

This letter is from:

***Deborah Whitaker, Founder of Seeds of Honor***

Illinois FFA Advisors,

While you are attending the Illinois Farm Progress Show in Decatur, Illinois, August 26-28, 2025, we would be honored if you were able to stop by our booth, Seeds of Honor, in the Varied Industries Tent. We are Booth #8107. We will supply ALL FFA Chapters with seeds and let them know how they can start a Seeds of Honor program in their own school or area. The Governor signed a bill designating the first Saturday in May, Veterans Garden Day. We would love to partner with all Illinois schools and FFA Chapters.

Seeds of Honor is a program that gives combat veterans the tools and supplies and seeds (seeds, supplies, and knowledge is our mission) needed to start and grow their own garden. I started the program soon after my son's death. He was a combat Veteran who lost his life while serving this great nation. In his honor, I have started the program to help all Veterans, but especially those that may need help. Seeds of Honor is his legacy. Seeds of Honor has grown over the last few years. We have helped many Veterans, mostly in the midwest, but really throughout our country.

In the midwest, we know the benefits of working in a garden, both for our physical health and our mental well-being. In Illinois we have helped hundreds of Veterans through sometimes difficult situations, with the opportunity to work in their own gardens, producing healthy foods, and helping them through difficult times with an opportunity to work with their hands on a worthwhile project. Thank you for all you have done and are doing for our youth through FFA. You obviously love our country and our children very much. My son also loved this country. We would be thrilled to see you drop by our booth. We have encouraged partnerships with the program in high school agriculture programs and the FFA.

If you have questions about Seeds of Honor, or would like to know more, I would be honored to discuss it with you or your dedicated staff. Please reach out to me, Debra Whitaker. My phone number is 319-795-8694. My email is [whits6@hotmail.com](mailto:whits6@hotmail.com).

Seeds of Honor is endorsed by many states and organizations.

Thank you again for your service and dedication to our great country and your children. Maybe we can work together to plant a seed of partnership. I would be honored to partner with you and FFA!

Respectfully,

Deborah Whitaker

Founder of Seeds of Honor

319-795-8694