

July 10, 2026

Dear Friends of Dakota County 4-H Youth,

You are cordially invited to join us along with family and friends of Dakota County 4-H youth for our 75th annual 4-H Livestock Auction on Saturday, August 15, 2026. This fundraiser provides important support to youth raising livestock and all youth in the county 4-H program. Eighty percent of the money raised goes directly to the 4-H members in the auction, with twenty percent going to the Dakota County 4-H Program. County 4-H funds are invested towards 4-H scholarship awards for graduating high school seniors, state fair exhibitors, state fair chaperone expenses, donor recognition, Purple Ribbon Club, educational 4-H programs, national livestock judging competitions and livestock educational workshops.

The day begins with refreshments at 9:15 a.m. near the Henry and Katie Fox Show Arena at the Dakota County Fairgrounds. The Auction starts at 10 a.m. at the Show Arena. Admission to the Dakota County Fair is free.

Market cattle, goats, poultry, rabbits, sheep and swine will have their premiums sold on the auction. You are paying for the blue ribbon and don't actually purchase the animal. Businesses and individuals can also team up to purchase a 4-H members' premium.

If you are unable to make it to the auction but would still like to contribute to the Dakota County 4-H Program, bids will be accepted ahead of time by calling Jeff (612) 819-1368 or Blake (507) 291-0196.

Auction buyers will be recognized for their support in the 4-H fair premium book, and a banner will hang in the barn for the 2027 fair with buyer names.

In recent years, Dakota County 4-H has had several animals selected for the Minnesota State Fair 4-H Livestock Auction. A Purple Ribbon Club has been established to support these exhibitors. Please contact Blake Otte at (507) 291-0196 if you would like to learn more about the Purple Ribbon Club and how you can contribute.

Thank you for your support of Dakota County 4-H youth.

Sincerely,

Jeff Reed
Auction Chair

Jessica Beissel
Extension educator, Dakota County 4-H
University of Minnesota