For Immediate Release

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VOLUNTEERS AND SPONSORS NEEDED FOR CALVING CORNER EXHIBIT AT 2027 FARM SHOW

The Dairy Cow Birthing Center Offers Educational Insight for Families

Harrisburg, Pa. – Individuals who have experience working in the Pennsylvania dairy industry are invited to volunteer at the Calving Corner during the 2027 Pennsylvania Farm Show from January 9-16, 2027 in Harrisburg, Pa. The Calving Corner is the cornerstone in the "Destination Dairy" Northeast Exhibit Hall and is celebrating 10 years giving visitors a firsthand look at the Pennsylvania dairy industry and providing educational learning activities for children of all ages. The Calving Corner also live streams the exhibit throughout the Farm Show, reaching more than 55,000 people virtually each year.

"Volunteering at the Calving Corner is an exciting way to help share the story of Pennsylvania dairy farming directly with consumers and families. Farm Show visitors not only witness the miracle of birth and learn where their food comes from, but it's a rewarding way to help enhance the public's understanding of production agriculture. We're excited to be celebrating 10 years with this exhibit," said Miriam Miller, project manager for the Calving Corner. "We appreciate our farmers and dairy industry volunteers who give their time each year to share their firsthand experience with Calving Corner visitors."

Four Pennsylvania dairy farms will share their story with visitors throughout the 2027 Calving Corner exhibit and demonstrate the dairy birthing process. Cows representing the four farms will calve on site during the entire length of the Farm Show. Farms include Walmoore Holsteins of Chester County, Pa., Star Rock Farms of Lancaster County, Pa., Franklin View Farms of Lancaster County, Pa., and Conley Farms of Lancaster County, Pa.

"I got into veterinary medicine because of dairy farmers and their families. I really like supporting those farmers, so the Calving Corner is a great way to do that. It's also a good way to bridge the gap, so there's a better understanding [from consumers] of how things work on the farm," said Ann DiPastina, a veterinarian from Penn Vet. "It really just helps communicate to consumers how farmers are doing their best to safeguard our food supply and take care of their animals. Volunteering at the Calving Corner is a really fun time."

Calving Corner volunteer opportunities are available for the following individuals:

- Dairy farmers
- Veterinarians
- Nutritionists

- Industry representatives
- College students
- Other professionals who have experience in the dairy industry

Volunteers will serve in a variety of roles, should be at least 18 years old, and have a practical understanding of the dairy industry. They will be provided with a Calving Corner sweatshirt and should plan to wear proper attire, including clean and neat jeans or khakis. Calving Corner volunteers will also be required to complete a brief online training.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available for businesses or organizations who are interested in helping consumers learn about agriculture and the world of dairy farming.

"The Calving Corner is a tremendous opportunity for Pennsylvania's farmers to tell their story to the hundreds of thousands of visitors at the PA Farm Show each year. From individuals who completed our survey last year, 95.6 percent said the Calving Corner helped increase their understanding of the role dairy farmers have in our community. More than 78 percent of the individuals surveyed also said they are more likely to choose dairy, in general, because of their experience at the Calving Corner," Miller added. "This is a testament to the true impact the exhibit makes on visitors and the lifelong connections our sponsors, volunteers, and dairy farms help to make."

To become a sponsor, contact Miriam Miller at Miriam@thecalvingcorner.org. Individuals who are interested in volunteering at the Calving Corner exhibit can complete an online volunteer interest form at www.surveymonkey.com/r/calvingcorner. Contact Miriam Miller at Miriam@thecalvingcorner.org with questions.

The Calving Corner is made possible by the Friends of Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation, American Dairy Association North East, Professional Dairy Managers of Pennsylvania (PDMP), Allied Milk Producers, Center for Dairy Excellence, Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association, Northeast Agriculture Education Foundation, Inc., and additional dairy organizations with support from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence is a non-profit organization initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in 2004. Bringing together people from more than 40 different dairy organizations in Pennsylvania, the Center's mission is to enhance the profitability of the dairy industry by empowering people, creating partnerships, and increasing the availability and use of resources. Learn more at centerfordairyexcellence.org.