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***REFUGIO COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION/AUCTION COMMITTEE***

***FIRST -TIME EXHIBITOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM***

**PURPOSE OF PROGRAM**

To assist First-Time Exhibitors who are interested in raising an animal for the Refugio County Livestock Show who may not have the financial resources to buy, feed and shelter an animal by offsetting some of these expenses.

**GRANT DESCRIPTION**

The Refugio County Fair Association and Auction Committee will award a grant up to $1000 for those selected to assist with their project. The number of grants awarded each year will be based on available funds from each organization.

**GRANT APPLICATION CRITERIA**

1. All applications will be reviewed by members of the Refugio County Fair Association, CEA, FFA leadership, and Auction Committee.
2. The exhibitor must be a current member of a 4-H organization or FFA and meet show eligibility requirements per Livestock Show Rules.
3. Applications must be signed by the applicant and parent/legal guardian.
4. First -Time Exhibitors may not have previously exhibited any livestock at the Refugio Livestock Show. This does not include PeeWee participation.
5. Only one grant application per exhibitor/household/year will be accepted.
6. Grants will be awarded for the following species: rabbits, chickens and goats/lambs.
7. The grant will be paid in two phases. Phase 1 includes animal purchase and facility expenses to be reimbursed after proof of expenditure. Phase 2 will be paid for all other qualifying expenses at the conclusion of the Livestock Show. Total expenses paid to the exhibitor not to exceed $1000.

Expenditures can be turned in on December 1st, February 1st, and April 1st.

1. The Exhibitor must exhibit their project at the Refugio County Livestock Show to receive Phase 2 reimbursement. Exhibit includes those animals that have been disqualified at check-in.
2. Deadline to enter is October 1st of each year.

For questions please contact the RCFA, CEA, or FFA Leadership.