

FRIENDS OF EXTENSION & 4-H DOUGLAS / SARPY COUNTY FOUNDATION



**Friends of
Extension**



Foundation

*Supporting Douglas and
Sarpy Counties*

Our Mission

Friends of Extension & 4-H in Douglas/Sarpy County Foundation supports and enhances the University of Nebraska Extension and 4-H programs in Douglas and Sarpy counties.

Apple launched iTunes, a gallon of gas cost \$1.59, spiky hair, choker necklaces, and low-rise jeans were in fashion, Finding Nemo & Pirates of the Caribbean were on the big screen, and Arnold Schwarzenegger was elected Governor of California. Twenty years ago, in 2003 the Friends of Extension & 4-H Foundation was created. Continued organizational growth has allowed us to expand the ways in which we support Extension. Our Board of Directors passionately advocates the work of Extension and has continued to connect with staff and volunteers. This year has been exciting as we added several new board members, supported the growth of the Master Gardener program, hosted the Douglas County Fair for the sixth year, and awarded more than \$15,000 in grants and direct support to Extension and Extension related programs. As we look forward to the future, we are excited to see what we can accomplish in the next twenty years. Next year will bring new opportunities to celebrate and support the work, staff, and volunteers of Extension and 4-H in Douglas and Sarpy Counties.

Eddie Biwer - Foundation Board Chair
Kori Jensen - Executive Director



INDEX

PAGE 2 - WAYS TO GIVE
PAGE 3 - GIVING EVENTS
PAGE 4 - MASTER GARDENERS
PAGE 5 - GRANTS
PAGE 8 - EXTENSION FUNDING
PAGE 9 - DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR
PAGE 10 - NACEB
PAGE 11 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VISION

The Extension and 4-H programs in Douglas and Sarpy counties offer several educational and development opportunities in a wide variety of areas of interest to youth and adults in both urban and rural communities. We are proud of what these valuable organizations do for our community and support the efforts of Extension and 4-H through our advocacy, grants, and development.

WAYS TO GIVE

Friends of Extension Foundation welcomes all donations.

All gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible. The Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) organization.

There are several types of gifts that can be made, depending upon each individual's ability to help based on their area of interest.

- Unrestricted Gifts: these will be used at the Foundation's discretion.
- In-Kind Gifts: Contact the Foundation to see what in-kind gifts might best meet the needs of Extension and 4-H.
- Restricted Gifts: Gifts made for a specific purpose, such as a specific program or activity.
- Planned Giving: The Foundation can assist those who would like to donate memorials or endow gifts while planning their estate.
- Fundraising: Groups or individuals can sign up for annual giving.

Find our more at our website:



FOUNDATION GIVING EVENTS

FRIENDS FOUNDATION FOCUSES ON OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE BACK TO EVENTS THAT SUPPORT THE MISSION OF PROMOTING EXTENSION AND 4-H.

Events and Activities that we have supported in the last year include:

- Awards Luncheons to recognize Volunteers that support the work of Extension and 4-H.
 - We have supported the recognition and thank you to the Master Gardeners who work within the community at “Ask a Master Gardener” events, Demonstration Gardeners and answer the phones at the Extension Office.
 - 4-H Recognition Night to recognizes the accomplishments of our 4-H Youth
- Earth Day booth sponsorship. Earth Day occurs each April in Elmwood Park. We provide the funding for the Master Gardeners and 4-H Council to talk about their programs with the Public

ANNUAL GIVING EVENTS:

- Annual Giving Campaigns beginning in late November thru January and again in April
- Giving Tuesday, the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving
- Share Omaha, “Do Good Week” focus in April of each year
- Amazon Smile – any time you purchase something through Amazon select the Friends Foundation to share back with
- Memorial gifts to honor a loved one



MASTER GARDENERS

Support for Extension Master Gardener Teaching Gardens in Douglas and Sarpy Counties

The Nebraska Extension Master Gardener (EMG) program extends outreach by providing volunteers with science-based horticulture education, which prepares them to share their knowledge with Nebraskans. Douglas/Sarpy Counties have 241 active EMGs,

This pas year, we have provided \$1,887 to 12 teaching gardens for plants and gardening supplies around the counties.



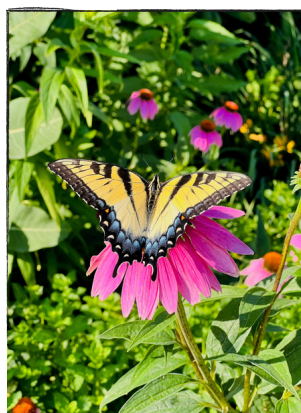
Chuck Blanchard Memorial Garden rain barrel



Village Pointe bee hotel, garden and sign



St. Leo's pollinator garden



Josie Harper Hospice House

GRANTS AWARDED



Early Childhood Extension Program
\$1,000 for outdoor play program.



Food Safety & Nutrition Program
\$1,000 for a food safety training pilot program for five urban high schools. Trained 200 high school students with National Restaurant Certification class. Students received a Food Handlers certificate that is good for two years in the U. S.



4-H Youth Development Programs
Springfield Blue Jeans and Boots 4-H club - \$892.00 for an archery project. Received a shooting sports grant to get some archery equipment so more kids in our club can try and join in shooting arrows. 3 bows and arrows were purchased.

GRANTS AWARDED



4-H Youth Development Programs

Omaha Home for Boys - \$300.00 for livestock mini camp. The camp introduces basic care, grooming, exhibiting, and preparation techniques for the participants' livestock projects in a non-competitive learning environment. Typically, around 70 total individuals attend the camp with 40 of those being youth participants.



4-H Youth Development Programs

Gears in Motion 4-H Club - \$1,000 for team to attend the Robotics National Contest – need more information. Team consisted of four 4-Hers – team name “Gizmo Gang.” Each year First Lego League releases a Challenge based upon current, real-world issues. The youth must research and solve this problem, present their research and solutions then build and program a robot using engineering concepts. This year’s challenge, “Cargo Connect”, was to identify and solve a transportation problem. Placed 1st in Nebraska State Tournament & competed in World Championships in Texas.



4-H Youth Development Programs

Explorers 4-H Aquatic Society - \$500 for a 3D printer PLA filament to print 6 mini garden beds for the Stephen Center

GRANTS



Master Gardener & Horticulture Programs

Extension Master Gardener Program – \$650 for updated Master Gardener bookmarks that are distributed at Ask the Master Gardener information booths



Master Gardener & Horticulture Programs

Rainbow Community Gardens at the Metropolitan Community Church in South Omaha - \$500 for garden design, plants & supplies



Master Gardener & Horticulture Programs

Hope (Helping Omaha People Eat) Teaching Garden - \$1,708 for the purchase of 15,000 branded produce bags for the fresh produce donated to the Heartland HOPE Mission Foodbank



Master Gardener & Horticulture Programs

Ask the Master Gardener Table at the Aksarben Farmers Market – \$852 for marketing tools to attract more people to the table – spin wheel and prizes



EXTENSION FUNDING

GENERAL EXTENSION - “PROJECTS” FUNDED BY THE FRIENDS OF EXTENSION



Submitted by, Carrie Miller, Douglas Sarpy
Extension Unit Leader

- Staff and board development
 - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training for Douglas-Sarpy Extension staff and board members.
 - Annual membership fees to the Sarpy, Greater Omaha, and Ralston Chambers of Commerce.
 - Registration fee for the unit leader to attend the Urban Extension Conference in Madison Wisconsin and the annual Nebraska Association of County Extension Board's annual meeting.
- Marketing
 - Printing and binding fees to create the Douglas-Sarpy Extension 2022 annual report. This report is shared with local and statewide elected officials and community partners.
 - Douglas-Sarpy Extension incentive items: branded pens and notepads.
 - Professionally branded sandwich board inserts.



DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR



The 2023 Douglas County Fair was held July 22-23 at the Liberty First Credit Union Arena. This is the second year in a row and planned future home for the Fair.

This year's Fair saw expansion take place with the addition of outdoor exhibits including a giant slide, food trucks, a Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) Trailer and equipment displayed.



Inside the Arena an interactive family area was expanded and moved to the Arena floor to the delight of attendees. Vendor spots were full with great traffic from attendees throughout the weekend. The livestock shows and the Petting Zoo continue to be a draw and hit with the public.

Plans are underway to update how the Petting Zoo is displayed to bring a more interactive experience with the livestock shows all in the same location.



NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY EXTENSION BOARDS ANNUAL MEETING



In June Douglas-Sarpy Extension hosted the annual Nebraska Association of County Extension Boards (NACEB) event in Omaha. During the tour participants learned about urban Extension programs and toured three sites: No More Empty Pots, South Omaha 24th Street Business District, and the Henry Doorly Zoo.

NACEB is a non-profit organization that's mission is to support Nebraska Extension. The NACEB board is composed of directors from across the state. They come together twice a year in person and monthly via Zoom to conduct business and learn more about the work of Extension in Nebraska communities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



2023 Members

Eddie Biwer, Chair

Jan Herzog, Vice-Chair

Karla Morgan, Secretary

Lorraine Henry, Treasurer

Tracey Jones

Abby Eastman

Tyson Agler

Ross Sukup

Kevin Kock

Colin Bernard, Extension Board President

Justin Wagner, 4-H Council President

Matt Gunderson, Douglas County Fair Advisory Board
Chair

STAFF

Kori Jensen, Foundation Executive Director

Carrie Schneider-Miller, Extension Unit Leader

Nancy Urbanec, Extension Liaison