

# **Independence FFA Chicken Production Proposal.**

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## **About The Independence FFA**

Our chapter was established In 2013 with one goal in mind - to give students and members the tools they need to succeed later in life. We have implemented this through offering our students opportunities to work in a garden, classes that focus on animal and plant science, and having them meet with ag leaders that are in our community. Currently our chapter is home to 55 FFA members, and 250 Ag ed students. All who are future leaders in our community

## **What we are seeking**

We are asking the Independence City Council to approve the Independence FFA poultry production project for the next 5 years. The project will consist of 30 broilers raised from early April to late May possible in September to November if additional funding is acquired. The chickens will be raised near the Independence FFA Ag ed garden right behind the green house. The mature chickens will be taken to the Martzahn's Farm Poultry Processing facility (a USDA certified poultry processing facility) in Greene, IA to be processed then donated to the Independence city food pantry to help those who are less fortunate in our community

## **Purpose of Proposal**

While we are able to provide many great opportunities to our students and members, one area we are unable to showcase for our students and members is animal production and animal management. While we have a unit in our animal science course that covers the topic of animal management we are unable to show in real time what raising animals is like. This is due to the variability of having animals.

We also would like to give our students and members a feeling of responsibility and impact on the community. By allowing our students to partake in raising chickens they will be responsible for making sure the animals are cared for, as well as trying to problem solve with any potential problems under the guidance of our ag advisor. This will give students the unique opportunity to make a lasting impact in our community

because all chickens will be donated to the local food pantry. as well as teaching them valuable life skills.

**How will this all be paid for.**

This project will be paid for by the Indee ag ed program and its generous donors. This will include

- Chicken coop.
- Chickens
- Feed
- Feeders and waterers.
- Utilities
- Additional supplies to add to the coop.

## **Location and building.**

Attached below are picture of the area selected for the chicken coop as well as the chicken coop itself.

The location we have selected to raise chickens in is directly behind our current Green house. This is due to the reason listed below.

- Easy access to water and other utilities
- Easy access to garden for disposal for chicken manure and organic fertilizer for garden.
- Far away from residential area for noise pollution
- Far away from the residential area for smell of chicken manure.
- Location is easily accessible for students to participate in daily chores.



### **Community impact**

Why we strive to help and create future leaders we also understand the importance of community and community service. This project will impact the community in the reason below.

- Chicken manure will be utilized in our garden as a fertilizer.
- Garden helps feed. Supporters of Indee ag ed, students, and those who are in need in our community
- All chickens raised will be donated to the local food pantry to give families a healthier option.
- This project will help students learn about the animal industry, Give them opportunities to find jobs in the industry, and create future leaders.

### **How chores will be ran.**

Morning chores will be conducted before school starts. One animal sciences student will be selected to help a FFA officer or our ag advisor run chicken chores. If that student cannot help do chores then another will be selected to help. After chores are completed the officer and student will communicate with the ag advisor about the health and status of the chickens. The class will be informed of any changes and problems that have arisen and what options they have to fix these problems. The Animal sciences class will then go visit the chickens to determine a solution if any is needed. Evening chores will be conducted right after school with an officer and a member of the class. The chicken coop will be cleaned by the Animal sciences class to build team building and responsibilities skills. On top of this we will use the chickens in different ways to teach other classes that focus on more than just animal sciences.

**Closing thoughts.**

We appreciate your consideration of this project. This project will help shape future leaders in Ag and in the independence community. This opportunity will give students who are unable to live on a farm the opportunity of raising animals. As well as give to those less fortunate in our community a healthy meal. With the city of Independence council's approval, The Independence FFA chapter and Indee Ag ed program can help create stronger leaders, stronger solutions, and a stronger Independence community.