



QUARTERLY IMPACT REPORT



➤➤➤ DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

It's finally March! For almost everyone I've talked to the past month, leaving winter and entering spring couldn't happen fast enough. As the days lengthen and the temperature warms up, the land will come alive around us. If your calendar looks anything like ours at the Missouri FFA Foundation, your days are about to be as busy as the bees that will soon be buzzing around. That doesn't mean the winter has been quiet here though.

From grants to local classrooms and FFA members to recognition of outstanding teachers to opportunities for networking and skill development, this quarter's edition of the impact report, will share ways your financial support of the foundation has been a wise investment.

Heather Dimitt-Fletcher
Missouri FFA Foundation Executive Director

ADVANCING AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION

➤➤➤ LEARNING BY DOING GRANTS

We ended 2024 by awarding **16** Learning by Doing Grants to agricultural education programs across the state. Of these grants designed to help Missouri agriculture education teachers enhance learning opportunities for students, **13** focused on workforce development and **3** were for technology enhancements. Microscopes and AI simulators for Veterinary Science classes, soil testers for precision agriculture lessons, and greenhouse cool cells and germination equipment for plant science classes were a few of the types of projects funded.

December



January

INVESTING IN FUTURE LEADERS

➤➤➤ GREENHAND MOTIVATIONAL CONFERENCES

In January, Missouri FFA State Officers traveled across the state conducting Greenhand Motivational Conferences! New members zipped up their blue corduroy jackets for one of their first statewide FFA events. More than **2,000 attendees** discovered opportunities available for them in FFA, were encourage to be positive role models, gained skills to be active team members and to make a positive difference in their lives, schools and communities. Check out a video of one member's experience on our socials!



SUPPORTING STUDENT ENTREPRENEURSHIP 2025 SAE GRANT RECIPIENTS

In January, we awarded **27 grants** to students ranging from \$500-\$1000 to start or expand their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Projects. This is a worthy investment for many reasons. SAEs provide real-world learning and student entrepreneurship opportunities. They also have a significant economic impact, as Missouri FFA members reported earnings of \$69.8 Million in SAE income in 2024. The breakdown of projects included 5 cattle operations, 3 poultry production, 2 beekeeping, 2 hog operations, 2 meat goat production, 2 sheep operations, 2 floriculture, 1 blacksmithing, 1 rabbit production, 1 landscaping, 1 vermiculture, 1 corn production, 1 custom spraying, 1 greenhouse, 1 mushroom production, and 1 vegetable production.



February

CREATING NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES YF/YFW STATE CONVENTION

The Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives Association held their annual state convention from January 31st-February 2nd. Around **115 people attended** with workshops topics ranging from animal health, artificial intelligence, oil additives, large corporation agriculture, choosing the right financial institution, land and cash rent prices, maximizing land use, and empowering women in ag.



LIVING TO SERVE EXEMPLIFIED 2025 GIVE FFA DAY

Thank you to those who supported Give FFA Day on February 20! Several firsts happened with the campaign this year with 2 matching gift campaigns from the Missouri Retired Ag Teachers and the Missouri FFA Foundation Board of Directors, 4 sponsors providing donor give-a-ways, and 23 individuals joining in as new donors! Planning for next year has already started and it looks to be even bigger!



RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

▶▶▶ GOLDEN OWL SEMI-FINALISTS

The Golden Owl Award®, sponsored by Nationwide, recognizes the contributions of Missouri's leading agricultural teachers. For this year's program, almost 400 nominations were collected from local students, parents, fellow teachers and community members across Missouri. From those nominations, **18 teachers were named as semi-finalists on February 19**. Semi-finalists will move on to a second round of competition where seven state finalists will be chosen and revealed in the coming weeks. Each finalist will receive a plaque and a \$500 prize.

Congratulations to this year's semi-finalists!

Jeff Baumann Savannah	Mary Anne Keck Conway
Randy Plattner Chillicothe	Jay Shepherd Mount Vernon
Harold Eckler North Shelby	Heath Wright Ozark
Scott Stone Centralia	Tonya Jedlicka West Plains
Stacy French Audrain Co. R-VI	Chris Dunard Washington
Martha Schreiman Santa Fe	Rylyn Small East Prairie
Charles Simpson Osceola	Liz Schroeder Doniphan
Gary Reichel California	Kimberly Rimel SFCC
MaryAnn Boro Buffalo	Michael Slater Grand River Technical

SAVE THE DATE!

Past State Officer Reunion

April 24, 2025

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Columns Club, Memorial Stadium

University of Missouri



▶▶▶ STAY CONNECTED WITH US!



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<https://donorbox.org/moffafoundation>

