In early February, FACT awarded 24 new grants totaling over $57,000 to family farmers across the country. These grants will improve the lives of over 12,000 farm animals each year.

2017 also marks FACT’s fifth year of making grants to farmers who wish to improve the welfare of their farm animals. We’ve come a long way since awarding our first grants in 2012!

Thanks to the generous support of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), for the first time this year FACT awarded nine of our new Animal Welfare Certification Grants. These grants fund projects that are designed to help farms achieve humane certification.

FACT also awarded 15 Pasture Improvement Grants to help farmers transition to pasture-based systems or improve access to pasture for their animals. Funded projects range from installing automatic watering systems for pigs and hens, to erecting solar powered fences that enable rotational grazing for cows, to purchasing livestock guardian dogs to protect animals roaming on pasture. Since the project’s inception in 2012, FACT has awarded a total of 91 grants to improve the lives of over 66,000 farm animals. This number continues to grow every year as additional animals benefit from the originally funded projects. One of our new grantees is Bright Ide Acres, located 40 miles northeast of Seattle in Snohomish, WA, who received a $2,500 grant to build three portable chicken pens to achieve Global Animal Partnership certification for their broiler chickens. After starting their own farm, owners Andrew and Micha Ide decided to solely focus on raising ethical meat:

“As both animal lovers and meat lovers we decided to raise animals with compassionate care so we could enjoy the finest quality meat without guilt.”

This year’s grantees are located in 15 states indicated in green on this map. Please visit www.fundafarmer.org to see if a grantee is near you. We always encourage our donors to support our farmers!
Peer Education Impacts Farmers and their Animals for the Long-Term

In March 2016, Haley Rosemond received a scholarship from FACT to attend the Sustainable Poultry School to learn humane and sustainable techniques for raising her chickens. The Sustainable Poultry School (SPS) is a weeklong intensive training course that provides instruction in all aspects of poultry production, including how to hatch, raise, breed, and market traditional breeds of poultry.

Haley co-owns Cane Creek Farms, a diversified operation located near Hillsborough, North Carolina. Reflecting on life since SPS, Haley was confident that the experience both improved the welfare of her birds, and increased her farm’s profits.

Haley made changes ranging from adding grit and oyster shells to her birds’ feed to improve their digestion and egg quality, to giving them a diatomaceous earth dust bath to help control parasites.

“These practice changes have also affected my farm financially in a positive way. Anytime I can cut down on the birds’ stress in anyway means more and larger more consistent eggs,” she said. From reducing parasites to producing stronger eggs, healthier, happier chickens save the farm money. Overall the impact of the program went beyond improving farm techniques and profits, and has resulted in a broader understanding of agricultural norms and practices.

“During my time at poultry school I learned about questions I didn’t know to ask. For example, I had no idea that when you buy pullets [domestic hen less than one year old] from a hatchery that many times the cockerels [young male chickens] are euthanized upon sexing.”

Though the hatchery Haley uses does not euthanize male chicks, she felt compelled to spread the word among her friends, customers, and fellow poultry producers about what was happening at some of the larger scale hatcheries and their inhumane practices. “Many were as shocked as I was to find out the truth,” she said. FACT is proud to support farmers like Haley who are deeply committed to humanely raising their animals.

Our conference scholarship program is designed to help farmers enhance their knowledge of humane livestock production practices. Armed with new information and skills, it is our hope that these farmers will ultimately be able to improve animal welfare on their operations and boost their profit margins.

Snapshot of FACT’s Farmer Education Impact:

- 103 Scholarships awarded since 2015
- 14 Conferences attended by recipients
- 5 Webinars planned for 2017
- 78% of surveyed scholarship recipients added new humane practices on their farms after attending conferences
New FDA Restrictions on Using Medically Important Antibiotics in Food Animals

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has responded to the threat of antibiotic-resistant superbugs by restricting some types of medically important antibiotics under a voluntary program called Guidance for Industry #213. Medically important antibiotics are those used in human healthcare, and often are the last line of defense.

The restrictions—which took effect this January—require that farmers consult with a veterinarian before using these antibiotics. Producers can no longer use them solely to promote animal growth.

This is a step in the right direction but extensive loopholes minimize the regulation’s impact. The biggest loophole being that antibiotics can still be given for the purpose of disease prevention to food animals that are not sick.

FACT recommends prohibiting the use of antibiotics for animal disease prevention to close these loopholes. European Union regulations show that these prohibitions can be implemented without hurting agricultural productivity, while protecting consumers from the ongoing rise in antibiotic resistant bacteria.

Is your Grocer Selling Pork with Cancer-Causing Residues?

Carbadox, a drug commonly fed to U.S. pigs, can lead to cancer causing residues in pork products. It also puts farm workers at risk and can pollute the environment. Because of the risk of cancer, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is attempting to ban the drug but the drug maker Phibro is fighting the ban through formal hearings, a process that takes 5 to 20 years.

In the meantime, pork contaminated with cancer causing residues stays on store shelves.

Carbadox is given to pigs to promote growth (put on weight faster with less feed) and to control stomach infections. There are alternatives for controlling the stomach infections and about 50% of swine farms are not using carbadox.

Because there is no labeling whenever you purchase pork you have a good chance of getting meat from treated animals. The risk is highest in processed meats like hot dogs and sausages because these may contain liver, where the residues are most concentrated.

Wondering how to avoid carbadox?
Right now, your only options to avoid carbadox when buying pork are to buy organic, because the drug is prohibited in organic production, or to purchase meat directly from a local producer who you can ask about their use of carbadox.

That still leaves millions of Americans, especially kids, who consume a lot of processed meat exposed to a completely unnecessary cancer risk. Europe and Canada banned carbadox over a decade ago and in 2014 an international body of experts found that there is no safe level of residues of the drug. Some cancer risks are natural and cannot be avoided but this one is absolutely unnecessary.

FACT strongly endorses the full withdrawal of carbadox in all pork production, safeguarding the wellbeing of all consumers.
Take Action: Contact Your Grocer to Stop
Selling Carcinogenic Pork

Please call or write to your grocer and ask them to stop selling meat from pigs raised with carbadox. Contact
information for major grocers is included below. You can chose to contact grocery chains in your area by calling or
sending a letter to them based on the below scripts:

Suggested script for calls and letters:
I am a customer and am concerned about cancer-causing residues in pork products from carbadox. About half the
pigs in the US are given a drug that FDA believes leads to cancer-causing residues in pork products. I would like
your store to require its pork suppliers to stop using this drug. The FDA would like to ban the drug but the drug
maker is fighting the ban. Meanwhile, your customers are exposed to an increased risk of cancer. Please ask your
pork suppliers to stop using the veterinary drug carbadox.

Albertsons/Safeway
1-877-276-9637
Customer Support Center, M.S. 10501, PO Box
29093, Phoenix, AZ, 85038

Costco
1-800-774-2678
Costco, PO Box 34331, Seattle, WA, 98124

Food Lion
1-800-210-9569
Food Lion, Attn: Consumer Relations, PO Box 1330,
Salisbury, NC, 28145-1330

Hannaford
1-800-213-9040
Hannaford Supermarkets, 145 Pleasant Hill Road,
Scarborough, ME, 04074

Kroger
1-800-576-4377
The Kroger Co., 1014 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH,
45202-1100

Meijer Inc.
1-877-363-4537
Meijer, 2929 Walker Ave., NW, Grand Rapids, MI,
49544-9424

Publix
1-800-242-1227
Publix Super Markets, ATTN: Customer Care, PO Box
407, Lakeland, FL, 33802-0407

Stop & Shop
1-800-767-7772
Stop & Shop, PO Box 55888, Boston, MA, 02205-5888

Target
1-800-316-6151
Target, 1000 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Walmart
1-800-925-6278
Walmart, 702 SW 8th St., Bentonville, AR, 72716

Consumers purchasing food products from Fund-a-Farmer
grant recipients such as Shannon Brook Farm in upstate
New York can rest assured that they utilize responsible
food safety practices and avoid growth promoters such as
carbadox. You can avoid carbadox at your grocery store by
purchasing directly from farmers or by looking for trusted
humane certification labels. For a list of labels, visit
foodanimalconcernstrust.org.
Thank you.

To all our generous supporters, both past and present.

FACT would like to honor those who continued their commitment to our cause over the past year through generous legacy, honorarium, and memorial gifts. We honor these donors daily as FACT works toward our vision that all food-producing animals will be raised in a healthy and humane manner so that everyone will have access to safe and humanely produced food.

Without the loyal and generous support of our donors, FACT would not be able to achieve the work that we do promoting humane farming and food safety for us all. Thank you. We are grateful for the support that we receive, and thank each of you for the impact that your contributions allow us to make.

Planned Giving and Bequests
Rosaline M. Grashaw, FACT Supporter since 1989
Mildred A. Lillis, FACT Supporter since 1998

Memorial or Honorarium Giving
Salvatore V. Attanasio
Zack Belknap
Richard and Rita Blacker
Karen Ruth Bortnick Memorial Fund
Robert A. Brown
Louise Brown Risk
Nikki Caballero
Evelina Vautier

Hawk Hill Farm
Ways to Invest in FACT’s Work

There are many ways that you can invest in FACT and our humane farming and food safety programming. A few options are described below, and of course we would always welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have. Without people like you, FACT would not be able to achieve the impact that we have on thousands of farm animals, dozens of farms and farmers, and countless consumers who deserve to have safe and healthy food options. If you have any questions regarding your donation, please contact Sidney Freitag-Fey at 773-525-4952 ext. 23 or at sfey@foodanimalconcerns.org. Thank you again for your generosity and kind support of our Humane Farming and Food Safety programs.

Planned Giving and Bequests

As you plan your philanthropic legacy, please consider including a provision in your will that includes FACT as a beneficiary. This bequest language is suggested:

I bequeath to Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT), a 501c3 nonprofit located in Chicago, IL, the sum of $__________ and/or (described property).

Donations to FACT, a not-for-profit corporation exempt under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), are tax-deductible (EIN: 36-3172605). Please contact us if you have any specific questions regarding including FACT in your planned giving.

Matching Gifts

Your employer, or your spouse’s employer, may match your donation to FACT—sometimes even triple the amount that you donate. Please contact your employer’s Human Resources, Community Engagement, or comparable department to determine if your company has a matching gift program. Typically a matching gift entails a short form that you fill out as the donor and then mail to FACT.

Company Giving

Some companies allow employees to submit organizations or causes they personally support to be considered for company-wide gifts, which can include local grants, holiday give-backs, employee funding drives, or other charitable endeavors. Most often the same department that manages Matching Gifts programs also manages these types of company giving. Please consider reaching out to your company to see if there is a company giving program that FACT may be eligible for.

FACT is a 4-Star Charity Navigator rated 501c3 nonprofit, so you can rest assured that your contributions are being used effectively and efficiently to expand humane farming, improve farm animal welfare, and address crucial food safety issues.

Charity Navigator is an American independent charity watchdog organization that evaluates charitable organizations in the United States. Four stars is the highest rating that Charity Navigator provides nonprofits, and FACT is a proud recipient of this exemplary rating.
Staff Roster

We are pleased to share that we have updates to our staff! As always, please never hesitate reaching out to FACT’s staff if you have any questions, we are always happy to hear from you! FACT’s main office phone is 773-525-4952, or you may email our staff.

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Humane Farming Program Director
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Director of Marketing and Development
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Misty Meadows