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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
APRIL 27, 2020

**CHS FOUNDATION FUNDS FOUR 'EDUCATING NEXT GENERATION
AGRICULTURAL LEADERS GRANT' PROJECTS IN 2020**

Thanks to CHS Foundation's 'Educating Next Generation Agricultural Leaders Grant' four state Agriculture in the Classroom (AIRC) programs will strengthen their educational resources and reach more teachers and students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade with the message of the importance of agriculture in 2020.

The 'Educating Next Generation Agricultural Leaders Grants' program will provide support to four state AIRC programs this year. Twenty state AIRC programs were eligible for the grant, and 7 submitted applications.

"CHS Foundation is committed to educating future agricultural leaders for life," said Nanci Lilja, president of CHS Foundation. "Supporting state Agriculture in the Classroom programs in their efforts to reach these future leaders with curricula and programming tied to agricultural concepts and careers is a key part of our mission."

"Partnerships like the one between NAITCO and CHS Foundation help our organization leverage its resources and strengthen AIRC state programs so we can reach more teachers and students across most of the nation," said Will Fett, president of National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization (NAITCO), which administers the CHS Foundation grant program.

The four programs and projects that received funding are:

- Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation which will train AIRC volunteers in Iowa to use and implement the National Agriculture Literacy Outcome (NALO) assessments to collect baseline data on what students learn about agriculture after being exposed to IALF educational resources.
- Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom which will launch a new 'Farm Camp' program for secondary teachers and students to participate in regional Farm Camps where they will be exposed to commodities produced near those sites and educational resources specific to those commodities.
- Oklahoma Agriculture in the Classroom which will produce 1,500 Agriculture Career-opoly board games for use in classrooms, featuring 22 careers in agriculture to teach agricultural and financial literacy.
- Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation which will update its 15-year-old 'Grown in Oregon Map' resource, develop corresponding lessons, and print, promote and distribute to teachers poster-size and individual-size versions of the printed map.

The CHS Foundation, funded by charitable gifts from CHS Inc., is focused on developing a new generation of agriculture leaders for life-long success. Together, with its partners, it is igniting innovation and driving excellence in agriculture education, cultivating high-impact programs for rural youth and accelerating potential for careers in agriculture. Learn more at www.chsfoundation.org.

NAITCO is a non-profit organization made up of Agriculture in the Classroom programs in most of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Its mission is to educate teachers and students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade about the importance of agriculture by using agricultural concepts into classroom instruction. Learn more about NAITCO at www.agclassroom.org

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