

# 2019 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

---



800-884-FARM // [fcsamerica.com](http://fcsamerica.com)

Agriculture Works Here is the property of Farm Credit Services of America.

AW20-CIR



## COMMITTED TO THE PEOPLE WE SERVE AND THE RURAL LIFE WE VALUE SO HIGHLY.

As a mission-driven financial cooperative, Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica) is committed to serving the financial needs of farmers, ranchers, rural residents and agribusinesses.

Community involvement is also part of our mission – a commitment to impact the communities in which we live and work.

Our community involvement is focused on ag education, young and beginning producer programs, hunger and nutrition, and rural disaster relief and essential services. We support these initiatives through employee volunteering, contributions and grants.

In 2019, our employees volunteered more than 8,400 hours of time to benefit others, and our Association donated more than \$3.8 million to non-profit causes and organizations.

Our efforts touched thousands of lives in hundreds of communities across our states. This past year, you would have seen our team members volunteering in food banks, building homes, assisting flooded communities, teaching kids about agriculture and more.

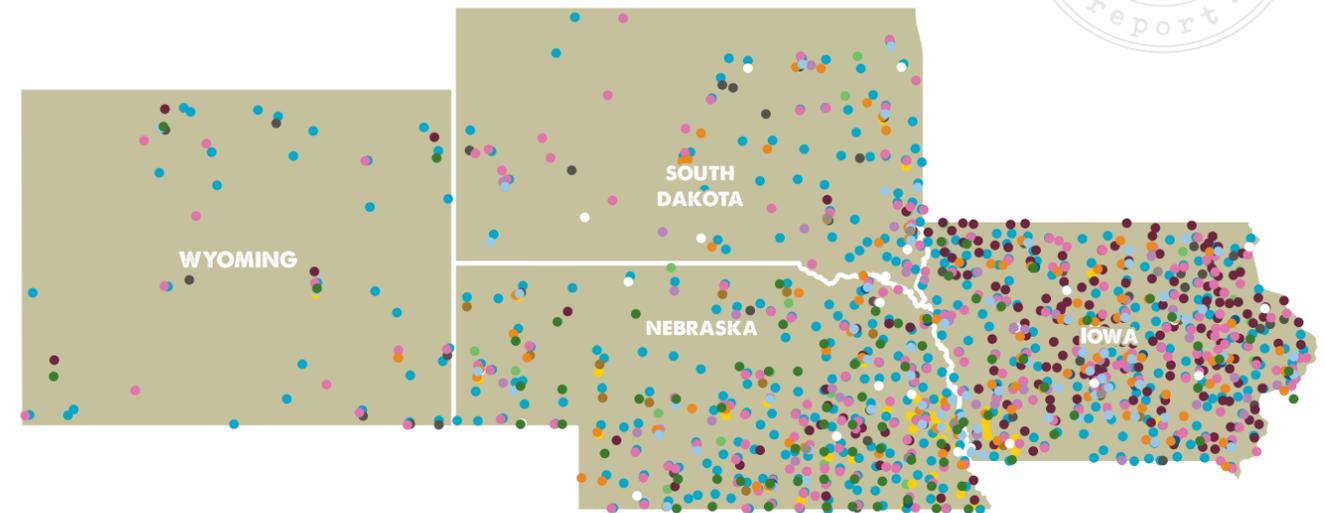
Our grants and donations helped support student scholarships, women in agriculture, FFA, 4-H, community gardens, rural fire departments, schools and other worthwhile community needs.

The impact map in this report provides a visual reference to the projects and places we made an impact in 2019.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and our leadership team, I want to express the pride and appreciation we share for the hundreds of employees who invested their time and talents to benefit rural communities and those who live in them.



Mark Jensen  
President and CEO



- **4-H Stall Cards:** More than 69,000 stall cards provided to livestock exhibitors.
- **Disaster Relief:** Employee volunteer hours and contributions supported local disaster cleanup efforts.
- **Employee Match:** This program provided matches of up to \$250 for each employee and director contribution to causes that were meaningful to them, totaling \$48,584.
- **Employee Volunteers:** FCSAmerica employees volunteered 8,441 hours for non-profit organizations in their local communities.
- **Expanded Grants:** Up to \$10,000 per grant, totaling \$304,830 for hunger and nutrition, ag education, rural disaster/essential services, and young and beginning producer programs.
- **Farm Risk Management Tool:** Provided web-based farm risk management online tool and curriculum to 446 high school FFA chapters.
- **FFA Support:** Provided funding for 9,000 FFA handbooks and establishing new chapters.
- **Grain Bin Rescue:** Donated grain bin rescue equipment and training for 27 volunteer fire departments.
- **Grants:** Provided 289 *Working Here Fund* grants up to \$2,000 each, totaling \$506,515 for hunger and nutrition, ag education, rural disaster/essential services, and young and beginning producer programs.
- **Hunger Relief:** Provided funding and employee volunteers for mobile pantries, food rescue and food distribution to underserved counties with high percentages of food insecurity.
- **Local Contributions:** Each of our local offices impacted communities with funding support for local programs and initiatives.
- **Scholarships:** Awarded 28 \$2,500 land-grant university scholarships and 46 \$2,000 community college scholarships to students pursuing a career in agriculture.
- **The Big Garden:** New community gardens harvested produce and taught children to grow food.
- **Underwriting Support:** Funded support for South Dakota Ag Foundation, SDSU Precision Ag Facility, Ag in the Classroom (WY, SD, IA, NE), Ogallala Commons Nebraska and South Dakota Intern Program, Saving Grace food rescue truck and UNL agriculture curriculum.
- **Women in Ag:** Funded 37 courses, including farm business management, livestock management and succession planning and FarmHer.

For more information about our community involvement, visit [fcsamerica.com/community](https://fcsamerica.com/community).





## TECHNOLOGY CONNECTS CLASSROOM TO REAL WORLD

The Wilcox-Hildreth FFA Chapter is using drone technology to learn about precision agriculture practices in the real world. Three drones purchased through a FCSAmerica grant are teaching students topography, aircraft physics, computer programming, fertilizer settings and crop damage assessments.

“As a community centered on agriculture and where most jobs are agriculture-based, teaching students about the technology used in today’s agricultural industry is very important,” says Kassie Faimon, Wilcox-Hildreth agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor.

### HOW ARE DRONES BEING USED FOR AGRICULTURE?



MAPPING/SURVEYING



CROP DUSTING/SPRAYING



IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT



LIVESTOCK MONITORING

## DEVELOPING STUDENT LEADERS THROUGH HANDS-ON LEARNING

Thanks to the start-up of the Woodbury Central FFA Chapter during the 2019/2020 year, students develop ag leadership, personal growth and career success.

“We want to provide students with as many opportunities to see what the agriculture industry has to offer while involving them in hands-on learning,” says Kelsey Sands, Woodbury Central FFA advisor and agricultural education teacher.

Resources, official FFA dress, pins, plaques, lab supplies and funds for classroom improvements and FFA national convention costs were made possible by FCSAmerica.



Woodbury Central FFA members delivered 50 meals to farmers working in the fields last November as part of their Feed the Farmer event.

### SUPPORTING AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS



**69,585** Total number of stall cards donated to 4-H clubs



**9,000** Total number of handbooks provided free to FFA chapters

## WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP SOLVE HUNGER

A partnership between Food Bank of Iowa and Food Bank of Southern Iowa is bringing greater access to food and funding resources to a 55-county area in northern, central and southern Iowa.

A 25,000 square foot distribution center in Ottumwa serves Food Bank of Iowa’s 13 southern Iowa counties. Currently Food Bank of Iowa distributes on average about 1.5 million pounds per month to more than 600 agency partners. Support from FCSAmerica funded the purchase of a pallet wrapper at the Ottumwa food distribution center to help meet growing distribution needs with greater efficiency.

### MOBILE FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

FCSAmerica helps the Food Bank for the Heartland mobile pantry program distribute food directly to communities that have a high need but limited food resources. In 2019, more than 70,000 pounds of food was distributed to 998 households.



IN 2019

**MORE THAN 70,000 POUNDS OF FOOD**  
WAS DELIVERED TO  
**998 HOUSEHOLDS**



**25,000 SQ FT**  
DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
IN OTTUMWA, IOWA



**3,013**  
INDIVIDUALS SERVED



# COMMITTED TO HELPING COMMUNITIES RECOVER

In 2019, communities across FCSAmerica's four-state territory were impacted by severe flooding and tornadoes. The collapse of a critical irrigation tunnel added to the challenges of producers near the Wyoming/Nebraska border. Land, livestock, homes and livelihoods were disrupted by the devastating events. FCSAmerica provided disaster relief assistance to the following areas and organizations.



## FLOOD RELIEF:

- **Nebraska Farm Bureau Foundation**
- **Farm Credit Relief Fund**
- **American Red Cross**
  - Grand Island, NE
  - Lincoln, NE
  - Des Moines, IA
  - Omaha, NE
  - Sioux Falls, SD
  - Mitchell, SD
  - Kearney, NE
- **Kearney Area Community Foundation**
- **Nebraska Cattlemen Association**



## TORNADO RELIEF:

- **Floyd County Fair Society**
  - Charles City, IA
- **American Red Cross of Northeast Iowa**
  - Charles City, IA
- **American Red Cross**
  - Sioux Falls, SD



## IRRIGATION TUNNEL COLLAPSE RECOVERY:

- **Oregon Trail Community Foundation Disaster Relief Irrigation**



# AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM ADDS LIVESTOCK LEARNING LAB

The animal and veterinary science curriculum at High Plains Community High School was enhanced through the addition of a livestock learning lab. This year, a nearby storage building will become the home of the learning lab thanks to a renovation funded by FCSAmerica.

"The goals for the animal birthing lab project are to deliver a hands-on animal science curriculum and allow students to develop animal parturition, health and nutrition skills in beef, goat, equine and swine production," says Tom Hofmann, High Plains agricultural instructor and FFA advisor.

"Both goals are directly related to the High Plains Community School's mission to provide an educational environment that develops lifelong learners and contributes to a global society."

## ANIMAL SCIENCE PATHWAY

Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE) is one of the many agricultural education projects funded through FCSAmerica. CASE utilizes four Program of Study pathways, including animal science, to increase the rigor of coursework while also building students' content knowledge and technical skills.

