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## **Farm Rescue Selected To Receive \$347,690 Grant From The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust**

**JAMESTOWN, N.D, March 19, 2013** - Farm Rescue, a nonprofit organization that provides planting and harvesting assistance free of charge to farm families who have experienced a major illness, injury or natural disaster, will receive a grant totaling \$347,690 from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. The grant, which was awarded to Farm Rescue through The Trust's Rural Healthcare Program, will be used for equipment purchases and general operations.

"We are very thankful for the commitment and generosity shown by The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust to help farm families and rural communities through Farm Rescue," said Bill Gross, Farm Rescue president and founder. "This is the largest grant received since the inception of Farm Rescue and will allow us to acquire the necessary equipment to provide efficient and timely assistance to more families."

"If a farmer cannot plant or harvest the crops because of an illness or injury, that farm may not be able to survive until next season," said Walter Panzire, trustee of The Helmsley Charitable Trust. "These farms are vital to rural communities. Farm Rescue provides assistance during a health crisis, and helps guarantee the family can focus on getting the healthcare they need. We are proud to support Farm Rescue and their volunteers as they do good work in the upper Midwest."

### ***About Farm Rescue***

Farm Rescue was founded in 2006 and has helped more than 200 families during unexpected crises. The organization's mission is to help farmers who have experienced a major illness, injury, or natural disaster by providing the necessary equipment and manpower to plant or harvest their crop. The continuation of viable farms is the organization's focus. As a result of the assistance provided by Farm Rescue, farm families can survive potentially devastating circumstances, enabling them to keep the family business in tact, which in turn helps the economic, social and civic well-being of rural communities. The tangible and intangible benefits of Farm Rescue assistance are far-reaching in terms of communities and families. Farm Rescue helps farm families in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Minnesota, and Iowa. Applications are currently being accepted for the 2013 planting season, which can be obtained at 701-252-2017 or [www.farmrescue.org](http://www.farmrescue.org).

### ***About The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust***

The Helmsley Charitable Trust aspires to improve lives by supporting effective nonprofits in a variety of selected areas. Since 2008, when the Trust began its active grantmaking, it has committed more than \$800 million to a wide range of charitable organizations. The Trust's Rural Healthcare Program funds innovative projects that use information technologies to connect rural patients to emergency medical care, bring the latest medical therapies to patients in remote areas, and provide state-of-the-art training for rural hospitals and EMS personnel. To date, this program has awarded more than \$172 million to organizations and initiatives in the upper Midwest states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, Minnesota, Iowa and Montana. For more information on the Trust and its programs, please visit [www.helmsleytrust.org](http://www.helmsleytrust.org).

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