson, Feriancek, PLLP
Kent Thiesse
Bruce and Ann Tiffany
Todd County Farm Bureau
Beckie Tschida
Dennis and Cheryl Tyrrell
Doreen Westlie
West Ottertail County Farm Bureau
West Polk County Farm Bureau
Whitewater Wines
Stanley and Linda Whitney
Chad and Krista Willis

Friends of the Foundation

\$5-\$99

Paul and Val Aarsvold
John and Rose Appel
Alan and Bethany Barka
Randy and Judy Barka
Trent and Ashle Benson
Benton-Mille Lacs County Farm Bureau
Jessie Bester
Blue Earth County Farm Bureau
Brown County Farm Bureau
Carver County Farm Bureau
Cass County Farm Bureau
James Checkel
Clay County Farm Bureau
Dakota County Farm Bureau
Luke and Kayla Daninger
DJ's Planter Services
Dodge County Farm Bureau
Dean and Jane Duesterhoeft
Keenan Dummer
East Polk County Farm Bureau
David and Deborah Engelbrecht
Faribault County Farm Bureau
Fillmore County Farm Bureau
Ronald and Beverly Frank
Freeborn County Farm Bureau
Goodhue County Farm Bureau
Ryan and Libby Hafften
Randy Hanson
Corey and Ashley Heng
Hennepin County Farm Bureau
Marvin Johnson
Kanabec County Farm Bureau
Le Sueur County Farm Bureau
Richard Leino
Lincoln County Farm Bureau
Dan and Kim Lippert
Dave and Julie Marquardt
Michael and Severine Miron
Hannah Molitor
Arnie and Kiplyn Nelson
Doug Olinger
Pine County Farm Bureau
Charlie and Leah Radman
Joe Ramstad
Juanita Reed-Boniface
Jeremy and Kari Rupp
Jim Sam
Scott County Farm Bureau

Joe Serbus
Tony and Chantelle Seykora
Sherburne County Farm Bureau
Sibley County Farm Bureau
Mike Singlestad
Darvey Sloan
Roger and Majorie Smith
Swift County Farm Bureau
Pam Uhlenkamp
Wabasha County Farm Bureau
Waseca County Farm Bureau
Watonwan County Farm Bureau
Roger Zastrow
Jon and Jill Zieroth



Foundation Memorials

The following gifts were made in memoriam of family and friends that passed away last year.

Nancy Dahlman

Anoka County Farm Bureau, Ruth Meirick, Fran and Mary Ann Miron, and Dennis and Kathryn Sabel

Jonah Dovre

Charles and Anita Jackson

Allen Glessing

Glessing Family Farm, Kandiyohi County Farm Bureau, Wright County Farm Bureau, Robin Kinney, Ruth Meirick, Fran and Mary Ann Miron, Rachel and Dan Reisig, and Dennis and Kathryn Sabel

Dorothy Hughes

Fran and Mary Ann Miron, and Dennis and Kathryn Sabel

Gary Joachim

Steele County Farm Bureau

Mike Liepold

Robin Kinney

Ken Oehlke

Ruth Meirick

Gloria Osmonson

Robin Kinney, Ruth Meirick, Fran and Mary Ann Miron, Bennett Osmonson

Nancy Radman

Dennis and Kathryn Sabel

Pastor Art Steberg

Robin Kinney



What is your legacy?

The Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation is dedicated to connecting consumers to farmers and serving rural communities through its outreach and education programming. There are several ways to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation in support of its work:

- Endowments
- Event Sponsorships
- Gifts of Grain
- Giving Tree
- Memorials or Tributes
- Outright Gifts
- Planned or Estate Giving

For more information, contact Foundation Director Ruth Meirick, ruth.meirick@fbmn.org or 651-768-2115.



Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation
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