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Virginia 4-H Foundation

The Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment

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Creating Leaders for the Future

Started in the early 1990s, the Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment supports a wide variety of comprehensive, hands-on educational programs focused on beef cattle, sheep, and swine production. Students develop their skills through a series of learning and competitive activities. Even more, they learn critical thinking, problem solving, and presentation skills, which equip them to become leaders in any future endeavor.

The Virginia 4-H Foundation and Virginia 4-H are pleased to invite you to support this exciting and important program by making a gift to the Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment. Since the endowment is a permanent fund, your contribution will enhance the education of thousands of young people each year and will continue to benefit Virginia's livestock industry by creating generations of new leaders. Our goal is to raise an additional \$250,000 in endowed support for the 4-H youth livestock program. The income from the endowment will supplement annual and in kind gifts and provide a permanent resource to support this important program.

Building Skills Through Experience

There are currently 6,288 youth enrolled in beef, sheep, swine, meat goat, animal sciences and veterinary science projects in Virginia 4-H. Through the Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment, they are able to take advantage of opportunities such as youth cattle working contests, where they learn the importance of quality assurance and the safety of our food supply; stockmen's contests, where they learn broad based applied knowledge of livestock management; judging contests where they learn critical thinking, problem solving and how to orally present their opinions in an organized manner. Leaders, volunteers, and extension agents involved in youth livestock projects throughout the state can also take advantage of resources and educational opportunities supported by the endowment.

At its current size, the Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment provides some level of support for:

- Livestock Leadership Forums
- Junior Project Days
- Quality Assurance Trainings
- Livestock Judging Camps
- Stockmen's Camps
- Quiz Bowls
- Stockmen's Contests
- Livestock Judging Contests





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You and the Future of the Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment

You are part of a group of people with a strong interest in young people and the livestock industry. With your gifts, we can increase the size of the endowment, which enables us to increase support for these programs and to expand our offerings. You will also help increase our capacity to offer scholarships to cover partial or full cost of attendance to young people who do not have the financial means to afford to attend the programs. Since the endowment supports programs through income earned by investing the principal, currently at a five percent annual return, growing the size of the endowment, directly increases our capacity to reach more youth with better programming.

You will also be joining a number of livestock industry partners who support specific programs through annual grants to the program. Your participation will help us attract new partners like you, as well as new participation from a broader range of industry partners.

The Virginia 4-H Foundation endowment is managed by the Virginia Tech Foundation, which has an investment record which surpassed Harvard during the recent economic downturn. Program allocations will be determined by an advisory group which will establish an annual budget based on recommendations from Extension agents across the commonwealth. Each year's budget will be developed to assure maximum impact of the available funds.

Every year, the Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Endowment enables young people from all parts of Virginia participate in exciting programs that build their skills and their potential as future leaders. We deeply appreciate your interest in them, and in the future of the livestock industry in the commonwealth. We look forward to working together to provide even more opportunity in the future.

Livestock Endowment Committee: Tim Clark, Shirley Kaufman, Anne Keeler, Ruth Boden, Tad Melton, Paige Pratt, Mark Wahlberg.

To learn more about how you can support Virginia 4-H the Virginia 4-H Livestock Youth Development Initiative or become involved with the Virginia 4-H Foundation, please contact:

Virginia 4-H Foundation

115 Hutcheson Hall
Blacksburg, VA 24061
540.231.6371
cmsutph@vt.edu
Website: www.4-h.ext.vt.edu/give

CALS Development Office

Ben Grove, Associate Director
216 Hutcheson Hall
Blacksburg, VA 24061
540.231.7640
begrove@vt.edu

Virginia 4-H Foundation

115 Hutcheson Hall,
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg,
VA 24061