

# Star Partner Program



Together we provide opportunities for  
**Premier Leadership, Personal Growth,  
and Career Success**

**Learning to Do, Doing to Learn,  
Earning to Live, Living to Serve**

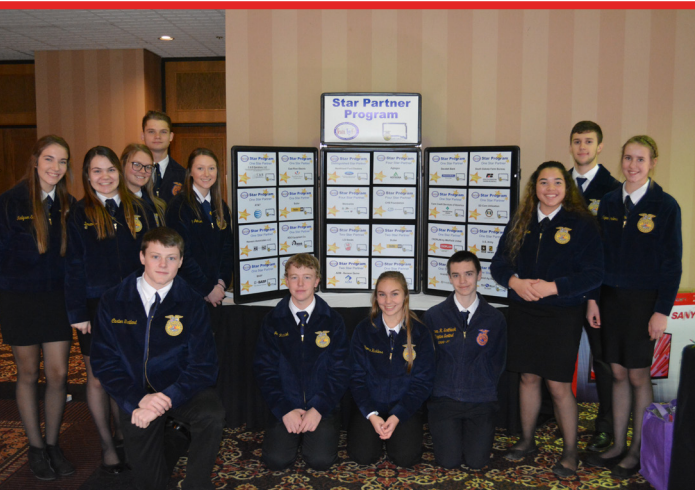
## **Explore the Star Partner Program**

Your company's involvement in the Star Partnership Program is a win-win scenario for your company as well as the SD FFA members and the additional members of the Team Ag Ed family. Sponsorship allows your company exposure as well as access to SD FFA chapters, alumni, teachers and college students.

FFA and Team Ag Ed are essential components of the agricultural education/agribusiness program in high schools across SD. Agriculture education is practical hands-on learning skills for production agriculture, agribusiness, and leadership. For almost a century, FFA has been a vital part of the fabric of quality education in SD. The Team Ag Ed family is dedicated to teaching and developing lifelong learners, so please...

**Partner with Team Ag Ed and ensure  
this legacy continues.**

# South Dakota FFA Foundation Star Partner Program



★	ONE STAR .....	\$2,750
★★	TWO STAR .....	\$5,750
★★★	THREE STAR .....	\$9,750
★★★★	FOUR STAR .....	\$14,500
★★★★★	FIVE STAR .....	\$20,000
★★★★★★	DISTINGUISHED STAR ...	\$25,000

Participating in the South Dakota FFA Foundation Star Partner Program is a great way for businesses and organizations to support the South Dakota FFA and its valuable programs. This is more than a traditional sponsorship. This partnership provides an opportunity to co-brand products and services in the South Dakota FFA marketplace. It recognizes your support of FFA programming and allows you to use the FFA emblem and marks, as outlined in the Sponsorship Agreement, and the value carried by these.

This program is designed with varying levels of participation, affording you the flexibility to choose your level of sponsorship through the South Dakota FFA Foundation, and helping us meet general operating and special project needs. A cooperative effort, under the direction of the South Dakota FFA

Foundation, the South Dakota FFA Star Partner Program involves the South Dakota Association of Agricultural Educators (SDAAE), South Dakota FFA Association, South Dakota FFA Alumni Association, SD Future Ag Leaders, South Dakota Center of Farm/Ranch Management, SDSU Agricultural Education and the South Dakota FFA Foundation. Each will promote your sponsorship and support of agricultural education as outlined in our sponsorship options.

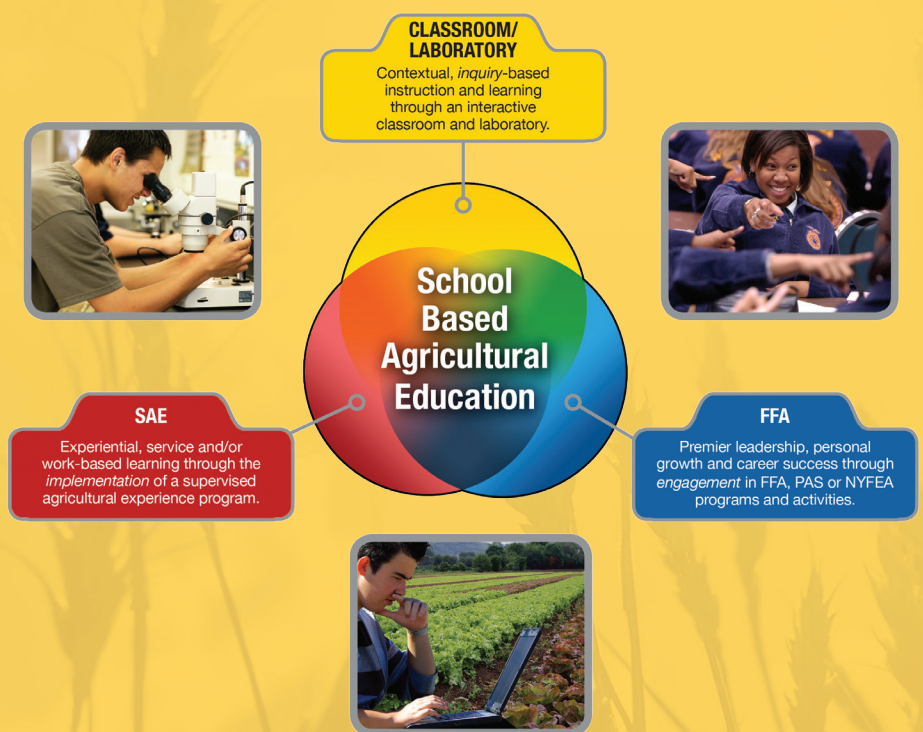
The Star Partner Program is designed to promote those businesses and organizations supporting the longevity and growth of South Dakota FFA. South Dakota's Team Ag Ed will encourage those who use promotional items, supplies and services to choose a South Dakota FFA Foundation Star Partner.

Your participation helps secure a strong financial future for South Dakota FFA and agricultural education in South Dakota. You can help secure that all valuable agricultural education programs in South Dakota are funded so that the 6,000 students who are involved in agricultural education today, and the thousands to come in the future, benefit.

## Agricultural Education Comes Full Circle

Agricultural education is based on the Three Circle Model where the circles are of equal importance within the program. These circles represent instruction, SAE, and the FFA. Classroom and laboratory instruction provide a sound base for on-the-job training in the form of supervised agricultural experiences (SAE) and intra-curricular leadership organizations like FFA. These programs provide students the opportunity to demonstrate invaluable leadership and job skills in a competitive and educational environment.

Star Partners are instrumental in helping fulfill the goals and aims of this model by supporting students in high school and beyond. Sponsorship of Team Ag Ed ensures ag leadership development for your communities, your future customers, and your future employees. Partner with SD FFA today and invest in your company's future.





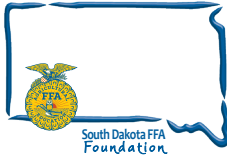
The SD FFA Foundation is proud to be a part of Team Ag Ed and is excited to further its partnership with members of Team Ag Ed through the SD FFA Foundation Star Partner Program. Team Ag Ed is a collaborative effort connecting the leading agriculture education organizations in South Dakota. Our goal is to coordinate strategies to guide education in agriculture, food and natural resources today and into the future. Team Ag Ed is made up of eight organizations, of which seven will get funds from this program.

[www.sdaged.org](http://www.sdaged.org)



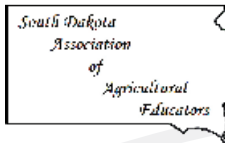
### **South Dakota FFA Association**

Connecting with over 6,000 students through high school programs in agriculture, food and natural resource classes. The FFA provides opportunities to develop leadership skills through Career Development Events, conferences, and individualized learning through Supervised Agricultural Experience Programs.



### **South Dakota FFA Foundation**

The mission of the foundation is to support leadership opportunities and activities of the FFA and agriculture education. Currently there are over 450 friends, past members, and businesses who choose to invest in the future of our FFA members.



### **South Dakota Association of Agricultural Educators (SDAAE)**

This professional organization of over 80 agriculture, food and natural resource instructors works on the promotion and furtherance of all levels of agriculture education.



### **South Dakota FFA Alumni Association**

Alumni members around the state work to organize support for local agricultural education programs. Approximately 600 members assist with FFA activities and serve as a resource to aid the workings of the local FFA chapter.

### **South Dakota Future Ag Leaders**

This encompasses several collegiate/postsecondary agricultural student leadership organizations that promote ag leadership. Groups include, but are not limited to: Ag CEO, Collegiate FFA, Farm Bureau Young Farmers & Ranchers, Collegiate Farmers Union and Study Abroad.



### **SDSU Agricultural Education Teacher Preparation**

South Dakota State University provides college classes to those working toward their degrees in agriculture education. This program is essential to the task of sustaining quality teachers for agriculture education in South Dakota.



### **South Dakota Center of Farm/Ranch Management (SDCFRM)**

The mission of SDCFRM is to provide individualized instruction to South Dakota farm and ranch families to assist them with development of business plans and improvement of profitability. Currently, 60 farms are working with the program offered through Mitchell Technical Institute.



### **South Dakota Department of Education**

Agriculture education is tied to the high school curriculum, thus the Department of Education is an integral partner in Team Ag Ed, but does not receive funding from the Star Partner Program.

## FFA creates interest in ag fields... Just look at this “Gouda” career path inspired by FFA

It's amazing the connections you make through FFA, and all the past members that you bump into by accident. Seeking sponsorship for our State Convention, a conversation began with Tim Czmowski, Regional Vice President of Operations for Agropur Inc's Cheese and Whey Products division in Lake Norden, SD and Hull, IA. After responding that Agropur was pleased to support the FFA organization he added his personal FFA experience, as a closing comment to the conversation.

Czmowski shared, “As a State Farmer, it was participating in the dairy foods contest in 1978 that launched my career in dairy, and specifically the cheese industry.” Loving to hear past FFA experiences, we asked questions, and learned more about how FFA impacted his career.

From that Dairy Foods Contest he went on to judge on the SDSU team at the National Collegiate Dairy Products Evaluation Contest in 1985. He is now an official judge for the Cheddar Cheese portion of that same annual contest. Since 1995, he has served as a judge in the US and World Championship Cheese Contest, and since 2005, served as an Assistant Chief Judge. These contests are hosted by the Wisconsin Cheesemakers Association. His career path took him to Land O'Lakes, Valley Queen Cheese, Tetra Pak, Green Meadows Foods, and he has most recently worked for Agropur, Inc. for seven years. In 2013 his family founded the CheeseWorld cheese store in Sioux Falls, SD.

In addition to Czmowski, Agropur employs other past FFA members and dairy foods judges like Sheri Kahnke, past SD FFA State Reporter from Brookings. Recently Agropur helped financially support the creation of a new FFA chapter at the Western Christian High School in Hull, Iowa.

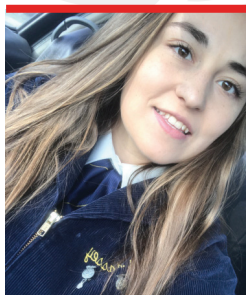
Czmowski has stayed engaged with FFA chapters over the years by assisting local advisors and coaching chapter dairy foods judging teams in Faribault, Minnesota; Webster, South Dakota; Milbank, South Dakota; and Boyden-Hull, IA. He also does motivational / leadership speaking with local FFA Chapters. He shares, “Bottom line - the 1978 Dairy Foods Contest, that then VoAg Instructor Mr. Calvin Pietz talked me into participating in, got me started on a very “gouda” career path!”





## All Our Partners Receive...

- Listing of partnership contact information in the SD FFA Foundation Star Partner Program list distributed to FFA Chapters, SD FFA Alumni Affiliates, SDAAE members, Ag Education students, SD Postsecondary Future Leaders, and Foundation sponsors.
- FREE exhibitor space at State Leadership Event
- Recognition of members on Team Ag Ed websites, social media and printed publications.
- Recognition from SD FFA State Officers during their travel statewide and distribution of materials relating to SD FFA and other members of Team Ag Ed.
- Use of the FFA emblem for marketing and promotion
- Connection with future agriculture employees
- Proof of your company's commitment to building a strong youth leadership development program, promoting an awareness of SD agriculture and commitment to community.
- Knowledge that your participation in this project is making a positive difference and that your employees, customers, community, and stockholders are ensuring a bright future and quality programming for SD youth.
- Trust and confidence of doing business with members of the SD Team Ag Ed and the prestige which comes from your sponsorship and our brand equity.
- Support of the ideals of character development promoted by the SD FFA Association including patriotism, trustworthiness, reliability, honesty, caring, loyalty, tenacity, and an appreciation for agriculture and our natural resources.



### Brittney Massey, Menno FFA

FFA has helped me take on things that help others, gotten me out of my comfort zone, and provided a different kind of competitive atmosphere. In FFA, even if I'm not THE BEST, I can still be involved and make a difference.

### Blake Olson, Parker FFA

says because of FFA, he is "more responsible and better at time management. I learned to be independent and gained knowledge about the ag industry. FFA is preparing me for the real world."



### Sadie VanderWal, Northwestern Area FFA

"Finally having an FFA chapter is an indescribable feeling, and receiving my very own jacket is something that I have wanted since I was a little girl. Putting my jacket on for the first time was an amazing feeling. It has opened so many opportunities for me as it represents my pride in agriculture and the great joy I have that I can finally participate in all FFA has to offer. Thank you!"



# LEVELS OF PARTNERSHIP

**1-Star** \$2,750   
 **2-Star** \$5,750   
 **3-Star** \$9,750   
 **4-Star** \$14,500   
 **5-Star** \$20,000   
 **Distinguished** \$25,000

SOUTH DAKOTA FFA ASSOCIATION						
•Licensing Agreement for use of FFA emblem/marks	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Advertisement in SD FFA newsletter (1 issue)	1/4 page	1/4 page	1/2 page	1/2 page	1 page	1 page
•Agricultural Adventure Center Sponsor at SD State Fair	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Recognition as Partner in State FFA Convention Program & on convention stage	●	●	●	●	●	●
•National Convention Leadership Delegate sponsorship	●	●	●	●	●	●
•State Convention Award Sponsor		●	●	●	●	●
•State officer leadership presentations for local AFNR programs			●	●	●	●
•Awareness of FFA & Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources programs			●	●	●	●
•State Leadership Retreat Sponsor				●	●	●
•SD State FFA Convention Major Sponsor				●	●	●
•Logo and link from SD FFA Website					●	●
•Travel Scholarships for students participating at the national level					●	●
•One minute commercial to be shown during State FFA Convention (will be shown minimum of 6 times)						●
SOUTH DAKOTA FFA FOUNDATION						
•Listing on the SD FFA Foundation Star Partners Program Web page	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Legislative Breakfast/District Officer Training sponsor	●	●	●	●	●	●
•State Leadership Leadership Event Career exhibit space	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Blue Jackets Bright Futures FFA Jacket Program	6 jackets	6 jackets	6 jackets	6 jackets	9 jackets	9 jackets
•State FFA Leadership CDE & Banquet Sponsorship		●	●	●	●	●
•State Convention State Officer Luncheon				●	●	●
•Agricultural Scholarships awarded in sponsor's name				●	●	●
•Logo in State Convention program					●	●
SD FFA ALUMNI						
•Alumni Event Major Sponsor	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Alumni Affiliate Program Development Sponsor		●	●	●	●	●
•Alumni National Convention Delegate Sponsor			●	●	●	●
•Alumni Annual Meeting Sponsor					●	●
SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATORS (SDAAE)						
•SDAAE conference/workshop sponsor	●	●	●	●	●	●
•SDAAE regional/national conference attendee stipend		●	●	●	●	●
•SDAAE Winter Professional Development conference sponsor			●	●	●	●
•SDAAE member professional development stipend			●	●	●	●
•SDAAE outstanding member, program, and new teacher awards			●	●	●	●
•SDAAE recruitment and retention activities					●	●
AGRICULTURE EDUCATION AT SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY						
•Ag Ed Recruitment and Retention	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Ag Ed Student Teaching Scholarships		●	●	●	●	●
•Ag Ed Leadership Conference Scholarships			●	●	●	●
•Mentoring program for student teachers					●	●
SOUTH DAKOTA FUTURE AG LEADERS						
•Postsecondary Professional Development	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Postsecondary Agriculture Scholarship		●	●	●	●	●
•Postsecondary Ag Advocacy Event			●	●	●	●
ADULT FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT						
•Adult Farm Business Management young farmer scholarships	●	●	●	●	●	●
•Adult Farm Business Management transitional farmer scholarships		●	●	●	●	●
•Adult Farm Business Management event sponsorship			●	●	●	●
•Adult Farm Business Management Secondary/Postsecondary Outreach					●	●

# SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

Once the Sponsorship Agreement form has been received and processed, you will receive a letter of agreement and confirmation of your participation in the South Dakota FFA Star Partner Program. Updates will be sent to you in regard to suspense dates to ensure the rapport of this partnership. Call, write or email for more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Add'l Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Agreement Date \_\_\_\_\_

## GUIDELINES & CONTINGENCIES

The SD FFA Foundation Star Partner Program is designed to encourage optimum promotion for your support of the SD FFA program and Team Ag Ed. To assist in helping us reach the promotional strategies of the program, a short list of guidelines have been developed to help communicate the suspense dates necessary for a successful program. To ensure the highest levels of service, trust and integrity, participants are asked to honor the suspense dates for the greatest program rapport.

Once a sponsorship agreement has been signed and agreed upon, half of the level of partnership participation must be received within 30 days. The final installment for the partnership should be received by the third quarter of the signed partnership agreement.

If these dates are not met, the SD FFA Foundation has the right to refuse further recognition at agreed upon level of sponsorship and may choose to terminate the partnership.

If you should require additional time to meet a deadline, a formal letter of request should be submitted to the SD FFA Foundation for consideration. The letter does not ensure additional time, however, a decision on your request will be made within 10 days of the date it is received.

All rules, guidelines and requirements for usage of the FFA logo, marks, and emblems are at the direction of the SD FFA Association as outlined by National FFA policies and procedures for the period of this agreement. A licensing agreement will be provided in conjunction with the SD FFA Association for participating partners.

The SD FFA Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

## PLEASE SELECT YOUR PARTNERSHIP LEVEL:

- ONE STAR ..... \$2,750
- TWO STAR ..... \$5,750
- THREE STAR ..... \$9,750
- FOUR STAR ..... \$14,500
- FIVE STAR ..... \$20,000
- DISTINGUISHED STAR ..... \$25,000

Please send this complete commitment form to:



**South Dakota FFA Foundation, Inc.**

39393 133<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Bath, SD 57427

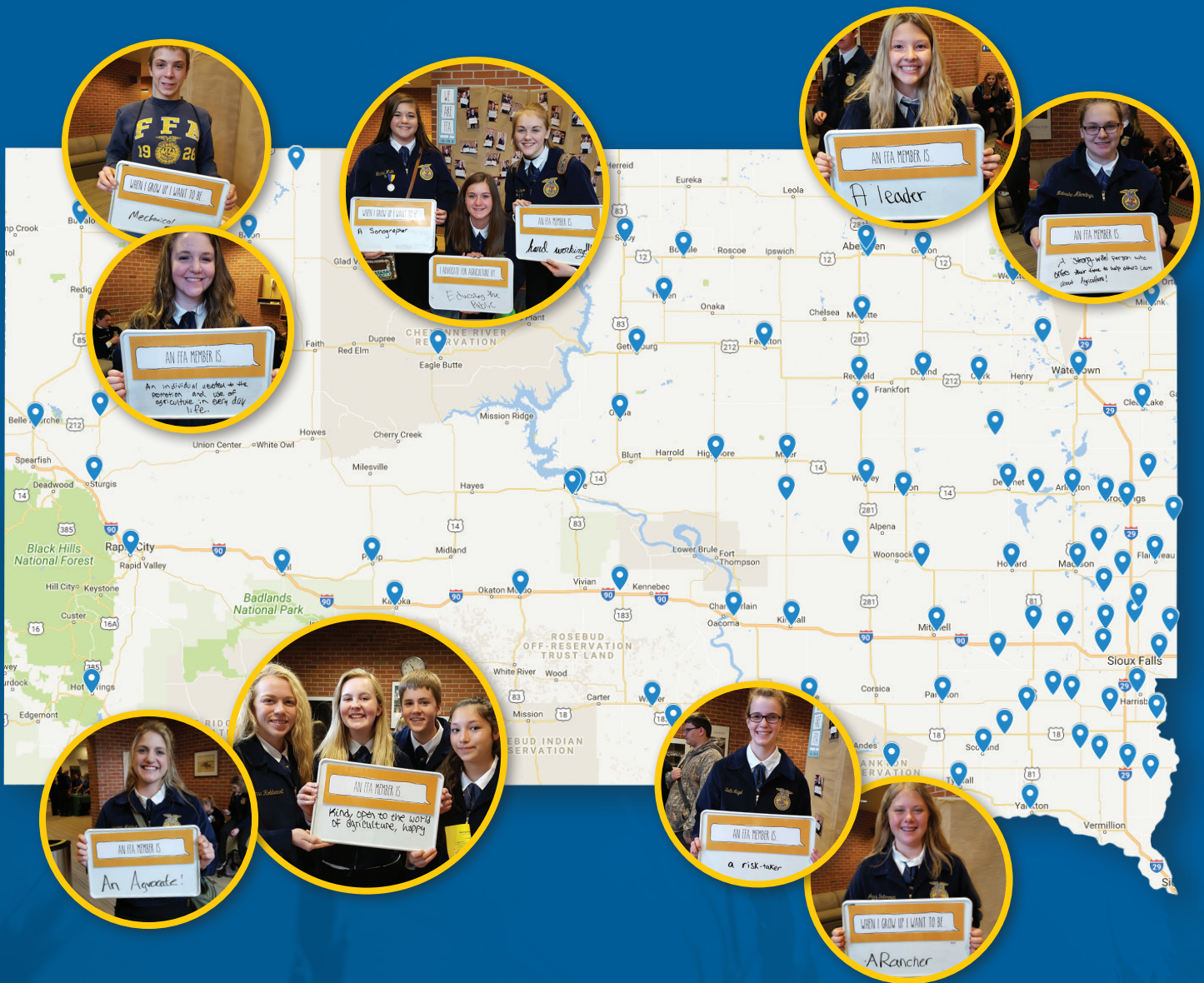
(605) 765-4865

Gerri@SDFFAFoundation.org

Disclaimer: Funds received through the SD FFA Foundation will be used to meet the costs associated with the mission of the SD FFA Foundation. Any funds raised in excess of special projects, convention or conference costs will be used to accomplish the mission and goals of the SD FFA Foundation. The mission of the SD FFA Foundation is to support the leadership opportunities and activities of the FFA and agriculture education. The goals of the SD FFA Foundation are to support leadership, citizenship, and cooperative experience for FFA members; to advance opportunities for participation in local, district, state, regional, and national FFA activities; to generate funding for FFA programs, activities, and awards for FFA members; to manage investment funds; to provide publicity and public awareness of the FFA; to build partnerships between the FFA and the public sector; to cooperate with the SD Agriculture Education teachers and the SD FFA Alumni to promote activities that will benefit FFA members; and to provide an annual report.

This program provides businesses, associations, other foundations, and individuals the opportunity to support the FFA and partners of the SD Team AgEd through special projects of the SD FFA Foundation. Sponsorship recognitions by the SD FFA Foundation do not constitute an endorsement by the Foundation of the products or services of the sponsoring company, organization or individual.

# “LEARNING TO DO, DOING TO LEARN EARNING TO LIVE, LIVING TO SERVE”



## THANK YOU...

for helping to ensure a sound financial future for the SD FFA, agriculture education programs and other partners of SD Team Ag Ed.

You can be proud that you helped grow leaders, build communities and strengthen agriculture, not just for today, but for future generations of South Dakotans. When you are proud of something you want to share it — we are proud of our South Dakota FFA and appreciate you joining our efforts by making an investment that is guaranteed to grow.



[www.sdffaafoundation.org](http://www.sdffaafoundation.org)