

December 1, 2025



Mathew Schmitz
City Manager
City of Independence
331 First St E
Independence, IA 50644

Dear Matthew,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of Heartland Acres Agribition and Event Center to reaffirm our commitment to the furthering of education, community building and preservation of agricultural heritage both for Independence and Iowa in general.

Heartland Acres approaches its 19th year of promoting the education and understanding of our proud states rich agricultural history. In the last nearly two decades our facilities have hosted thousands of events drawing guests to celebrate, learn and grow.

The last year saw 165 days rented for our Event Center. These events are a mixture of weddings, fund raisers and business meetings. Our average group size is around 250 guests. These customers' patron our hotels, eat at our restaurants and shop in our community.

We are hoping to request funding from the City of Independence in the amount of \$25000. We will use these funds to insure Heartland Acres remains a strong asset to the community.

We believe with this support we can continue our mission and in doing so continue to attract visitors to Independence.

If there is anything that I can do to help in your decision making process do not hesitate to reach out to me.

We appreciate your consideration of this request. Your support will help insure our continued growth and dedication to our mission.

Thank you for your time.
Truly

Brian Bell
Event Center Manager