

Weston County Youth Catch-A-Calf Program Donor Mentor/Mentee Communications Guidelines

Congratulations! You will be the proud owner of a calf to raise and show in the Weston County Fair. This guideline will assist you as you work with your donor mentor to raise your market animal. Please be aware of the deadlines, it will make the project more enjoyable for you, your donor mentor, and your parents.

✿ **After the Fair:**

- Within 3 weeks of the County Fair, make initial contact with your donor mentor. Introduce yourself, tell them a little about who you are, what you hope to learn and why you entered the contest, and most importantly, THANK them for their generous donation and commitment to helping you succeed.
- Send a brief summary of your contact with your donor mentor and/or copies of your thank you to the 4-H and Youth Development Educator.

✿ **October/November:**

- Talk with your donor mentor and set some goals for your project. Ask them to assist you in setting these goals.
- Discuss with your donor mentor ideas for your additional presentation/project. Perhaps your mentors will have ideas that you did not think about.
- Make sure you are communicating with your donor about the delivery date for your animal. The delivery deadline is December 1.
- Present your ideas for your additional presentation/project to the 4-H/Youth Development Educator.

✿ **December-Fair**

- Once per month, communicate with donor mentor about the progress of your project. Discuss feeding schedules, growth plans, progress of your extra project, etc. Ask questions when you have them to better understand your project.
- Report or send these monthly communications to the 4-H/Youth Development Educator on the progress of your project.

✿ **After the fair:**

- Send a final thank you to your donor mentor, perhaps include a photo. It is imperative that you make sure to thank your donor at the end of this project for their generosity and help throughout the course of your project.
- Report to the 4-H/Youth Development Educator that you have sent your final thank you.