

March 2010

Each summer, over 400,000 patrons visit the Dutchess County Fair where agriculture, the number one industry in New York State, is showcased. While some exhibitors and vendors come from the immediate vicinity, surveys have revealed that many patrons travel as far as 150 miles to take part in what industry “insiders” consider the best six-day county fair in the country!

Unfortunately, some of our closest residents may not be in a position to enjoy the fair due to financial constraints and travel restrictions. We try to remedy this with a very special program, Ideal Country Holiday, through which we bring children from local agencies into the Fair to enjoy a free day of shows, rides, food and everything else this tremendous event has to offer. Last year 850 children and chaperones took part in our Ideal Country Holiday and our goal for this year is 1,000. Because of the need for chaperones and insurance regulations we are in a position to invite only children housed in a residential setting or enrolled in a structured summer program.

At this writing, some of the agencies we expect to participate include: Abbot House, Astor Services for Families & Children, Family Education Program, Grace Smith House, Hudson River Housing, Mental Health America of Dutchess County, the North East Community Center, Ramapo for Children and the Rural Migrant Ministry. This opportunity may be the first time some of these children see a cow, chicken, rabbit, horse or pig up close. They can see cows being milked, sheep being shorn, or if they are really lucky, may be able to witness a chick hatching or the birth of a calf. There are interactive exhibits, shows, and competitions going on all day. All of the educational components will be complemented by the thrill of free carnival rides and great Fair food.

We will be working with corporate sponsors, private foundations, civic organizations and individual donors in order to make this a day to remember for our special guests. They will get free admission, a free lunch, t-shirt and four hours of free carnival rides. The cost per child is \$50, which also includes roundtrip bus transportation, if needed.

I hope we can count on your support in helping create this wonderful experience. In the past, children have reported that the trip to the fair is the best day of the summer for them. We will appreciate any level of financial support. Donations are tax deductible through our Dutchess County Scholarship and Youth Empowerment Fund, Inc. For your convenience, a form is enclosed. If you would like to contact me for more information, please call 845-876-4000 or email [info@dutchessfair.com](mailto:info@dutchessfair.com).

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Most sincerely,

*Robert Grems*

Secretary/General Manager



Ideal Country Holiday  
Sponsorship Form

Yes, I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ children at \$50 each.

Yes, I would like to be a corporate sponsor at \$3,500\_\_\_\_\_. Corporate sponsors will have their names listed on the back of the t-shirts, as well as a corporate logo and link on our website.

Name of company, organization or individual:\_\_\_\_\_

Name of contact:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip:\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone:\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_. Please make payable to Dutchess County Agricultural Society Scholarship and Youth Empowerment Foundation or DCASSAYE Foundation.

Return completed form and payment information to:

Dutchess County Fair  
Attn: Colleen Cruikshank  
PO Box 389  
Rhinebeck NY 12572