

January 15, 2025

Matthew 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 Center and Events Center to express our deep commitment to fostering community engagement, education, and the preservation of agricultural heritage in our city and state.

Heartland Acres Agribition Center and Events Center stands as a beacon for promoting understanding and appreciation for the rich agricultural history that our city and state embodies.

We are reaching out to request funding support from the city of Independence of \$25,000 to aid in the ongoing development and sustenance of our initiatives. With adequate financial support, we aim to:

1. Expand educational programs for local schools, offering students interactive experiences to learn about sustainable agriculture, food production, and the importance of environmental stewardship.
2. Put new flooring in the area that was once our car museum to add to our event space. There is a big demand for event space in Independence and the new flooring is needed to help deaden the sound that echoes from our high ceilings to our concrete floor.
3. Preserve and showcase historical artifacts and documents that hold significance in the agricultural heritage of our city. The largest piece of our preservation efforts focusing on the exterior of our main museum area by replacing the roof and siding to protect our historic displays.

We believe that by partnering with the city, we can significantly amplify the impact of our efforts and create a lasting legacy that enriches the lives of residents and visitors alike.

Please let me know what follow up documentation I can provide to help in your decision-making process.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and the opportunity to contribute to the cultural and educational landscape of our city. Your support will play an integral role in ensuring the success and sustainability of Heartland Acres Agribition Center and Events Center.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "John H. Schmitz".

Chairman