



YOUR DONATION HAS IMPACT!

Programs the Foundation has funded are impacting the industry today.

Youth Leadership Derby

This fun, hands-on weekend generates great enthusiasm for careers in production dairy among teenagers. Presenters highlight opportunities in agriculture and encourage youth to seek careers in our industry.

“This weekend was a great networking opportunity. I made contact with people for information, internships, jobs and resources. I will take the information I learned and use it in my life, school and job.” --Jenny Breuer, currently a student at UW-River Falls

“The conference is great for both non-dairy and dairy. Finding your passion and knowing how to get there is so important for young students, and that is important for all. I can use this information anywhere in my life: goals, career, college, farm, communication.” --Joseph Ploeckelman, currently a student at UW-River Falls

Dairy Mentor Program

This program pairs college students with producer-mentors to share real-world experiences on dairy operations.

“It’s important to give back to an industry that’s been so good to us. We need to help prepare the next generation to help feed the world.” --dairy producer mentor

“I would recommend this program to other students because it is a wonderful way to see how other farmers run their farms and provide ideas that youth may be able to use themselves. It is also a great opportunity to ask a professional dairy producer questions about dairy farming and have a one on one learning experience with an expert.” --student participant in mentor program

Enhanced Internship Program

This program has provided an opportunity for students to gain on-farm, professional experience and to “test-drive” careers in different segments of the dairy profession.

“The Enhanced Internship Program has by far been the most rewarding experience. Why? Life is all about people and relationships, and the internship program gives us a chance to live, learn, grow and teach the next generation of dairy professionals.” --Randy Bonde

National Dairy Animal Well-Being Initiative

This producer-led Coalition includes members from every sector of the dairy industry. The Foundation served as a “neutral ground” for collecting and distributing funds from all industry participants. At the 2008 World Dairy Expo, the Coalition introduced its Principles and Guidelines -- a uniform umbrella of assurance that the industry is meeting its ethical obligation for dairy animal well-being. The goal is to protect consumer trust and confidence in the dairy industry by demonstrating dairy producers’ commitment to animal well-being.

“I think it is very important for the producers in the dairy industry to lead and navigate their way through public related issues rather than being forced. Being proactive and aware of the public concerns surrounding the dairy industry will help the producers address concerns before they are detrimental to the success and growth of the dairy industry.” --*Sarah Rust, Smithfield Beef Group*

“As a retail grocery chain, Safeway is committed to sourcing our dairy products from producers who treat their animals in a humane fashion, provide for their health and well-being, and adhere to sound animal management practices. We have a commitment to our customers to source any animal-based foods in this fashion. Uniformly administered animal welfare standards that can be verified by third-party inspections give the industry give the industry credibility in the eyes of customers like Safeway...and subsequently with our customers.” --*Mary Kamm, Safeway*

ACE—Agriculture Community Engagement

ACE brings together rural residents and local elected officials to learn about agriculture issues that impact their communities. Working with the Wisconsin Towns and the Wisconsin Counties Associations, ACE provides farm and educational tours, engages workgroups and brings local elected officials to events to facilitate positive communication on issues facing the dairy industry and rural communities.

"ACE helps local officials connect with and understand dairy producers and their businesses. It also allows the dairy industry to work with the local officials who need to make the decision in their towns and counties. This collaboration improves communication and understanding for all involved."~ *Rick Stadelman, Executive Director, Wisconsin Towns Association*

"ACE has given dairy the opportunity to engage in positive, proactive communication with our community partners. As folks become farther removed from agriculture, it gives us a forum for telling our story. When I attend ACE events, we are greeted with thoughtful questions and listening ears. Our towns and counties stakeholders seem to hunger for accurate information and appreciate solutions that are mutually effective for small government, their constituents and agriculture."~ *Deb Reinhart, Gold Star Farm, New Holstein, Wis.*

For more information, contact:

Professional Dairy Producers Foundation • 800.947.7379 • www.dairyfoundation.org