

# PERSPECTIVE

June 16, 2023

## County Farm Bureaus partner with OKFB to donate nearly \$20,000 to food assistance programs

**F**orty-six county Farm Bureaus and four county Women’s Leadership Committees across the state along with Oklahoma Farm Bureau donated nearly \$20,000 to food banks, food pantries, meal assistance programs and after school programs in Oklahoma.

The OKFB Community Food Assistance Matching Program, which is in its third year, connects county Farm Bureaus with their communities through donations to local food assistance

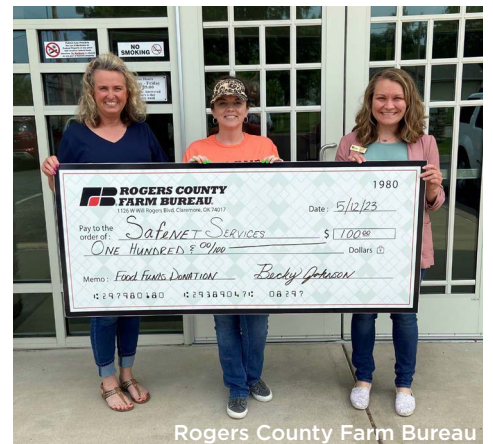
programs, and OKFB matches up to \$100 for each county donation – doubling the impact of the gift.

County Farm Bureaus that donated to local food banks include Adair, Alfalfa, Atoka, Beaver, Bryan, Caddo, Canadian, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Craig, Creek, Ellis, Garfield, Grady, Greer, Jackson, Johnston, Kingfisher, Latimer, Leflore, Lincoln, Logan, Marshall, Mayes, McIntosh, Murray, Muskogee, Noble, Nowata, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Ottawa, Pawnee, Payne, Pottawatomie,

Pushmataha, Rogers, Seminole, Stephens, Texas, Tillman, Washington, Washita and Woodward.

Comanche County WLC, Creek County WLC, Garfield County WLC and Noble County WLC also participated in the matching program.

The program serves as an opportunity for farmers and ranchers to help members of their local communities through the very products our state’s agriculturalists grow and raise each and every day.



# AFBF: Farm bill math updated in May Congressional Budget Office's baseline

The Congressional Budget Office's most recent Baseline for Farm Programs identifies expected outlays for farm program spending, assuming existing programs continue without changes, and indicates program spending available to Congress as crafting of the 2023 farm bill kicks into high gear. CBO releases these projections on expected spending for farm programs for the 10-year baseline – the current budget year plus 10 years – up to three times a year.

Depending on negotiations between the Budget and Agriculture committees, lawmakers crafting the next farm bill could be required to be budget neutral, meaning any increase in spending in one part of the bill would require a decrease in spending elsewhere in the bill; they could be required to have an overall net reduction; or they may be able to increase spending. Given such budget directives, scoring is one of the most critical components of farm bill development. Any change in farm bill policy will require an estimate of the budgetary impact.

In general, the May report reveals only minor housekeeping adjustments compared to February's release. The May CBO release includes updates to expected outlays for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. In the February projections, CBO increased its estimate of SNAP outlays by \$8 billion for 2023 and by \$93 billion between 2024-2033. This increase was linked to higher estimated program utilization as a result of higher unemployment as well as upward adjustments in expected food costs under the Thrifty Food Plan, which is utilized to estimate the cost of

a healthy diet, including USDA's choice to not make their 5-year updates of the TFP composition cost-neutral. With the May CBO release came another upward revision in these costs due to higher expected SNAP participation. For 2023 alone, projections moved from \$127 billion to \$145 billion, an \$18 billion increase. Between the 10-year period of 2024-2033, the May release also forecasts an \$18 billion cumulative increase, from \$1.205 trillion to \$1.223 trillion. Combined with other programs normally authorized in the farm bill, nutrition spending makes up over 81% of expected outlays. Nutrition revisions make up 56% of the total \$31 billion increase between the February 2024-2033 and May 2024-2033 projection.

Based on the 2024-2033 10-year outlay projection, a 2023 farm bill would cost nearly \$1.5 trillion, making it the most expensive on record. This is 1.73 times higher than the original estimated cost of the 2018 farm bill. After nutrition, crop insurance outlays, which include delivery expenses, underwriting gains and premium cost sharing, make up the second largest outlay category, projected at \$101 billion or 7% of the 2024-2033 timeframe. This is a \$4 billion increase from the February CBO baseline. The third-largest category includes spending on commodity support programs such as Dairy Margin Coverage, Price Loss Coverage, Agriculture Risk Coverage and the many authorized disaster support programs. The May report expects these commodity programs to cost \$65.7 billion between 2024-2033, up almost \$10 billion from the February baseline. Estimated outlays for livestock disaster assistance programs alone

almost doubled from \$5.7 billion to \$10.9 billion. Conservation programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Conservation Reserve Program are estimated at \$60 billion, or 4%, of the total score. This \$2.5-billion increase from February's projections is primarily linked to CRP outlays.

Overall, 2024-2033 expected outlays are up nearly \$30 billion from the February projections – a 2% increase.

This most recent CBO baseline on farm program outlays is an important indicator of the budget outlook and is expected to set spending boundaries during current farm bill debates. From a political standpoint, the expected increase in outlays, primarily linked to higher forecasted nutrition costs, can reduce the arguable space for expanding funding for new or existing programs. Higher payouts under existing commodity programs further constrict this budgetary “wiggle-room.” Agriculture and nutrition programs normally authorized through the farm bill only make up about 1.85% of total federal spending. Drilled down further, farm income support and crop insurance account for less than one quarter of one percent of federal spending. Whereas Medicare, Medicaid, net interest on debt, defense spending and Social Security make up 76% of federal spending.

Few pieces of legislation are more significant than the farm bill when it comes to safeguarding our domestic food supply. Ensuring that program funding is reflective of market changes is critical to maintaining the farm bill's role in national security and the health and well-being of rural communities.

This was taken from the American Farm Bureau Federation Market Intel division.

## Texas County Farm Bureau members give back to local community

Texas County Farm Bureau members engaged local community members in May by partnering with local businesses to host a hamburger and hotdog feed at the Pioneer Day Kick-off, where they served more than 400 guests and awarded a door prize to one lucky winner. Texas County Farm Bureau also awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to two seniors in May.



# Registration for 2023 YF&R Summer Conference open

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers committee invites Farm Bureau members ages 18-35 to attend the YF&R summer conference July 28-30 in Oklahoma City.

The conference will offer YF&R members the chance to meet farmers and ranchers from across the state, tour local agricultural facilities around Oklahoma City and Guthrie, and learn more about YF&R leadership opportunities and programs.

Farm Bureau members will enjoy an evening of fellowship Friday, Saturday

will feature four stops spanning various commodities and agricultural facilities, and the conference will wrap up Sunday with a worship service followed by the YF&R Achievement Award, Excellence in Agriculture and discussion meet competitions. More information about the competitive event applications can be found on the OKFB application center at [okfarmbureau.org/applications](http://okfarmbureau.org/applications).

Accommodations will be at the Omni Hotel in Oklahoma City and will be arranged by OKFB YF&R Coordinator Zac Swartz. Registration must be submitted

through the online form by **Monday, June 26.**

More information and the conference schedule will be shared when available. For more information, contact OKFB YF&R Coordinator Zac Swartz at (405) 523-2300.

To register for the 2023 YF&R Summer Conference visit our website at [okfarmbureau.org/applications](http://okfarmbureau.org/applications).

## Join the last few stops for the Oklahoma Broadband Office "Let's Get Digital" listening tour

Don't miss out on your chance to provide critical input on rural broadband access with leaders at the Oklahoma Broadband office. Visit one of the three remaining tour stops to voice your thoughts! For questions regarding the broadband listening tour, the public is encouraged to email or call MJ Barton, Tribal & Programs Outreach Manager, OBO at [mj.barton@broadband.ok.gov](mailto:mj.barton@broadband.ok.gov) or (405) 517-2393.

### June 20 — Okmulgee

4:30 p.m.  
Okmulgee OSU-IT  
1804 N. 4th St., Okmulgee

### June 22 — Goodwell

4:30 p.m.  
Panhandle State University  
323 Eagle Blvd., Goodwell

### June 23 — Woodward

4:30 p.m.  
Woodward Conference Center  
3401 Centennial Ln., Woodward



**OKLAHOMA**  
Broadband Office

**OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU**  
**GENERATION BRIDGE**  
**SUMMER SERIES**  
July 18 – Morrison • July 25 – Elk City • August 3 – Oklahoma City

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is excited to host three summer events for members ages 35-55 during the Generation Bridge Summer Series throughout July and August.

The Generation Bridge program is geared toward farmers, ranchers and agriculturalists in the middle of their career and want to expand their agricultural knowledge, connections and leadership experience.

The three events – July 18 in Morrison, July 25 in Elk City, and August 3 in Oklahoma City – will provide members with the opportunity to enjoy conversations, make connections and create community with like-minded producers.

Generation Bridge members can travel to Vintage Steakhouse in Morrison on July 18 and enjoy an award-winning

meal at the Vintage Steakhouse July 18 at 6 p.m.

Mountain Man Axe Throwing will host members for an evening of connection with other farmers and ranchers July 25 at 6 p.m. in Elk City.

Gather your family to enjoy an OKC Dodgers baseball game at the OKC stadium for the final summer series event August 3 at 7 p.m. on the patio.

All events are free to Farm Bureau members ages 35-50. Fill out the online form to register here. Lodging will not be provided, but members can take advantage of exclusive discounts from OKFB member benefit partners, which can be found at [okfarmbureau.org/benefits](http://okfarmbureau.org/benefits).

For more information, contact Holly Carroll at [holly.carroll@okfb.org](mailto:holly.carroll@okfb.org) or at (405) 523-2300.

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# Farm Bureau members descend on the state Capitol during 2023 legislative session

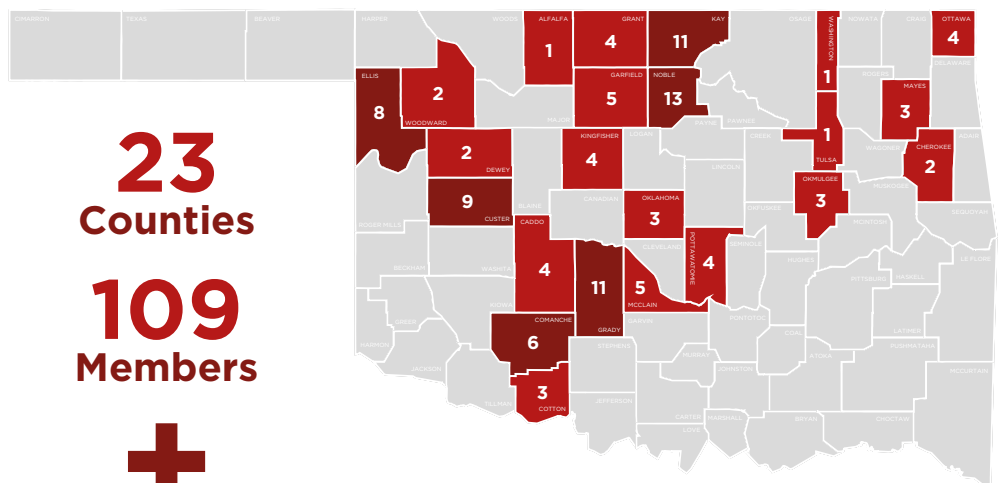
Nearly 200 Farm Bureau members made the trek to Oklahoma City to visit the state Capitol during the 2023 legislative session.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau had an almost constant presence at the Capitol this spring through county Capitol visits, Young Farmers and Ranchers events, Collegiate Farm Bureau Day at the Capitol and the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee's Farm City Festival.

OKFB hosted a total of 109 members from 23 counties for county visits this year. Each county Capitol visit gave members the opportunity to elevate the voice of rural Oklahoma through speaking with their legislators about important agriculture and rural issues.

An additional 96 YF&R, collegiate and WLC members interacted with lawmakers during OKFB Capitol events throughout the legislative session, spending time telling the story of agriculture and building relationships with state legislators in both the House and Senate.

## 2023 County Capitol Visits



**23  
Counties**

**109  
Members**



**96 YF&R, Collegiate  
& WLC members**

*at Capitol events throughout the year*

While the 2023 regular legislative session has come to a close, OKFB looks forward to hosting more counties next

year. Contact your field representative if your county is interested in visiting or attending an event at the Capitol in 2024.