**Aberdeen Energy Agriculture Fund**

The Aberdeen Area Community Foundation (AACF) is pleased to announce the creation of the Aberdeen Energy Agriculture Fund, a sub-fund of AACF. The purpose of the fund is to support agriculture-related projects and organizations in Brown County. Funded with approximately $40,000, it is designed to be exhausted by June 30, 2026.

Funding for the new sub-fund was provided by Advanced BioEnergy as a result of the sale of its Aberdeen and Huron ethanol plants a few years ago in order to support the communities where it did business.

Applications for the first round of grants from the Aberdeen Energy Agriculture Fund are due **February 28, 2025**. The application form may be downloaded from <https://aberdeencommunityfoundation.com/apply-for-a-grant/> (Please be sure to check the box indicating yours is an application for this fund.) Completed applications may be emailed to info@aberdeencommunityfoundation.com or mailed to Aberdeen Area Community Foundation, PO Box 674, Aberdeen, SD 57402-0674.

Questions may be directed to the email address above or 605-725-3800.

The guidelines for the fund are intentionally broad and intended to support agriculture-related projects and organizations in Brown County. General examples of projects are agriculture education at any level (youth through adult), dissemination of agriculture-related information, promotion of agriculture, and other endeavors related to agriculture. The projects must be nonprofit in nature and may not be designed to provide direct financial benefits to individuals or for-profit businesses. Preference will be given to applicants who are 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations, including schools, churches and units of government. Requests from other nonprofits may be considered. (It is recommended that such organizations contact AACF to describe their projects to determine eligibility before submitting an application.)

AACF will not be the sole source of funding for any but the smallest projects. Other funding sources should be part of the project plan and reflected in the application.

It is anticipated that this first round of grants will distribute a maximum of $25,000, with remaining funds distributed in additional rounds before June 30, 2026.

Grant decisions will be made by the AACF Board of Directors.