



# FARMJOURNAL FOUNDATION

# 2023 IMPACT REPORT



[farmjournalfoundation.org](https://farmjournalfoundation.org)

## OUR MISSION

**Farm Journal Foundation is an independent nonprofit and nonpartisan organization dedicated to achieving global food and nutrition security by sustaining modern agriculture's leadership role and ability to meet the vital needs of a growing population.**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the CEO .....	4
About Farm Journal Foundation .....	6
2023 Highlights .....	8
Farmer Ambassador Program.....	10
In-State Events .....	14
International Events .....	18
Thought Leadership.....	22
Conservations Programs.....	30
Veterinary Workforce Development.....	32
Education Programs.....	34
Partners and Special Thanks .....	36
Staff and Board .....	38



**global food and nutrition security**



**sustainable agriculture**



**rural economic development**



## 2023: A BREAKOUT YEAR

**2023 represented a truly breakout year for Farm Journal Foundation, and I am excited to share our successes and milestones in our latest Annual Impact Report. Many of our programs really came into their own in the past year, and we kicked off a number of new initiatives that will help shape our strategy in the years to come.**

In 2023, we launched several new thought leadership pieces that served as springboards for our work throughout the year. Our research – covering the impact of global food security on national security, the global “polycrisis” of climate change, COVID-19, and conflict and its disproportionate effects on farmers, and the importance of supporting agricultural innovation in the next Farm Bill – spurred important, year-long conversations about how agriculture can help solve major global challenges. We drove these messages home through media engagement and our op-ed series, as well as at events held with members of Congress and other key influencers across the country – and even across the world. We were proud to join the international development community at the recent United Nations climate change conference, COP28, in Dubai – organizing and leading events that educated audiences about how food systems are impacted by climate change and how they can contribute in the fight against it.

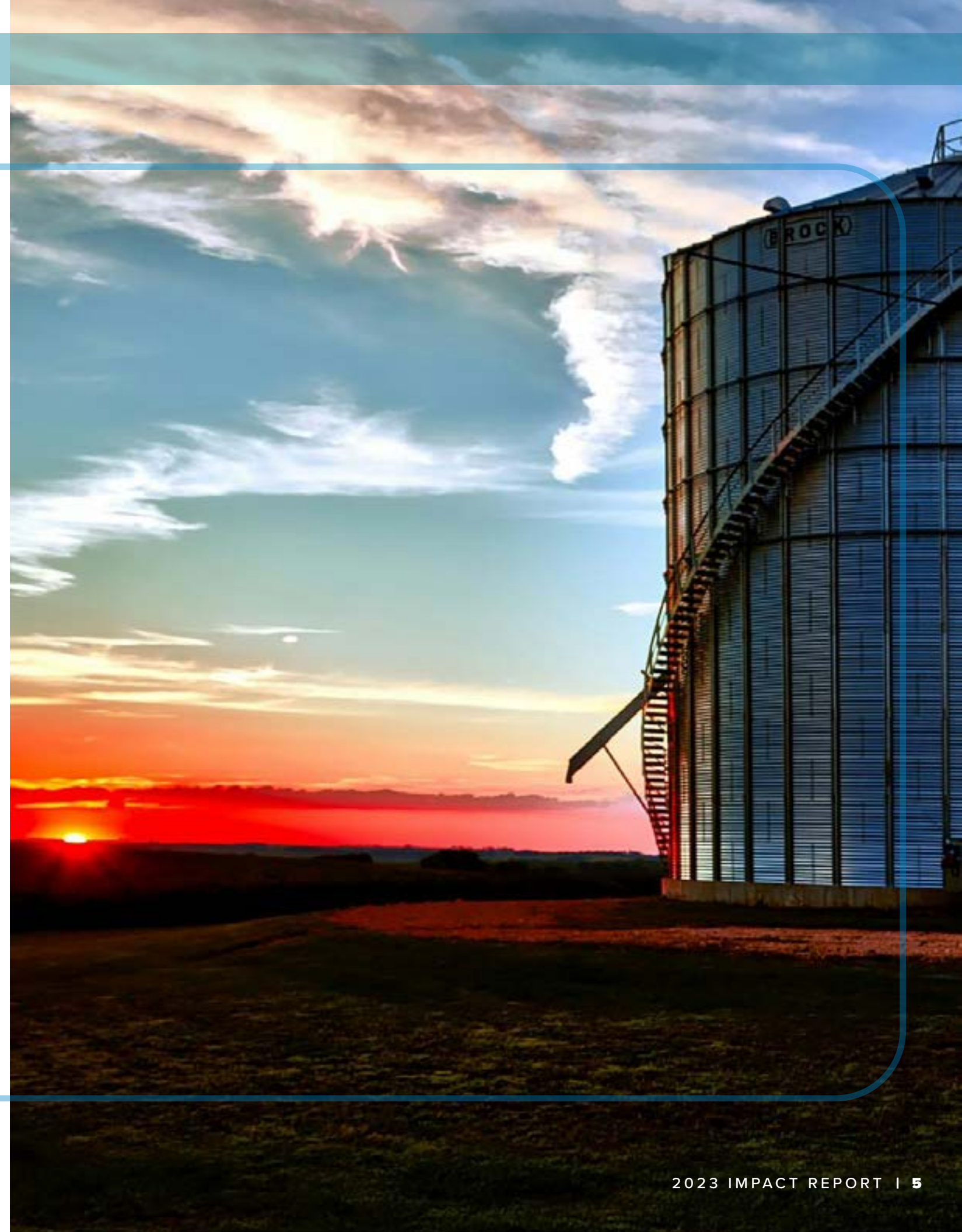
In addition, we expanded our rural development work in 2023 and started new conservation and education projects that will broaden the Foundation’s reach and impact. Our new climate-smart grazing program for Native American farmers, operating in partnership with the Intertribal Agriculture Council, is particularly exciting because it will help put Tribal producers at the forefront of conservation agriculture. Our growing work to address shortages of food systems veterinarians in rural America, as well as expanded educational projects to teach students about where their food comes from, will benefit rural development and consumer appreciation of agriculture’s important role in our society.

As always, we are deeply grateful to all of our partners – and in particular, to our Farmer Ambassadors and Veterinary Ambassadors, who selflessly devote their time and energy toward making our world a better place. We are energized by what’s ahead, and look forward to building upon all of this important work in 2024 and beyond.



Sincerely,  
**Tricia Beal**  
CEO, Farm Journal Foundation

*Tricia Beal*



## ABOUT FARM JOURNAL FOUNDATION

**Farm Journal Foundation is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization working to advance global food and nutrition security, sustainable agriculture, and rural economic development.**

We believe in a future where food systems work for everyone – farmers, consumers, businesses, and the environment. Achieving this vision starts with conversations – bringing all voices to the table to discuss challenges to our global food systems and how we can create tangible, innovative solutions that serve us all.

### FARM JOURNAL FOUNDATION'S VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEMS

**STRONG  
FARMER  
LIVELIHOODS**

**ROBUST  
BUSINESSES**

**HEALTHY  
NATURAL  
ENVIRONMENTS**

**NUTRITIOUS,  
AFFORDABLE  
FOOD FOR  
CONSUMERS**



### HOW WE WORK

Farm Journal Foundation acts as a connector and convener, bringing together stakeholders from across food and agriculture to advance solutions to pressing global challenges. Our work has three main pillars: thought leadership, education, and policy engagement.



#### THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

We write and commission peer-reviewed policy research that offers tangible solutions to food systems challenges. We then elevate important ideas through op-eds, media engagement, speaking events, coalition building, and other strategic channels.



#### EDUCATION

We explain sustainable agriculture's vital role in feeding a growing global population through educational programs focusing on policymakers, students, and consumer audiences.



#### POLICY ENGAGEMENT

We work with a network of farmers, ranchers, and growers from across the U.S. to drive policy solutions to the biggest challenges facing food and agriculture today. The Foundation's staff, Farmer Ambassadors, and Veterinary Ambassadors regularly host in-state events with national-level policymakers and meetings on Capitol Hill to encourage public support for agricultural innovation, global food and nutrition security programs, agricultural development, and other important initiatives.

2023 was a year of successes and new milestones. Below, we highlight some of our most important work of the past year.

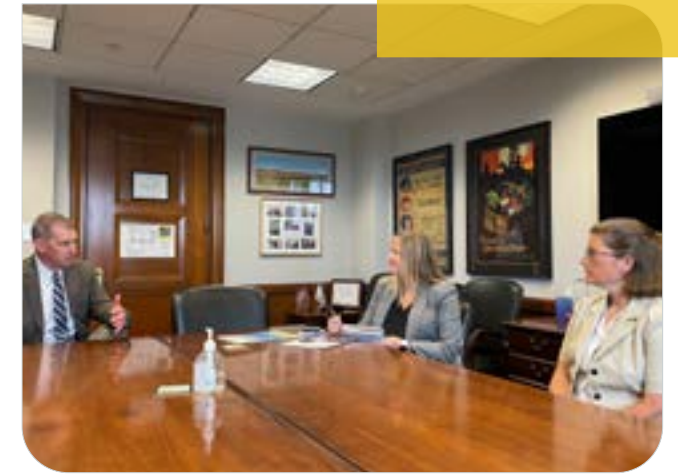
**DRIVING GLOBAL DISCUSSIONS AT COP28:**

Farm Journal Foundation joined in international conversations about climate change and global food and nutrition security at the United Nations 28th Climate Change Conference, known as COP28, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The world's largest climate change event, COP28 brought together tens of thousands of stakeholders from around the world, including leaders of governments, businesses, international organizations, and the nonprofit sector. The Foundation hosted three side events at COP28 covering the nexus of climate change, food and nutrition security, and global stability – amplifying the message about agriculture's important role in solving the greatest challenges facing humanity today.



**ADDRESSING RURAL VETERINARY SHORTAGES:**

Our work to address the nationwide shortage of food-systems veterinarians expanded to include a new educational platform to support undergraduate students on their veterinary career journeys. In addition, our Solutions Mapping Coalition of multi-industry stakeholders is doing impactful work to surface solutions to this important issue, and our Veterinary Ambassadors' engagement of policymakers in Washington D.C. is leading to tangible progress, including the creation of the Senate's first-ever Veterinary Medicine Caucus.



**KICKING OFF NEW CLIMATE-SMART CONSERVATION WORK:**

Farm Journal Foundation and the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) launched a new program in 2023 to support climate-smart grazing practices among Native American cattle farmers and ranchers. The program, which will work in partnership with Ecosystem Services Market Consortium (ESMC) and the Yield Lab Institute, will offer a combination of direct incentive payments, technical assistance, and education to cattle producers in Oklahoma, Montana, and Florida who adopt conservation practices on their grazing lands.



**TAKING OUR FOOD SECURITY MESSAGE TO THE ROAD:**

We hosted a roadshow of events with members of Congress in their home states throughout the summer, highlighting the importance of supporting agricultural research and development to benefit global food security, nutrition, and U.S. national security. These events took place at leading universities in Kansas, Illinois, Michigan, and California, as well as at Dollison Farms in Georgia.



**EDUCATING STUDENTS AND CONSUMERS:**

We launched our Voice of the Farmer Garden at the New York State Fair, educating visitors about where their food comes from through interactive exhibits featuring crops grown in New York and across the U.S. and videos narrated by farmers and others in the food supply chain.



# A NATIONWIDE NETWORK OF LEADERS IN AGRICULTURE

Farm Journal Foundation’s flagship Farmer Ambassador program enables farmers, ranchers, and growers from around the country to engage national-level policymakers in discussions about our food system’s biggest challenges. Farmers are agriculture’s most effective advocates, because they are on the front lines of our food system and have valuable firsthand knowledge about its challenges and opportunities. Farm Journal Foundation is proud to work with a diverse group of Ambassadors who are innovators and leaders in their field, representing all aspects of American agriculture, including row crops, specialty crops, dairy, and livestock.

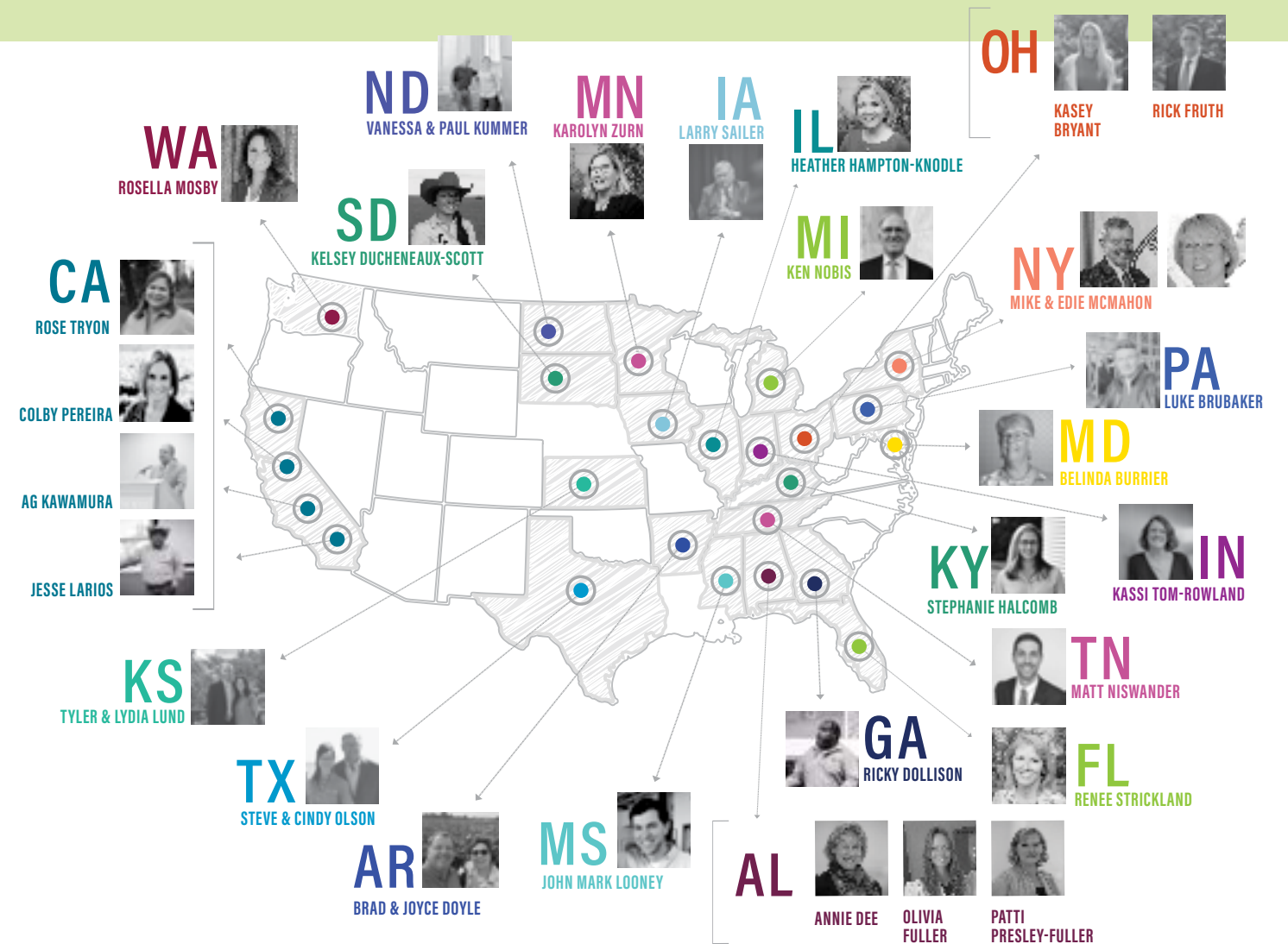
## 2023 POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Farmer Ambassadors, Veterinary Ambassadors (see page 32), and Foundation staff engaged extensively in Washington, D.C., and beyond in 2023, holding more than 100 meetings to advocate for increased public support for agricultural research, global food and nutrition security, and rural development issues.

Despite ongoing global and political challenges, 2023 saw several positive outcomes in support of our key issues. While Congress is still working to finalize fiscal year 2024 funding, the draft Senate appropriations bills included increased funding for global food security and agricultural development initiatives, and the draft House appropriations bills included more funding for international agricultural research and development programs and the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI). While Congress has yet to pass a multi-year Farm Bill, a one-year extension was enacted that included unprecedented funding for “orphaned” programs, including \$37 million in additional funding for the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR). The bipartisan America Grows Act was reintroduced in both chambers,

and the Foundation endorsed several pieces of legislation that, if passed, would advance our priority issues on multiple fronts. Senators Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) also launched the new bipartisan Veterinary Medicine Caucus, providing an additional platform to help advance solutions to the shortage of food animal veterinarians in rural areas of the United States.

The administration launched new initiatives and provided additional funding to Foundation priorities, as well. At COP28 in Dubai, the U.S. government announced an additional \$100 million in funding to CGIAR, adding to the existing five-year pledge of funding that was originally made by the U.S. in 2021. Also launched in 2023 was the new Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils (VACS) initiative, a partnership between the U.S., African Union, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which aims to bolster agricultural productivity and nutrition through the development of diverse, climate-resilient crop varieties and healthy soils.

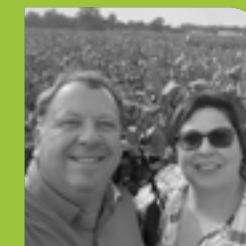


## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST FARMER AMBASSADORS!



**MATT NISWANDER**

📍 Tennessee  
🐄 Cattle



**BRAD & JOYCE DOYLE**

📍 Arkansas  
🌾 Soybeans, rice, wheat, hay

## WASHINGTON D.C. ENGAGEMENT:

**100+ MEETINGS** between Farmer Ambassadors, Veterinary Ambassadors, and Foundation staff with members of Congress and legislative and administrative staff

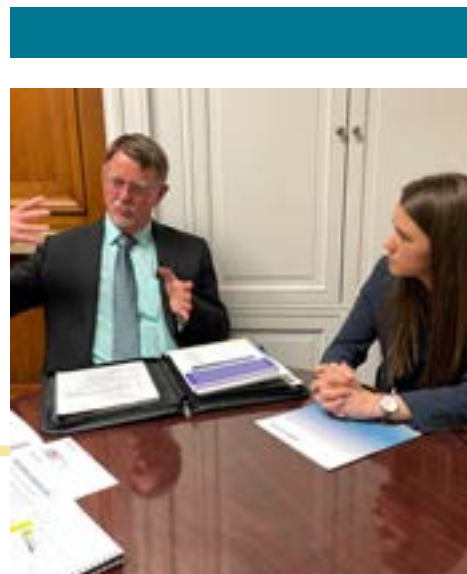
## COMMITTEE & ADMINISTRATION ENGAGEMENT:

- Senate & House Agriculture Committees
- Senate Foreign Relations & House Foreign Affairs Committees
- Senate & House Appropriations Committees
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- U.S. Department of State
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- National Security Council (NSC)
- International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)



### FARMER MEETINGS ON CAPITOL HILL

Farmer Ambassadors held numerous meetings in 2023 with members of Congress, legislative staff, and administrative staff, educating important stakeholders about the need to support agricultural innovation to improve global food and nutrition security.



# FARM JOURNAL FOUNDATION HITS THE ROAD

Our in-state policy events engage with national-level policymakers in their home states, showcasing the real world, local impact of agricultural research and innovation, and connecting that impact globally. These events reinforce conversations often started during our Washington, D.C. meetings, creating an opportunity for deliberate, one-on-one conversations with policymakers in their home settings.

In 2023, we held five in-state events with six members of Congress and dozens of Congressional staff. This included an “end of summer roadshow” across four states in four weeks. Events included farm visits, tours of university research facilities, and deep conversations about how agricultural innovation benefits global food and nutrition security, national security, and the economy.

## 2023 IN-STATE EVENTS

### KANSAS May 2, 2023

**National Level Policymakers: Chairman GT Thompson (R-PA) and Congressman Tracey Mann (R-KS) | Farmer Ambassador: Tyler Lund**

As Farm Journal Foundation’s first in-state event of 2023, we partnered with Kansas State University to bring together leaders to discuss global food and nutrition security, U.S. national security, and agricultural innovation. The event included a private roundtable lunch discussion, a public panel discussion, and a tour of the university’s facilities including the Meat Lab, the Hal Ross Flour Mill, the only mill of its kind on a university campus in the U.S., and the Call Hall Dairy Bar.

Congressional participants included Representative Tracey Mann and Representative G.T. Thompson, Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, along with several staffers focused on agricultural policy in multiple offices. Joining the two Congressmen on the public panel were Dr. Ernie Minton, Kansas State University’s Dean of the College of Agriculture; Ambassador Gregg Doud, former Chief Agricultural Negotiator with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and Farm Journal Foundation’s Kansas Farmer Ambassador Tyler Lund.

Discussions covered how investment in agricultural research and innovation contributes to the global food supply, as well as how certain issues of national security importance can be addressed through a thriving and innovative food system.

### GEORGIA August 24, 2023

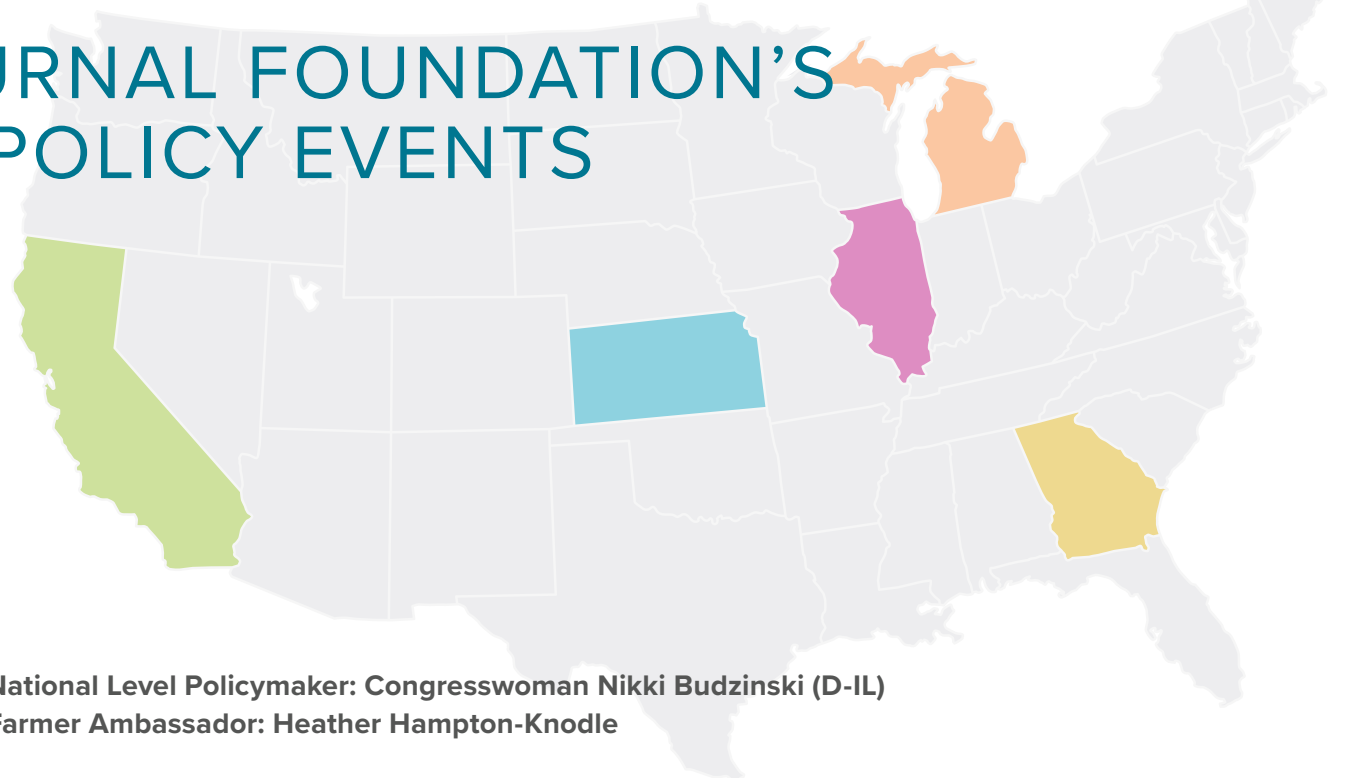
**National Level Policymaker: Congressman Austin Scott (R-GA) Farmer Ambassador: Ricky Dollison**

Farm Journal Foundation was excited to join Congressman Austin Scott for a visit to Dollison Farms in Poulan, Georgia, to speak with Farm Journal Foundation’s Farmer Ambassador Ricky Dollison and other farmers about the needs of the agricultural community in Georgia. This discussion focused on the role of agricultural research to increase yields for local farmers, helping them contribute to the global food supply. In addition, participants were able to discuss with the Congressman their priorities for the upcoming Farm Bill related to agricultural research public investment.





# FARM JOURNAL FOUNDATION'S IN-STATE POLICY EVENTS



**ILLINOIS**  
August 28, 2023

**National Level Policymaker: Congresswoman Nikki Budzinski (D-IL)**  
**Farmer Ambassador: Heather Hampton-Knodle**

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Farm Journal Foundation hosted a roundtable discussion with Congresswoman Nikki Budzinski and important leaders in agriculture and research to discuss global food and nutrition security. Representatives from the university's Feed the Future Soybean Innovation Lab highlighted the role of public support for agricultural innovation in helping Illinois farmers and smallholder farmers in lower income countries produce more crops with fewer resources, increasing efficiency. Congresswoman Budzinski was able to highlight a new piece of legislation she introduced in the House of Representatives, the America Grows Act of 2023, which would increase funding for agricultural research by 5 percent annually on an inflation-adjusted basis at the four main agricultural research and statistical agencies at the USDA for the next 10 years. This investment would help ensure that U.S. farmers are able to continue and increase their contributions to the global food system, addressing hunger and malnutrition.



**MICHIGAN** September 5, 2023

**National Level Policymaker: Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin (D-MI)**  
**Farmer Ambassador: Ken Nobis**

This event brought together leaders from Michigan State University, Farm Journal Foundation, the International Fresh Produce Association and Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin for a robust discussion about the role of agricultural research and extension in tackling global hunger and malnutrition. The event included a panel discussion with Congresswoman Slotkin; Dr. George Smith, Director of AgBioResearch at MSU; Dr. Quentin Tyler, Director of MSU Extension; Ken Nobis, Farm Journal Foundation Farmer Ambassador from Michigan; and Cathy Burns, Chief Executive Officer of the International Fresh Produce Association. The panel touched on a broad range of national security topics including competition with China and the need for agricultural innovation to mitigate geopolitical challenges associated with climate change.



**CALIFORNIA** September 11, 2023

**National Level Policymaker: Congressman Ami Bera (D-CA)**  
**Farmer Ambassador: Rose Tryon**

This event featured a tour of the research facilities at the University of California, Davis, to discuss how climate-smart agricultural technologies can build food systems resilience in the face of climate change and other challenges. Participants included Congressman Ami Bera; Associate Dean of Global Engagement at the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at UC Davis; Dr. Majdi Abou Najm, Associate Professor in the Department of Land, Air, and Water Resources at UC Davis; Brandon Minto, Director of Federal Government Relations at UC Davis; Kedar Mankad, Senior Program Officer at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Katie Lee, Vice President of Government Affairs at Farm Journal Foundation; and Rose Tryon, a Farm Journal Foundation Farmer Ambassador from California. The tour included demonstrations of the university's agrovoltatics projects and methane reduction research, allowing participants to see how public support for agricultural innovation helps U.S. farmers sustain production through changing growing conditions and use more sustainable practices to reduce agriculture's environmental impact.



# ELEVATING AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS AT COP28

Farm Journal Foundation is proud to have hosted three side events at COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in 2023, bringing together thought leaders from around the world to discuss food and nutrition security and its impact on global stability. The Foundation's participation in COP28 helped to educate audiences about the important role of agriculture in alleviating climate change, global hunger, and malnutrition, and to underscore the need to incorporate food systems into solutions to these challenges.

## WHAT IS COP28?

The 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference, known as COP28, is the world's premier climate change event. It was held during the first two weeks of December 2023.

COP28 brought together tens of thousands of stakeholders from around the world, including leaders of governments, businesses, international organizations, and the nonprofit sector. Approximately 80,000 people attended.

The event included numerous UN meetings and negotiations, as well as side events at pavilions hosted by countries including the U.S. and many international organizations, nonprofits, industry associations, and companies.

COP28 covered all aspects of climate change and every industry, but a special Food, Agriculture, and Water Day was also held to focus specifically on these issues.



## FARM JOURNAL FOUNDATION'S EVENTS AT COP28

### Nutrition Event: Accelerating Climate and Agriculture Solutions to Advance Global Food Security and Nutrition Outcomes

At Farm Journal Foundation's first event, a panel discussed the impact of climate change on global nutrition and food security. The event was held at the Food and Agriculture Pavilion hosted by CGIAR and the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization, International Fund for Agricultural Development, and The Rockefeller Foundation. During the event, participants discussed how malnutrition and food insecurity are exacerbated by climate change, conflicts, and the COVID-19 pandemic. The event emphasized the importance of investments in agricultural research and innovation to create sustainable solutions.

#### SPEAKERS:

Tricia Beal, CEO, Farm Journal Foundation | Introduction

Dr. Ismahane Elouafi, Executive Managing Director, CGIAR | Keynote

Dr. Michael Bizwick Usi, Minister of Natural Resources and Climate Change, Malawi | Keynote

Rose Barbuto, Senior Policy Adviser, Farm Journal Foundation | Panel Moderator

Dr. Tamara Cofman Wittes, Director of Foreign Assistance, U.S. Department of State

Afshan Khan, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Coordinator of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement

Carmen San Segundo, Director for ESG and Corporate Social Responsibility, IBM

Ana Catalina Suarez Peña, Senior Director, Strategy and Innovation, The Global FoodBanking Network



FARM JOURNAL FOUNDATION'S EVENTS AT COP28

**Private Roundtable with U.S. Senate Delegation: How Climate Change, Global Food Security and Malnutrition Impact Global Stability**

Farm Journal Foundation hosted a private roundtable with members of Congress at COP28 to discuss the intersection of climate change, global food and nutrition security, and global stability. This event also brought together administration officials from the U.S. government, along with leading international organizations and nonprofits working globally.

**PARTICIPANTS:**

**U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD)**, Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

**U.S. Senator Chris Coons (D-DE)**, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

**U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)**, Chair of the Senate Budget Committee

**Dr. Cary Fowler**, Special Envoy For Global Food Security, U.S. Department of State

**Dina Esposito**, Assistant to the Administrator, USAID

**Dr. Ismahane Elouafi**, Executive Managing Director, CGIAR

**Channing Arndt**, Senior Director for Transformation Strategies, CGIAR's IFPRI

**Doreen Ndishabandi**, Chief People and Partnership Officer, One Acre Fund, Rwanda

**Tricia Beal**, CEO, Farm Journal Foundation

**Katie Lee**, Vice President of Government Affairs, Farm Journal Foundation

**Rose Barbuto**, Senior Policy Adviser, Farm Journal Foundation



**Climate Change, Food Insecurity, and Global Stability: How Rising Hunger and Malnutrition Make the World Less Safe**

Farm Journal Foundation hosted a public event focused on security concerns arising from global hunger for both the U.S. and countries around the world. This event, held at IBM's space in the Technology and Innovations Hub, built on conversations developed from Farm Journal Foundation's policy research paper on this subject published earlier in the year. The event brought together public, private, and nonprofit-sector leaders to discuss how to better support agriculture in lower-income countries in an effort to stem geopolitical risks.

**SPEAKERS:**

**Tricia Beal**, CEO, Farm Journal Foundation | Introduction

**U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD)**, Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee | Keynote

**Whitney McFerron**, Vice President of Communications, Farm Journal Foundation | Panel Moderator

**Ann Vaughan**, Senior Advisor for Climate Change, USAID

**Doreen Ndishabandi**, Chief People and Partnership Officer, One Acre Fund, Rwanda

**Alejandro Martinez**, Director of Water Smart Agriculture for Latin America and Caribbean Region, Catholic Relief Services

**Jonah Smith**, Vice President, Environmental Social Governance Strategy & Programs, IBM



# LEADING CONVERSATIONS ON GLOBAL ISSUES

2023 was a big year for Farm Journal Foundation’s thought leadership work. Our policy research, media engagement, op-ed series, coalition work, and speaking events raised awareness about some of agriculture’s most hard-pressing issues and surfaced real solutions to global challenges.

## POLICY RESEARCH

Farm Journal Foundation’s policy research drives conversations about our food system’s biggest challenges. In 2023, we published two peer-reviewed papers covering the impact of global food and nutrition security on U.S. national security and how shocks including COVID-19, conflict, and climate change have hurt smallholder farmers. We also co-produced a paper with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs with recommendations for how the Farm Bill could support agricultural innovation.

### *Building Stronger Food Systems in the Face of Global Shocks*

**Author:** Dr. Jessica Fanzo, Professor of Climate and Director of the Food for Humanity Initiative, Columbia Climate School

This report highlights the unprecedented “polycrisis,” driven by global shocks including the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts such as the Ukraine war, and climate change. The polycrisis disproportionately impacts small-scale farmers, especially those in developing nations. The report emphasizes the impact of the polycrisis on global food and nutrition security and highlights the need for investment in agricultural innovation to build resilience in the face of these shocks. To launch this report, Farm Journal Foundation hosted a public panel discussion on Capitol Hill that was joined by Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) and Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Coons and Graham, Chair and Ranking Member respectively of the Senate Appropriations Committee’s subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs. The panel also included Dina Esposito, Assistant to the Administrator at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID); Dr. Joe Glauber, Senior Research Fellow at CGIAR’s International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI); and Mark Castellino, Senior Vice President of Government Services at Opportunity International.



### *Global Food Security is National Security: How Hunger and Malnutrition Abroad Make the U.S. Less Safe*

**Authors:** Dr. Edwin Price, Professor and Howard G. Buffett Endowed Chair on Conflict and Development in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University; Naureen Fatema and Abdul Saboor Rahmany, Texas A&M University

This report focuses on the nexus between global hunger, malnutrition, and U.S. national security, highlighting the need to invest in agricultural development and research to address these concerns. The authors identify several ways in which global food insecurity and malnutrition contribute to national security risks, including through increased immigration, lost economic opportunities, and radicalism and terrorism in areas around the world. According to the report, the U.S. can mitigate challenges linked to global food and nutrition security before they become national security risks by increasing investment in research and development programs such as Feed the Future Innovation Labs and the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research (FFAR). To launch this report, Farm Journal Foundation hosted a panel discussion on Capitol Hill that included authors Dr. Edwin Price and Abdul Saboor Rahmany; Colonel Andrew Scott DeJesse, U.S. Army; and Farm Journal Foundation Farmer Ambassador Kassi Tom-Rowland. The event received a special visit from Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA), pictured left.



### *Prioritizing Agricultural Research in the 2023 Farm Bill*

**Authors:** Staff at Farm Journal Foundation and Chicago Council on Global Affairs

This policy paper, produced jointly with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, outlined our recommendations for how the Farm Bill should support agricultural research and innovation to benefit farmers in the U.S. and around the world, as well as global food and nutrition security. In conjunction with this paper, we worked with former U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, a distinguished fellow with the Chicago Council, to produce an op-ed about why the Farm Bill should support innovation.



EVENTS

Farm Journal Foundation hosted events and participated in outside speaking engagements that drove discussions on important topics, including global food and nutrition security, agricultural innovation, and rural economic development.

*World Food Prize Side Event: Global Food Security is National Security*

October 2023

We organized a side event at the World Food Prize focused on the nexus between global food security and national security, as highlighted in our policy report about the topic published earlier in the year. The event included opening remarks from Dr. Manjit Misra, Director of the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA), who spoke on a short video. This was followed by a panel that included Dr. Edwin Price of Texas A&M University, the author of our policy report; Tucker Kuhn, Executive Director of Roots of Peace; Ambassador Kip Tom, Managing Member of Tom Farms; and Dr. Bram Goevarts, Director General of CGIAR's International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT).



*U.S. Innovations Showcase – AIM for Climate Summit*

May 2023

We co-hosted this event at the AIM for Climate Summit, widely seen as a precursor to COP28, along with USAID, InterAction, and Bread for the World. This event enabled stakeholders to showcase innovations working to advance food and nutrition security in the face of climate change. Speakers at this event included Dina Esposito, Assistant to the Administrator at USAID's Bureau for Resilience, Environment, and Food Security; Dr. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, System Board Chair, CGIAR; and Katie Lee, Farm Journal Foundation's Vice President of Government Affairs.



*Tour of CGIAR's International Food Policy Research Institute - AIM for Climate Summit*

May 2023

Farm Journal Foundation co-organized this event, during which CGIAR scientists spoke about climate change modeling and new research to enable farmers to adapt. The event was followed by a networking reception.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Farm Journal Foundation's team participated in a number of speaking engagements and events organized by partners and outside organizations. These included:



• **Veterinary Shortage Working Group:** Our CEO Tricia Beal and Vice President of Strategic Partnerships Todd Greenwood spoke about our Veterinary Workforce Solutions Program at this event at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

• **National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Annual Meeting:** Tricia Beal and Todd Greenwood attended and held important strategic meetings at this event in Cheyenne, Wyoming.



• **Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC) Annual Conference:** Farm Journal Foundation's Stephanie Mercier spoke about our new climate-smart grazing program for Native American farmers at this event in Las Vegas.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS (CON'T)

- **IAC Eastern Oklahoma and Southern Plains Regional Summit:** Stephanie Mercier and Tricia Beal spoke about our climate-smart grazing program at this event in Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- **Commodity Classic:** Todd Greenwood spoke about our tribal grazing program at a trade show side event.
- **Nourish the Future:** Todd Greenwood spoke at this teacher professional development workshop in Chicago.
- **American Association of Bovine Practitioners:** Todd Greenwood spoke to the Practice Sustainability Committee in Milwaukee.
- **U.S. Animal Health Association:** Todd Greenwood spoke at this event, which included the National Association of State Animal Health Officers, USDA/APHIS Open Forum, National Association of Federal Veterinarians.
- **National Milk Producers Federation:** Todd Greenwood spoke virtually to the Animal Health and Well-Being Committee.
- **InterAction Farm Bill Advocacy Subgroup:** Stephanie Mercier made a presentation on the importance of public funding of agricultural research.
- **American Security Project:** Stephanie Mercier participated in a panel discussion on “Innovating out of the Climate Crisis: Agricultural Technology.”
- **NC-1034 Academic Group:** Stephanie Mercier made a presentation on ag research issues in the Farm Bill.
- **American Enterprise Institute:** Stephanie Mercier participated in a panel discussion on crop insurance issues.
- **Entomology 2023 - ESA Annual Meeting:** Senior Policy Adviser Rose Barbuto spoke about Farm Bill policy on a panel with Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, Heinz Kraft, and Torrey Advisory Group, CropLife America, and others.
- **Mississippi Young Farmer & Ranchers Conference:** Government Affairs Director Kelsey Barnes spoke about the importance of public investment in agricultural research.
- **Tennessee Farm Bureau Presidents Conference:** Kelsey Barnes spoke about the importance of public investment in agricultural research.



OP-ED SERIES

In 2023, we developed and placed seven op-eds in outside publications, authored by members of Congress, Farmer Ambassadors, and other partners.

*To finally conquer inflation, the US needs to invest more in agricultural research*

**Agri/Pulse** | March 2023

Authored by former U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman

This op-ed followed our research paper with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and highlighted how Congress could support agricultural R&D in the next Farm Bill.

*Afghanistan's food crisis could have been avoided*

**FINANCIAL TIMES** | June 2023

Authored by Abdul Saboor Rahmany, the former General Director of Agricultural Extension in Afghanistan

Rahmany, who immigrated to the U.S. in 2021 to work for Texas A&M University, was a co-author of our research policy paper on how global hunger impacts U.S. national security.

*Kansas leads the U.S. fight against world hunger — and it pays back*

**THE STAR, KansasCity.com** | **The Wichita Eagle** | June 2023

Authored by Congressman Tracey Mann (KS-1)

This op-ed followed our in-state event with Congressman Mann at Kansas State University.

*With the Midwest mired in drought, here's how Congress can help farmers cope*

**Chicago Tribune** | August 2023

Authored by Illinois Farmer Ambassador Heather Hampton-Knodle

This op-ed discussed the impact of the Midwest drought and the need for more public funding for agricultural R&D.

*U.S. must invest in agricultural innovation to ensure global food security*

**The News-Gazette** Champaign, IL | October 2023

Authored by Congresswoman Nikki Budzinski (IL-13)

This op-ed followed our in-state event with Congresswoman Budzinski at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

*Hispanic farmers and producers help keep food on America's Tables*

**FARM JOURNAL** | **AGWEB** | October 2023

Authored by California Farmer Ambassador Jesse Larios to mark Hispanic Heritage Month

*Grain market whiplash shows need for ag research to increase self-reliance on food*

**Agri/Pulse** | November 2023

Authored by Rice Foundation Director Steve Linscombe

This op-ed discussed price volatility and trade restrictions in the grain markets, highlighting the need for more research investment.



**MEDIA ENGAGEMENT**

Farm Journal Foundation received coverage from local, state, and national media in 2023. Below are a few examples of the coverage we received.

*Avian Flu, Rival China Spur Congress to Back Farm Research Boost*

**Bloomberg** | May 2023

*Heat, War and Trade Protections Raise Uncertainty for Food Prices*

**The New York Times** | August 2023

Article linked to our policy paper by Dr. Jessica Fanzo

*Texas A&M: Global hunger is leading to national security issues*

**RFD TV** | March 2023

*Interview with Farm Journal Foundation about COP28*

**AgriTalk** | November 2023

*No matter who is Speaker of the House, Congress needs to act on Ukraine, Israel, farm bill*

**milwaukee journal sentinel** | October 2023

*Farmers need more funding, innovation to sufficiently feed Michigan, country*

**LIVE** | September 2023

*Food security experts sound alarms*

**WLNS.COM** | September 2023

*Rep. Slotkin to join MSU discussion for food security*

**WILX 10** | September 2023

*Illinois Congresswoman Nikki Budzinski proposes bill to increase agricultural research funding*

**ILLINOIS PUBLIC MEDIA** | August 2023

*New Era Of Optimism & Innovation Begins At The State Fair*

**13** | August 2023

*Leaders meet about the role of innovation in supporting global food systems*

**WYOMING** | May 2023

*House ag chair: Farm bill must support innovation*

**WATTAgNet** | May 2023

*New Report Reveals Critical Need for Increased Funding for Agricultural Research in 2023 Farm Bill*

**foodtank** | April 2023

*Report: Global hunger, malnutrition threaten US national security*

**The Hagstrom Report** | March 2023

*Report calls for increased research funding*

**Agri Pulse** | February 2023

**COALITIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Farm Journal Foundation plays an important role as a connector and convener of important stakeholders across the food and agriculture sector.

**Ag R&D Coordination Call**

The Foundation leads a monthly call to better coordinate agricultural research advocacy across the broader policy landscape, including ensuring research and development programs are robustly supported by Congress and the Administration. This meeting aims to broaden the tent of participants, align asks, and leverage advocacy opportunities to advance shared priorities on agricultural research and development (Ag R&D). Participants include agricultural R&D advocacy groups, agricultural commodity groups, scientific societies, agriculture-related associations, environmental groups, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders.

**Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate)**

Farm Journal Foundation is a Knowledge Partner with the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM for Climate), an initiative that seeks to address climate change and global hunger by uniting participants to increase investments in climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation. AIM for Climate, spearheaded by the U.S. and United Arab Emirates, includes government and non-governmental partners, such as international organizations, nonprofits, and private-sector companies. In May, we co-organized two events at the AIM for Climate Summit, widely seen as a precursor to COP28. In addition, one of our events at COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, was an official AIM for Climate Roadshow event – this event covered the nexus of climate change and global nutrition.

**Other Coalition Engagement**

Farm Journal Foundation works closely with a broad range of partners, including InterAction, the largest alliance of international NGOs in the U.S., the Alliance to End Hunger, 1,000 Days, the National Coalition for Food and Agriculture Research (NC-FAR), and others to advance U.S. leadership on global food and nutrition security and agricultural research.



# EMPOWERING FARMERS TO IMPLEMENT CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

Farm Journal Foundation expanded its work in conservation agriculture in 2023 through a partnership with the Intertribal Agriculture Council, Ecosystems Services Market Consortium (ESMC), and The Yield Lab Institute, made possible by an award from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service through the Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities. This three-year pilot program will improve access to grazing resources for Native American beef producers in the states of Florida, Montana, and Oklahoma.

Due in large part to the complex relationship between the U.S. federal government, tribal nations, and individual Native American beef producers, with respect to the land ownership and tenure realities, Native American producers typically experience numerous barriers in accessing USDA programs. The lack of access to conservation programs has resulted in an excessive burden for investing in conservation infrastructure having to fall solely upon the shoulders of our Native American producers. To help resolve this issue, our pilot project will work with Tribal producers to implement conservation plans and climate-smart practices, and producers will be rewarded for their sustainable practices in the form of direct cash payments and other support. Producers will also receive best-in-class technical assistance and education, access to carbon market training and carbon market engagement through ESMC, and access to Intertribal Agriculture Council's trademark American Indian Foods program for beef marketing opportunities.



Another aspect of this project will focus on soil health. Much of the recent attention to encourage climate-smart agricultural practices at USDA has focused on carbon sequestration gains from soil health practices on cropland, while opportunities for livestock producers to participate in such climate-smart incentive programs have been less emphasized. USDA's 2017 Census of Agriculture found that 75 percent of American Indian/Alaska native-operated farms are primarily livestock operations, which means they are further disadvantaged by this focus on crop-side incentives. In order to begin recognizing the value grazing lands offer in the area of carbon sequestration, and in order to recognize the environmental benefits Native American beef producers have been stewarding for centuries, this project will integrate complex soil sampling, water quality, and biodiversity data captured over the course of the three-year span to quantify the impact that implementing climate-smart practices has on the climate.

Another important outcome this project will focus on is building institutional capacity in Native American communities. Native American producers often face difficulties in participating in USDA's voluntary conservation programs (e.g. Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)) for several reasons, including that government programs and policymakers do not always give due consideration to the unique resource concerns on Tribal lands and their non-standard model of agricultural operations.

This pilot project would provide resources for Native American producers to implement an even wider set of conservation practices, by demonstrating how alternative program enrollment criteria can lead to more successful USDA conservation programs. We will also seek to identify policy adjustments to overcome these programmatic obstacles, while remaining consistent with the programs' intent as part of the results of this pilot project. We will also leverage the unique and multi-dimensional community-based experiences and data collection opportunities of this project to map the factors that indicate readiness for climate-smart agriculture adoption within Native American communities. Utilizing the readiness assessment model and tools developed by The Yield Lab Institute, we will define a success propensity grid to define community readiness including detailed data on dimensions including governance, economic factors, agricultural production, and systems, and producer community engagement. This mapping process can be used for future analysis when considering expanding climate-smart agriculture adoption programs to create a more inclusive, robust and diverse food system.

PILLAR I	PILLAR II	PILLAR III
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the adoption of USDA climate-smart agriculture practices through a combination of direct incentive payments to ranchers, technical assistance, and education.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a framework for Native American ranchers to participate in carbon and branded commodity markets.</li> <li>• Build the necessary infrastructure and programming, and provide opportunities for farmers to engage in private, voluntary markets that are valued appropriately.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create new and scalable pathways for Native American ranchers to successfully connect to and participate in USDA conservation programs.</li> <li>• Focused on creating solutions to overcome challenges that are unique to Native American communities, eliminating administrative barriers and providing full access to the resources of USDA programs.</li> </ul>





# DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS FOR AMERICA'S RURAL VETERINARY WORKFORCE

Farm Journal Foundation's Veterinary Workforce Solutions Program completed its second year in 2023, making strong progress in the effort to address the nationwide shortage of food-systems veterinarians and the impact it has on rural communities. This work, supported by the Zoetis Foundation, grew to include three interlinked programmatic areas in 2023.

## Veterinary Workforce Solutions Program Three interlinked programmatic areas



**Veterinary Education Pipeline Program:** Over the past year, we constructed an educational platform to support undergraduate students on their journey toward establishing or joining food-animal veterinary practices. This work included initiating three interactive learning modules, based on a series of case studies written by Dr. Clint Neill, a veterinary economist at Cornell University. The cases are structured around the stories of current university students and practicing veterinarians, they address many of the major barriers to entry and business success of food-animal veterinarians through their authentic voices and stories.

**Veterinary Solutions Mapping Coalition:** Over the past two years, we have successfully engaged more than 40 partner organizations across the veterinary medicine, education, government, and agricultural sectors in ongoing conversations about solutions to support food-animal veterinarians. A focused subset of this group, representing 12 institutions and organizations, comprise the Veterinarian Solutions Mapping Coalition. In total, we have held 11 coalition working meetings (three in-person, eight virtual). These advisors are central in informing our strategies and decision-making process as we work to fulfill our mission.

**Veterinary Ambassador Program:** Our Veterinary Ambassador Program educates national-level policymakers about central challenges related to the food-animal veterinary profession and has created numerous opportunities to have meaningful dialogues on pathways for improvement. Over the past year, our Veterinary Ambassadors hosted an educational briefing for more than 30 legislative staff on Capitol Hill, met with a wide range of Senators and members of Congress, and led meetings with leadership at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The work of this group can be directly correlated to the formation of the Senate Veterinary Medicine Caucus by Senators Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN).



### DID YOU KNOW?

**At least 500 counties across 46 states have critical shortages of veterinary services** that are vital to ensuring livestock and poultry are healthy and productive, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Only 3-4% of new veterinary school graduates pursue livestock or other food-animal practice areas,** a stark decline from 40 years ago when about 40% of graduates specialized in this area, according to a recent Farm Journal Foundation report.

### OUR VET AMBASSADORS



**DR. ROSSLYN BIGGS, DVM**  
Oklahoma  
Director of Continuing Education Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine



**DR. BRAD WHITE, DVM**  
Kansas  
Professor, Production Medicine Director, Beef Cattle Institute, Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine



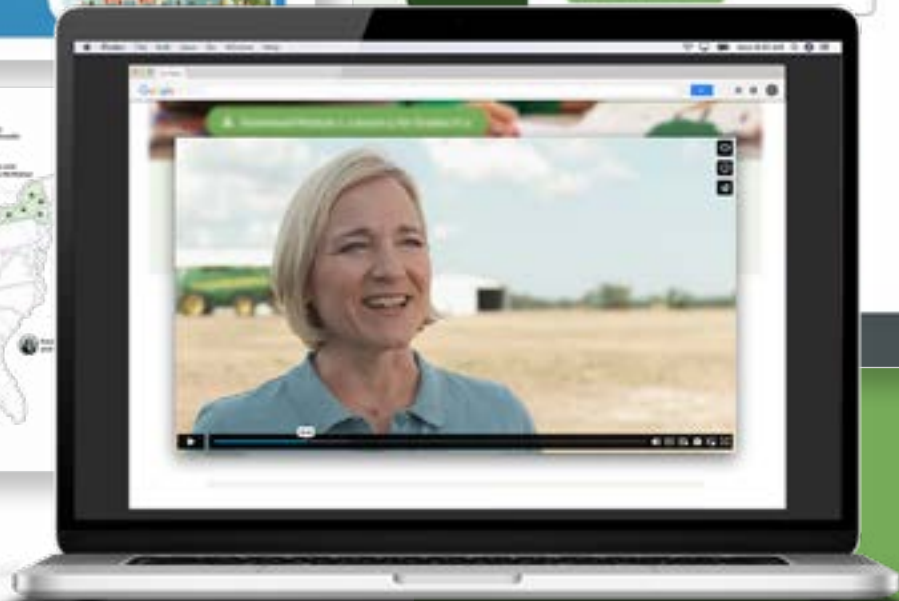
**DR. JODY KULL, DVM**  
Pennsylvania  
Teaching Professor, Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences Department, Penn State University

# TEACHING STUDENTS AND CONSUMERS ABOUT THE JOURNEY OF FOOD

Farm Journal Foundation’s educational programs teach students and consumers about where their food comes from and the value of agriculture to the U.S. economy. In 2023, we advanced our educational programming through two main initiatives.

## K-12 EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

In 2023, we continued our work on a suite of new educational content for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. This content, written to meet Next Generation Science Standards and to be taught in science classrooms, tells the story of food’s journey from Dirt to Dinner. It includes videos narrated by farmers and stakeholders from across the food value chain, as well as a website offering a range of classroom teaching materials broken up into grade bands. In conjunction with this project, we are working with partners including the American Royal to expand the reach of our educational materials and create focus groups of teachers to inform our future educational work.



## STATE GARDEN PROJECT

We relaunched our Voice of the Farmer Garden program in 2023 with an exciting new state garden at the New York State Fair. The New York Voice of the Farmer Garden, developed in partnership with the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets and the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Foundation, offered visitors the opportunity to see many of the major crops grown in New York, learn about important agricultural issues, and watch engaging videos of farmers and others in the food supply chain telling the story of agriculture.



## PARTNERS AND SPECIAL THANKS

### FOUNDATIONAL PARTNERS

The organizations to the right provided generous support to advance the Foundation's mission and programming in 2023.

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES foundation

zoetis foundation

FARM JOURNAL

AMERICA'S CONSERVATION  
AG MOVEMENT

USDA PARTNERSHIPS FOR  
CLIMATE-SMART  
COMMODITIES

USDA NRCS  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NEW YORK STATE  
Agriculture  
and Markets

BASF

TRUST IN  
FOOD

CGIAR

AMERICAN ROYAL  
KANSAS CITY

DIRT  
TO DINNER

NATIVE AMERICAN  
AGRICULTURE FUND

### SPECIAL THANKS

The organizations below worked in partnership with us to support our program delivery, thought leadership, coalition building, and other important work in 2023.

- 1,000 Days
- Abdul Saboor Rahmany, Texas A&M University
- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association / Global Cold Chain Alliance
- Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate
- Aimpoint Research
- Alliance to End Hunger
- Ambassador Gregg Doud
- Ambassador Kip Tom
- American Association of Bovine Practitioners
- American Farm Bureau Federation
- American Seed Trade Association
- American Soybean Association
- American Veterinary Medical Association
- Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
- Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
- Auburn University
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO)
- Bipartisan Policy Center
- Brad White, DVM
- Bread for the World
- Carbon 180
- Catholic Relief Services
- CGIAR
- CGIAR CIMMYT
- CGIAR IFPRI
- Chicago Council on Global Affairs
- ClearPath
- COP28 U.S. Senate delegation and support staff
- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County
- Dairy Farmers of America
- Dr. Brad White, DVM
- Dr. Clinton Neill, Cornell University
- Dr. Edwin Price, Texas A&M University
- Dr. Jessica Fanzo, Columbia University
- Dr. Jody Kull, DVM
- Dr. Ramya Ambikapathi and Dr. Daniel Mason-D'Croz, Cornell University
- Dr. Rosslyn Biggs, DVM
- Ducks Unlimited
- Ecosystem Services Market Consortium
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Farm Journal
- Former U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman
- Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research
- Global Foodbanking Network
- Grow Further
- Heather Hampton-Knodle
- IBM
- InterAction
- International Fresh Produce Association
- Intertribal Agriculture Council
- Iowa State University
- Jesse Larios
- Kansas State University
- Kassi Tom-Rowland
- Ken Nobis
- Kentucky Department of Agriculture
- Lincoln Memorial University
- Michigan State University
- Mike and Edie McMahon
- Mississippi Farm Bureau
- National Assembly of State Animal Health Officers
- National Association of Federal Veterinarians
- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
- National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research
- National Farmers Union
- National Farmers Union
- National Milk Producers Federation
- National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
- Native Agriculture Financial Services
- Naureen Fatema, Texas A&M University
- New York Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball
- New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
- New York State Fair
- Oklahoma State University
- One Acre Fund
- Opportunity International
- Penn State University
- Pepsi Co.
- Ricky Dollison, Dollison Farms
- Roots of Peace
- Rose Tryon
- Russell Group
- Scaling Up Nutrition Movement
- Senator Ben Cardin and staff
- Senator Chris Coons and staff
- Senator Lindsey Graham and staff
- Senator Sheldon Whitehouse and staff
- Silver Maple Strategies
- Solutions for the Land
- Steve Linscombe, Rice Foundation
- Supporters of Agricultural Research Foundation
- Tennessee Farm Bureau
- Texas Tech University
- The Breakthrough Institute
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Platform for Agriculture and Climate Transformation
- The Yield Lab Institute
- Top Producer
- Tri Societies, Torrey Associates
- Trust in Food
- Tuskegee University
- Tyler Lund
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- U.S. Agriculture Committee Chairman GT Thompson and staff
- U.S. Army Col. Adam Scott DeJesse
- U.S. Congressman Ami Bera and staff
- U.S. Congressman Austin Scott and staff
- U.S. Congressman Tracey Mann and staff
- U.S. Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin and staff
- U.S. Congresswoman Nikki Budzinski and staff
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Feed the Future Soybean Innovation Lab
- U.S. Senator Joni Ernst and staff
- Union of Concerned Scientists
- United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation (UN FAO)
- University of California, Davis
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- USA Rice
- Vivayic
- World Coffee Research
- World Food Prize Foundation

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