

**EXTENSION** 



Have you wondered how you could help youth in agriculture? Maybe you have wondered how you could help our future community leaders? The Adams County Swine Challenge Program checks both those boxes and is a unique way to help.

## **OVERVIEW:**

This program is in its inaugural year and is searching for sponsors that range from individuals and families to small and corporate businesses. The overall idea is very similar to how other local and national programs have run their catch-it or challenge programs. All with great success. Including having past participants come back and volunteer to contribute to their programs.

## WHAT TO EXPECT:

Each year, participants are matched with a sponsor who not only contributes to the purchase of the pig but provides insight and mentorship for the entirety of the project. This does not mean you need to have vast knowledge on swine or even livestock.

Each month, participants write & send a letter to their sponsor telling them the insights on their project and life happenings. We would love if sponsors interacted with their participants beyond the letters, including phone calls, and emails, making visits to see the pigs, and watching the participant show at their county and state shows.

The following July, during the week of the Adams County Fair, participants compete in a number of project contests, which include, record books, industry-related speeches, paneled interviews, and show their swine in showmanship and live evaluation. Sponsors are encouraged to partake in all activities with exhibitors. Swine are shown in conjunction with the Adams County Fair Swine Show on July 29 and 30.

## **ADDITIONAL INFO:**

Swine Challenge sponsorship donations are tax-deductible. We also are accepting sponsors who don't necessarily want to correspond with a participant every month, but who still want to be a monetary or in-kind sponsor. Those funds go towards buying the participants' show supplies to help get their projects started, help make up the difference in our swine purchase prices, and fund other fun aspects and add-ons of the program.

This year our swine are coming from 3 different local producers who have worked together to make sure the swine share similar genetics. This year the kids will be picking up their projects in April to start their journey. We have workshops and check points to help make sure they are successful in their projects.

I would love to speak with you are anyone you may know who is interested in becoming a Swine Challenge sponsor.

For sponsorship donations or questions, please contact Christina with the Adams County 4-H Office at CSeely@adcogov.org.