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# For Immediate Release

# South Dakota FFA Foundation Awards $4,000 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 6,000 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:**

**Webster-** building wooden flower box holders for Bethesda Care Center.

**Gettysburg-** landscaping Loitwood Park in the downtown area.

**Lemmon-** creating a frisbee golf course for Lemmon’s North Park.

**Madison-** hosting a farm safety event for the 3rd graders around the area.

**McCook Central-** hosting a SOFY day camp for all 3rd graders in the county.

**Phillip-** building memorial flag boxes for community veterans, making a local golf course sign, restoring steps for the local historic schoolhouse, and restoring picnic tables and shades at the local campground.

**Miller-** updating the community daycare playground and providing an AED machine for the football/track complex.

**West Central-** assist with education and promotion at Humboldt Old Fashioned Threshing Show.

**Howard-**create and distribute semester exam survival kits to 7-12 grade students.

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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