

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **RENEWING FARM TAGS BENEFITS 4-H**

LEXINGTON, KY – This March, the Kentucky 4-H Foundation is asking "Ag Tag" owners across the Commonwealth to make the voluntary donation of \$10 through their farm license plate renewal that will provide support to programs that create the future leaders in their communities.

The Ag Tag Program evenly distributes the donations among 4-H, FFA, and the Kentucky Proud program. Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture, James Comer, initiated the distribution of the donations beginning in 2012 to help provide support to these essential programs for Kentucky's youth and Kentucky's agricultural economy.

In the state of Kentucky there are more than 160,000 farm plates bought or renewed each year. With the support of Kentucky farmers, the Commissioner's action could generate up to \$1.6 million annually.

"Kentucky 4-H has been given a tremendous opportunity by Commissioner Comer to raise significant funds to support 4-H," said Keith L. Rogers, executive director of the Kentucky 4-H Foundation. "The voluntary donations from the Ag Tag Program will help 4-H give young people around the Commonwealth opportunities that develop leadership, citizenship, and life skills."

Over 238,000 youth are involved in Kentucky's 4-H program. Kentucky ranks in the top 10 of several 4-H enrollment categories nationwide. All 120 counties in Kentucky have 4-H programs, and all counties will receive a portion of the support from this fund raising opportunity.

Last year the 4-H statewide shared total was \$160,895.06. The Kentucky 4-H Foundation splits the donations between the county where the funds

originated and the 4-H Foundation.

That means part of the Ag Tag donations stay in the county where it originated to provide funding for programs and activities that teach children and teens about, leadership, citizenship, science and technology, communications, public speaking, agriculture, and more. The Kentucky 4-H Foundation's share will provide state level support for participating youth while providing positive experiences and opportunities.

Making the voluntary \$10 donation is an excellent opportunity for our agricultural community to support the youth of our community and help fund the programs that can make a lasting difference in their lives.

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4-H youth are a living, breathing, culture-changing revolution for doing the right thing, breaking through obstacles, and pushing our country forward by making a measurable difference right where they live.

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*About Kentucky 4-H Foundation:* The Kentucky 4-H Foundation exists to advance today's Kentucky 4-H Youth Development Program. The Kentucky 4-H Foundation raises funds to support Kentucky 4-H programs that provide leadership development, life skills, citizenship, and positive experiences and opportunities. Kentucky ranks in the top 10 of several 4-H enrollment categories nationwide, with over 238,000 different youth involved in 4-H programs, about one of every four youth in Kentucky. Please visit the 4-H Foundation's website at [www.kentucky4hfoundation.org](http://www.kentucky4hfoundation.org).

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