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Warren Skinner  
Watertown Animal Clinic  
Webster FFA  
Winner FFA

# SOUTH DAKOTA'S FUTURE LEADERS



FFA has positively impacted me by pushing me out of my comfort zone. That has given me the opportunity to meet new people, make new lifelong friends, try new things, plan my SAE, and develop lifelong skills in multiple areas. It has also helped me improve my public speaking ease. These things will stick with me forever. - **Kathryn Rausch, Hoven FFA**



Throughout my years in the FFA, I have learned how I can be a better leader, teammate, and above all a better version of myself. I've had the privilege of traveling across the country to compete in events and to meet new people. I've learned that the FFA is more than a school extracurricular activity, it's a community and a family for everyone. - **John Petersen, Sturgis FFA**



FFA has taught me how to be a successful leader, challenged me to reach new goals, and helped me realize what career path to pursue. It also helped me make true friends that push me to be my best and step out of my comfort zone. FFA has been my safe haven, where I can go and feel at home. - **Kallen Kafka, Wagner FFA**



FFA sponsors made it possible for me to travel and compete at National FFA Convention, attend District Officer Training and State Convention, and many other activities. These experiences have changed me into the person and FFA member that I am today. From meeting new people to hearing life-changing messages, I am forever grateful for the opportunities FFA and our sponsors have allowed me to experience. - **Lauren Stiefvater, McCook Central FFA**



When I was in elementary school I looked up to the FFA members, so when I had the chance to join, I did. I was lucky enough to receive a sponsored jacket from the Blue Jackets program and I will not put that gift to waste. I want to be involved as much as I can because I love the person that FFA has helped me become. - **Blair Blasius, Wall FFA**

## I BELIEVE IN THE SOUTH DAKOTA FFA!

There are several ways to leave a legacy for the future and help FFA grow. You can ensure that the future is bright for young leaders in agricultural education with a planned gift. Many of these have wonderful benefits for the gift donors. Consider leaving a Legacy Gift through the SD FFA Foundation. Legacy gift options include:

### Endowment

Contribute a minimum of \$10,000 over 10 years or less. The principle is invested and annual earnings are used to support the program of your choice.

### Bequest

Indicate in your will that you'd like to leave part of your estate to the SD FFA Foundation. Gifts through your will can be a particular item, dollar amount or percentage of your estate.

### Beneficiary Designation

Indicate that the SD FFA Foundation is a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, bank account, IRA or non-qualified annuity.

### IRA

If your IRA has increased in value over the years and you have more income than you may need, then an IRA rollover gift is a simple and easy way to donate while not increasing your taxable income.

### Assets

We can accept a variety of assets, including real estate, crops and livestock.

When considering whether or not a planned gift is appropriate for you, ask yourself a few simple questions: "What do I want to give?" "How should I give?" "When should I give?" and "Where will my gift make the most impact?" To visit about options for Leaving Your Legacy, contact the SD FFA Foundation.

[Gerri@sdfafoundation.org](mailto:Gerri@sdfafoundation.org) • 605.765.4865



# WHAT'S BEHIND THE BLUE JACKET?

2021

GIVE THROUGH THE  
**SOUTH DAKOTA FFA FOUNDATION**

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for...

**PREMIER LEADERSHIP**

**Name:** Dana J. Dykhouse  
**Home FFA Chapter:** Central Lyon, IA  
**Year Graduated High School:** 1975  
**College:** B.S. Ag Economics, South Dakota State University, 1979  
**Current Positions:** CEO, First PREMIER Bank, and Chairman South Dakota Board Technical Education; Board Member Sanford Underground Lab - Lead, SD; Board Member Northwestern Energy Corporation; Board Member South Dakota Junior Achievement; Chairman South Dakota Chamber of Commerce Previously served as: Chairman South Dakota Bankers Association; Chairman Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce; Chairman Sioux Empire Fair Association; Chairman South Dakota State University Foundation Board



**What do you enjoy most about FFA?**  
 I became involved in FFA speech contests at the urging of my FFA Teacher/Advisor as a freshman Creed speaker. I enjoyed the competitions throughout high school. It taught me how to organize my thoughts and share my thoughts, plans, and opinions with coworkers and the public.

**How did your FFA experience contribute to your leadership development?**  
 I had the opportunity to serve as an Iowa State FFA Officer my senior year of high school. It was a life changing experience being able to interact with great leaders within FFA and the business community.

**What advice would you give FFA members today?**  
 Get involved! Participate in the many opportunities that your local chapter and state organizations offer. You'll gain life changing experiences!

**PERSONAL GROWTH**

**Name:** Kelli (Garry) Clark  
**Home FFA Chapter:** Lake Preston, SD  
**Year Graduated High School:** 2012  
**College:** Agriculture Education degree, specialization in Communication & Leadership, South Dakota State University, 2016  
**Current position:** Sales and Marketing Instructor at John Deere



**What did you enjoy most about FFA?**  
 What I enjoyed most about FFA was the confidence I gained and the friendships I made. I loved competing in CDEs, traveling across the country with the organization and making friendships for life along the way. I have such great memories of attending leadership camps, conferences and conventions!

**How did your FFA experience contribute to your personal growth?**  
 My FFA experience taught me that there is always room to grow. FFA helped me to recognize what my own strengths were and how to amplify them. FFA also gave me the tools I need to start on my personal development journey and continue it through adulthood.

**What advice would you give FFA members today?**  
 The biggest piece of advice I can give to FFA members is to be big in small moments. The personal growth that you'll encounter throughout life doesn't take place on a stage. It comes from the "small" moments spent preparing and practicing.

**CAREER SUCCESS**

**Name:** Matt Cronin  
**Home FFA Chapter:** Gettysburg, SD  
**Year Graduated High School:** 1983  
**College:** BBA - Finance, University of Notre Dame, 1987  
**Current Position:** President and Co-owner, C & B Operations, LLC, a John Deere dealership business. Also has been involved in many business and community organizations, including Catholic Foundation for Eastern SD, SD/MN Equipment Dealer Assn, Gettysburg Rotary, Potter County Fair Board, Farm Credit Market Place Advisor, Gettysburg School Board, Gettysburg Economic Development Corp, and Gettysburg Healthcare Foundation



**What did you enjoy most about FFA?**  
 I enjoyed all of the memories - State convention, farming our local FFA Ag plot with classmates, and being led by our Ag instructor and FFA advisor, Bill Lehman. It was very special when Bill also taught my children years later.

**How did your FFA experience contribute to your career success?**  
 My FFA experience helped me build interaction skills, confidence, and overall leadership qualities. The areas I was exposed to in FFA developed skills I have continued to build on throughout my entire life.

**What advice do you have for FFA members?**  
 Be honest, have a sense of urgency, respect others, and treat every day as a gift. It is imperative that you get involved with organizations in your community and serve your government when possible. Your involvement and voice make a difference!

**Dedicated members: 4700**  
**Active Chapters: 99**

**GOALS FOR THE NEW YEAR**

- Fund: • 400+ FFA jackets • Additional college scholarships • Ag Adventure Center exhibits
- \$500 travel scholarships for all champion teams • WLC Scholarships • Chapter Service Grants
- State Convention "Living to Serve" project • Summer Leadership Retreat scholarships



**South Dakota FFA Foundation, Inc. CONTRIBUTION**

**Yes! I want to help** shape the next generation of leaders in FFA as they **Grow Leaders - Build Communities - Strengthen Agriculture**  
**Give online at: [sdffaoundation.org](http://sdffaoundation.org)** (Please clip or copy this form to show your continued support for South Dakota FFA members, both present and future.)



**My contribution:**  
 \$50  \$100  \$500  \$1,000  
 Greatest needs of FFA  Advisor support  Student leadership  Other  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*Please include matching gift forms from employers that have such programs.

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 The SD FFA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is eligible for a charitable deduction on your income tax return. Consult your tax advisor.