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# For Immediate Release

# South Dakota FFA Foundation Awards $2,600 in Grants for Local FFA Chapter Service-Learning Projects

The FFA motto all FFA members learn includes the words*," Living to Serve",* making service a core value taught to SD's over 10,000 high school Agriculture Education students through their FFA participation. With state educational budgets becoming tighter all the time, FFA chapters are forced to choose which worthwhile activities they can still participate in. Sometimes that means service projects do not happen. The SD FFA Foundation recognizes the value of local chapter service-learning projects and wants to enable Agriculture Education programs to focus on student and community development. As a result, the SD FFA Foundation provides up to $500/chapter for service projects in their local communities. SD FFA Executive Director, Gerri Ann Eide says, "We want to grow community leaders for tomorrow by encouraging FFA members to take an active role in the betterment of their communities and find pride in the communities at the same time. These are valuable educational activities that impact agriculture education students for a lifetime."

**Congratulations to the following chapters receiving SD FFA Foundation funds this fall for their service projects:**

**Wolsey-Wessington** – provide “Harvest lunches” to area farmers to show appreciation

**Gregory County** – conduct Farm Safety presentations to elementary students and provide first aid kits

**Lemmon** - build planters to decorate the outside of the school

**Howard** – host a Farm Safety Day for Jr. High students and provide first aid kits to attendees

**Viborg-Hurley** - building a roof over the Glood Stage Park

**Doland –** create a “Winter Wonderland” community in the city park by building and installing Christmas-themed cut outs and lighted decor

These grants were made possible, as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation, thanks to funds provided by the **TC Energy Foundation**. For more information about the South Dakota FFA Foundation and South Dakota's FFA programs, visit [www.sdffafoundation.org](http://www.sdffafoundation.org/).

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