

NAYI truly deepened my desire to advocate for the agriculture industry. Throughout NAYI I made countless connections with my peers, council leaders, and inspiring leaders in the agriculture field. NAYI was the best event I have ever attended and I still have many great friends I met through that extraordinary experience.

Keegan Doggett, West Point
2022 NAYI Delegate

My time at NAYI was one of the most memorable and one of the most valuable experiences I've had. I gained countless lifelong friends and connections that I will keep in contact with for years to come. I also learned about many aspects of the agriculture industry and how to help sustain it into the future. I would recommend attending NAYI to anyone with the opportunity to go.

Wade Sanders, Alliance
2021 & 2022 NAYI Delegate

My time on NAYC has been nothing less than fulfilling. I have been surrounded by a group of young-professionals who are equally as passionate about the agricultural industry, push me both personally and professionally, and will continue to be strong partners someday in the future. As an NAYC member I am most grateful for the strong personal and professional relationships I will have for years to come all while promoting an industry I am most passionate about.

Abby Miller, Mead
Current NAYC member

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NAYI?

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NAYI 2023



For 52 years, the **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council's (NAYC)** main goal has been the promotion of agriculture to Nebraska's youth. The NAYC consists of 21 college-age men and women who have dedicated their time and energy to educating youth about agriculture. The Council is selected annually to serve a one-year term. Membership is limited to three years.

Throughout their year, the NAYC participates in an array of agricultural programs including the Governor's Ag Conference, Elementary Classroom Visits, National Ag Week, Urban Youth Farm Tour, the Nebraska State FFA Convention, as well as their premier event, the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI). All of these events give Council members a chance to learn more about agricultural opportunities available right here in Nebraska, as well as share their knowledge with the youth of this great state. The Council also holds an annual Industry Tour, which gives members the opportunity to learn more about Nebraska's diverse agricultural industry.

After leaving NAYI I had never felt more motivated, inspired, and driven to chase my hobbies and passions while turning them into a greater purpose. I realized the importance of taking ownership of my deep roots in agriculture. My perspective of opportunities in the industry expanded drastically. NAYI brought me some of my closest friends, opened doors for internships, as well as career opportunities past college graduation. Making the choice to attend this week-long event has been the best investment I have ever made - it has paid an unbelievable amount of dividends.

Emily Zimmer, Pleasanton
Former NAYC member



Fifty-two years ago, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture realized it had to do something about the ever-increasing problem of young people leaving the farms and ranches of Nebraska.

The idea of an Institute to expose young people to the opportunities available in agriculture was tried for the first time in 1972. The original **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute** program was developed through cooperation between the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and 18 college-age young men and women who formed the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council which now carries on the NAYC tradition of passion for the agricultural industry.

The delegates are what make NAYI what it is. Their enthusiasm and genuine interest make the week an unforgettable experience. Delegates are chosen through an application process highlighting their interest, involvement, leadership and achievement

in agriculture. These delegates have the opportunities to share their ideas with local, state and national speakers, along with young people from all across Nebraska.

Funding for NAYC activities comes from the former Rural Rehabilitation Corporation. These funds have been invested and the interest drawn from them is released to programs.

Agricultural businesses and commodity organizations graciously sponsor the vast majority of the expenses for NAYI.

Just as agriculture is an ever-changing industry, NAYI is an ever-changing program, keeping pace with today's agriculture. Even though the program is constantly being developed, the original goal will remain the same – to keep Nebraskans involved and interested in agriculture.