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Professional Dairy Producers Foundation makes grant decisions for education projects in 2019

Juneau, Wis.—The [Professional Dairy Producers Foundation](http://www.dairyfoundation.org) (PDPF) board of directors has made its funding decisions for education projects for dairy producers and their communities. The Foundation is proud to award the following grants:

Iowa State University Extension and Dairy Outreach Team has been awarded a grant for a Farm Couples Retreat. This initiative is particularly timely when the farming economy is low and stress levels were high. The retreats will be offered in two locations to about 20 farm couples at each location. Farm couples often are so busy with their family lives and running their farming operation, learning communication strategies and discussing future plans or goals tends to go on the wayside. When communication or feedback from the spouse are limited, stress levels can rise and the decision-making process can be less effective. Learning new skills to better communicate, make decisions, and learn how to work with people with different personalities are skills needed to continually stay competitive and profitable in the dairy industry.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Madison County has been awarded a grant for outreach and education to law enforcement officers on animal wellbeing and basic agricultural practices so that law enforcement officers are better prepared to respond to complaints in a positive and informed manner and to provide accurate follow-up to the individuals issuing the complaint. Law enforcement officers frequently are the first to receive large animal welfare complaints. It is up to the officer to make an accurate animal welfare determination; however a majority of law enforcement officers have not received animal welfare training specific to large animals. The grant award provides funding for two half day trainings on body condition scoring and one full day on positive farmer engagement training.

The Professional Dairy Producers Foundation awards grants to non-profit organizations who share the Foundation's passion and vision for education in dairy communities. Grant dollars are available to those organizations with unique ideas in the following two focus areas: 1) Building producer professionalism, or 2) Maintaining public trust.

The next granting period begins now, with grant applications due June 1, 2019. Organizations may apply for grants of up to \$5,000. The maximum amount given to any one organization will be \$5,000. For grant criteria and an application package, visit www.dairyfoundation.org.

The [Professional Dairy Producers Foundation](http://www.dairyfoundation.org) is a producer-led 501(c)(3) charitable organization that raises funds for educational programs throughout the United States. The Foundation supports programs that develop the skills of our dairy producers and youth and maintain public trust. For more information on programs funded and ways to donate, visit www.dairyfoundation.org