

# QUARTERLY IMPACT REPORT



## >>> DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

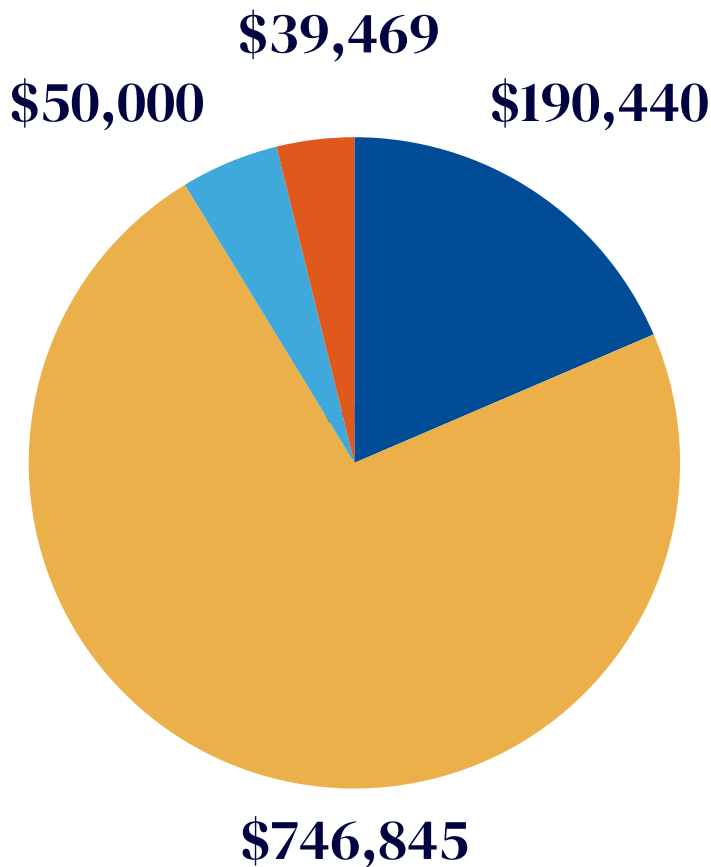
Right before I sat down to write this note, I'd picked a bucket full of peppers. As a life-long Missouri resident, I know it's unusual for my garden to still be producing in mid-November and I'm happy for the abundance. Fall is a time of plenty, whether it's harvest, football games, or events with family and friends, abundance is all around us. It's been a year of abundance for the Missouri FFA Foundation too, and fall seems like the perfect time to update you on what all we've been doing.

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, donors, and supporters, we've been able to **invest \$1,026,745 into Missouri agriculture education** this year! Whether it's honoring FFA members for their hard work through awards at the Missouri FFA Convention, funding agri-science training for teachers this summer or agriculture advocacy workshops for high school students, or providing grants to local schools to enhance and improve the facilities and equipment for their agriculture education programs, the Missouri FFA Foundation has impacted agriculture education all across the state. As this year winds down and a new year starts, we plan to update you quarterly on how your gifts to the foundation are being invested. In the meantime, may you enjoy the abundance of this season.

Heather Dimitt-Fletcher

Missouri FFA Foundation Executive Director

## >>> What the Foundation Funded



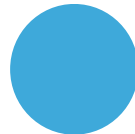
### Members

Leadership and agri-industry skills training, along with student recognition and awards



### Local Support

Grants and scholarships to members, teachers, chapters, and schools



### Curriculum

Updating the Animal Science Curriculum



### Teachers

Teacher recruitment, training, retention and recognition

**\$1,026,754** invested in  
Missouri Agriculture  
Education!

# CAREER READINESS EXEMPLIFIED

## ➤➤➤ MILAN FFA : RISING SUN GRANT

In August, the Milan agriculture education program started a skid steer operator program - and students were eager to jump right into the hands-on learning opportunity. During their 45 minute class period, students take turns operating the skid steer to practice using the equipment while helping with projects around the district, including leveling gravel at the bus barn and filling holes beneath the swings on the elementary playground. The program also incorporates safety through Gearing Up for Safety by Purdue University. Students value the career readiness aspects of the program. Milan was able to buy the skid steer and attachments after receiving a Rising Sun Grant from the Missouri FFA Foundation.



# MISSOURI'S AG EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

## ➤➤➤ 2024 GOLDEN OWL AWARD

Josh Bondy, an agriculture teacher at Paris R-II, was deemed Missouri's Ag Educator of the Year as the recipient of the Golden Owl Award®, a program of the Missouri FFA Foundation sponsored by Nationwide Insurance. Josh has been a foundational piece of Paris's expanding agriculture program for 17 years. Since 2021, program enrollment has grown from 40% to 68% of the high schools student body! Paris FFA was even named a National FFA Model of Excellence winner! Josh strives to create relationships with his students that last a lifetime - not just until graduation. The Missouri FFA Foundation is honored to recognize Josh and all advisors for their dedication to the future of agriculture!



# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## ➤➤➤ MVATA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

At the end of July, in Springfield, MO, the Missouri Vocational Agriculture Teacher's Association held their annual conference. One of the ways the Missouri FFA Foundation has committed to strengthening agriculture education is through teacher recruitment and retention. This year during the MVATA Conference, the foundation funded a two day agriscience training, a series of workshops for first and second year teachers, along with their mentors, and various other workshops, awards and recognitions. Agricultural educators are trailblazers for students when it comes to providing opportunities to experience premiere leadership, personal growth, and career success. This conference connects teachers with their peers and empowers them as the leading force preparing students for success.



# MISSOURI AT A GLANCE

## »»» SUCCESS OF THE SHOW ME STATE

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Over the past year, the Missouri FFA Foundation has allocated **almost \$747,000** to **ag education programs, students, and teachers** across the state. Whether it was a Learning by Doing classroom grant that provided Kearney with technology allowing students to test soil pH, nutrient levels and other key growing indicators, a SAE grant to assist a student in Glasgow with a feeder pig project, a Horizon grant to help Worth County build welding booths and work stations, a Rising Sun Grant to aid Lathrop in building a food sciences lab, or surprising teaches across the state with a cash award as a Golden Owl Award finalist, the impact was state-wide. Every pin below represents a local grant or cash award that when combined ensure a bright future for Missouri agriculture.



## »»» EXEMPLIFY “LIVING TO SERVE” TODAY

Contributions from sponsors and donors make these investments in the future of Missouri agriculture possible. Please consider giving back to the next generation of agriculture leaders by making an online donation at the website below or by reviewing our Sponsor Recognition Guide at [missouriffa.org/mo-ffa-foundation](https://missouriffa.org/mo-ffa-foundation).

 <https://donorbox.org/moffafoundation> 

