



Dear Families,

We are excited to announce that the second annual Bacon Buddies Show will be held at the 2025 Dubuque County Fair! This special event is part of a unique partnership between Special Olympics Iowa and the Iowa Pork Producers Association. The Bacon Buddies program provides an incredible opportunity for individuals in grades 4-12, who have intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (BUDDIES), to participate in the excitement of the fair and experience the thrill of showing a pig in the ring.

The program connects **Buddies** with pig exhibitors, giving them the chance to work together, learn new skills, and showcase their talents in a supportive and inclusive environment. The Bacon Buddies Show is designed to build confidence, foster friendships, and celebrate the abilities of all participants.

**Eligibility and Participation:**

- **Participants:** Any individual in grades **4-12** with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities
- **Requirements:** No previous experience with pigs required; training and support will be provided
- **Event Date:** Thursday, July 24, during the **2025 Dubuque County Fair**

If you are interested in having your child participate as a BUDDY or would like to learn more, please contact Kelsie at [kakinne@iastate.edu](mailto:kakinne@iastate.edu). The link to apply can be found on the [Dubuque County Extension and Outreach website](#), or at <https://go.iastate.edu/I18TSl>.

Applications are due May 29, 2025. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you at the event!

Best regards,

Kelsie Kinne  
County Youth Coordinator  
Dubuque County Extension and Outreach

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