

## NewsWatch

# Four FFA chapters fight local hunger

**F**OUR Wisconsin FFA chapters were recently awarded grants of up to \$2,500 to help battle hunger in their local communities. The “Food for All” grants are a special project of the National FFA Organization’s “Living to Serve” program, with funding provided by Farmers Feeding the World and the Howard G. Buffett Foundation.

Chapters applied for the competitive

## Key Points

- Funds totaling \$330,000 were granted to 140 FFA chapters in 41 states.
- Four Wisconsin FFA chapters received grants to help battle local hunger.
- Those chapters are Big Foot, Neillsville, Pulaski and Unity.

grants by explaining their plans for a yearlong, sustainable project to address hunger in their communities. The projects were required to include educational outreach to the community and involve youth in the design and implementation.

The winning chapters will submit a series of reports throughout the implementation of their projects and will participate in a “program showcase” at the

2012 National FFA Convention.

Just more than \$330,000 was granted to 140 chapters in 41 states. The following Wisconsin FFA chapters were selected to receive grant funds for their projects:

■ **Big Foot FFA — Fuel Foods 4 Families.** The Big Foot FFA Chapter plans to fight hunger by making its school greenhouse available all year. Additionally, FFA members will raise layer hens for eggs and meat and will conduct educational workshops on sustainable food practices.

■ **Neillsville FFA — Learn to Garden at the Neillsville School Garden.** The Neillsville FFA Chapter’s main goal is to use the school garden as a living classroom for students and community members through an outreach program. They will use this living classroom to teach families in their community how to grow their own garden and preserve the harvest.

■ **Pulaski FFA — Fresh Grown for All.** The Pulaski FFA Chapter plans to design, plant, grow and maintain a community garden to provide residents a space to grow their own vegetables. The area will be used to teach students about gardening and the importance of fresh fruits and vegetables in their daily diets. Students will also build garden boxes for the elderly in their community.

■ **Unity FFA — The Unity CommUNITY Garden.** Through the implementation of the Unity CommUNITY Garden, the Unity FFA Chapter aims to provide fresh produce for its weekly backpack program during the school year. The agricultural education students will present handouts and food samples from the garden to the elementary students to encourage them to try new types of fruits and vegetables.

## Learning through serving

“Service-learning is a method of teaching and learning that is woven throughout the agricultural education curriculum,” says Cheryl Zimmerman, Wisconsin FFA executive director. “It challenges students to identify, research, develop and implement solutions to identified needs in their school or community.

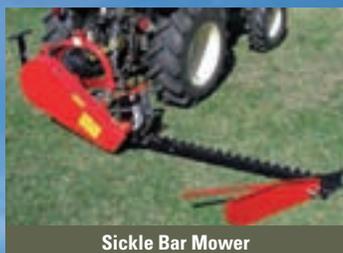
“Alleviating hunger is an especially relevant form of service-learning for our students, since it is directly connected to their other learning objectives related to the agriculture, food and natural resources industry,” adds Zimmerman.

Ag education is a school-based program that prepares students for careers in the ag, food and natural resources industry. It is made up of three integral components: Classes deliver content knowledge. Supervised Agricultural Experiences, or SAEs, provide practical application. FFA develops leadership and soft skills.

The Wisconsin FFA Foundation unites individuals, organizations and companies that share a common interest in the advancement of agriculture and community leadership through FFA. Step up and help today’s FFA members by supporting the programs that have been core tenets of FFA: proficiency awards, career development events, state FFA degrees, sectional leadership workshops, scholarships, chapter awards, agri-science fairs, state FFA convention and state officer support.

The Wisconsin FFA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.

Source: Wisconsin FFA



Sickle Bar Mower



Disc Mower



Tedder



Easy Rake



Easy Rake Superstar



Bat Rake



Round Bale Carrier Model 1450



Round Bale Carrier Model 2450



Square Bale Carrier Model 4480

Visit [www.farm-king.com](http://www.farm-king.com) to find a dealer near you.

# Farm King